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Documents of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nice, 1989)

To reduce download time, the ITU Library and Archives Service has divided the conference documents into sections.

- This PDF includes Document No. 101-200
- The complete set of conference documents includes Document No. 1-529, Document DT No. 1-82 and Document DL No. 1-57

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1(Rev.1) to
Document 101-E
26 May 1989

F/E/S

Spain

Page 1, read the proposal E/101/2 as follows :

E/101/2
MOD [2009]

Recognized private Telecommunication operating agency:
~~Any private operating agency, as defined above, which operates a public correspondence or broadcasting service and upon which the obligations provided for in Article 41 [44] of this Constitution are imposed by the Member in whose territory the head office of the agency is situated, or by the Member which has authorized this operating agency to establish and operate a telecommunication service on its territory.~~

Any corporation, company or individual which, in accordance with the national legislation of the Member in whose territory the head office of the agency is situated, is authorized to operate a telecommunication service in that territory.

Reasons: To adapt to the real situation.

Cette version révisée du Corrigendum 1 ne concerne pas le texte français.

Esta versión revisada del Corrigendum 1 no concierne al texto español.

**PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE**

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to

Document 101-E

23 May 1989

Spain

This Corrigendum does not concern the English text

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 101-E
12 May 1989
Original: Spanish

PLENARY MEETING

Spain

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION

Within the context of international telecommunication conventions, a distinction has traditionally been drawn between Members, that is States which are bound by the treaties, administrations (government departments or services responsible for fulfilling obligations arising under the International Telecommunication Convention and its Regulations) and private agencies, which are authorized by Members to set up and supply telecommunication services on their territory.

In many cases, administrations both enforce the Convention and supply services. This situation has been evolving, however, insofar as agencies and corporations have gradually taken over responsibility for the operation of services from administrations.

As a result, we feel that the Constitution should reflect this situation and propose the following modifications:

ANNEX 2

E/101/1
SUP 2008

Reasons: Follows on the modification of 2009.

E/101/2
MOD [2009]

Recognized private Telecommunication operating agency:
~~Any private operating agency, as defined above, which operates a public correspondence or broadcasting service and upon which the obligations provided for in Article 41-44 of this Constitution are imposed by the Member in whose territory the head office of the agency is situated, or by the Member which has authorized this operating agency to establish and operate a telecommunication service on its territory.~~

Any corporation, company or individual which, in accordance with the national legislation of the Member in whose territory the head office of the agency is situated, is authorized to operate a telecommunication service in that territory.

Reasons: To adapt to the real situation.

E/101/3
MOD

183

They are also bound to take the necessary steps to impose the observance of the provisions of this Constitution, of the Convention and of the Administrative Regulations upon ~~private telecommunication~~ operating agencies ~~authorized-by-them-to establish-and-operate-telecommunications-and~~ which ~~engage-in provide~~ international telecommunication services or which operate stations capable of causing harmful interference to the radio services of other countries.

Reasons: Follows on the modification of 2009.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 102-E

12 May 1989

Original: Spanish

PLENARY MEETING

Spain

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE DRAFT CONVENTION

The Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, in its Resolution No. 62, estimated that the provisions of the International Telecommunication Convention should be separated into two instruments: a Constitution and a Convention.

E/102/1

In principle, Spain accepts this separation and proposes that the part referred to in Resolution No. 62 as the "Convention", contained in Document B prepared by the Group of Experts, should be called "GENERAL REGULATIONS".

Reasons: Since the Convention has to be subordinated to the Constitution, without ceasing to be a treaty, it would be appropriate to change its name, which has been used throughout the history of the Union, considering that, if there is a Constitution serving as a basic set of rules, it would seem that the name "Regulations" would be more appropriate to designate a subsidiary set of rules. Furthermore:

1. Document B is fairly similar to the General Regulations of the present Convention;
 2. the provisions approved by administrative conferences are referred to as Regulations.
-

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 103-E
15 May 1989
Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

Turkey

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

The Frequency Allotment Plan for the aeronautical mobile service (Appendix 26) which was adopted by the Administrative Radio Conference, Geneva, 1959, and included in the Radio Regulations, was reviewed at WARC-79 and the administrations were invited, through Recommendation No. 406, to urgently study their communications requirements. The Administrative Council was advised to convene a world administrative radio conference to review Appendix 26 and related provisions of the Radio Regulations.

The subject was taken up at the WARC MOB-87 Conference to deal with only minor changes. Consequently, this Conference assured that there was no possibility of making substantial changes to the Frequency Allotment Plan for the aeronautical mobile (OR) service to include national requirements of those administrations that were not contained in the plan.

TUR/103/1

Therefore, in order to have Appendix 26 improved to accommodate all national requirements of the countries that have already been included and also those that have not been included in the plan, Turkey requests Recommendation No. 406 be reconsidered and be replaced by the annexed Resolution, in order to have a competent conference convened as early as possible.

Reasons: Considerings and opinions of Recommendation No. 406 clearly states all reasons for the requirement of this Resolution.

TUR/103/2

ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION No. ...

**Relating to the Revision of the Frequency Allotment Plan for the
Aeronautical Mobile (OR) Service**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union
(Nice, 1989)

considering

a) that the Frequency Allotment Plan for the aeronautical service prepared by the International Administrative Aeronautical Radio Conference (IAARC), Geneva, 1949, and adopted by the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference, Geneva, 1951, were substantially adopted by the Administrative Radio Conference, Geneva, 1959, and included in the Radio Regulations;

- b) that the Extraordinary Administrative Radio Conference responsible for the aeronautical mobile (R) service, Geneva, 1966, decided to include this plan as Appendix 27;
- c) that the World Administrative Radio Conference on the aeronautical mobile (R) service, Geneva, 1978, adopted technical principles for establishing the Frequency Allotment Plan for the aeronautical mobile (R) service, in particular the use of the 3 kHz separation between carrier frequencies for certain classes of emissions and powers which can be directly applied in establishing the Allotment Plan for the aeronautical mobile (OR) service;
- d) that the Allotment Plan for the aeronautical mobile (OR) service has not been revised since the Administrative Radio Conference, Geneva, 1959;
- e) that, since 1959, many countries have become Members of the Union;
- f) that WARC 1979 adopted Resolution No. 403 relating to the use of the frequencies 3 023 and 5 680 kHz common to the aeronautical mobile (R) and (OR) services;
- g) that the International Telecommunication Convention (Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973) in Article 7, No. 44, provides that a world administrative radio conference may partially revise the Radio Regulations;

recognizing

that the plan for the aeronautical mobile (OR) service contained in Appendix 26 to the Radio Regulations will have to be reviewed;

resolves to invite the Administrative Council

to take necessary steps to convene a world administrative radio conference to review Appendix 26 and the related provisions of the Radio Regulations before 1993;

invites administrations

to communicate their aeronautical mobile (OR) service requirements to the IFRB for the inclusion in the plan;

requests the IFRB

to study new requirements and to prepare the technical and operational basis for the Conference;

requests the Secretary-General

to communicate this Resolution to the International Aviation Organization (ICAO).

**PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE**

NICE, 1989

PLENARY MEETINGNote by the Secretary-General

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

Under No. 459 of the International Telecommunication Convention, one of the tasks of the first Plenary Meeting is to constitute the Conference secretariat, which is as follows :

Secretary of the Conference	Mr. R.E. Butler, Secretary-General
Executive Secretary	Mr. X. Escofet
Administrative Secretary	Mr. J. Escudero
<u>Plenary Meeting and Committee 1</u> (Steering)	Mr. J. Francis
<u>Committee 2</u> (Credentials)	Mr. X. Escofet
<u>Committee 3</u> (Budget Control)	Mr. R. Prélaz
<u>Committee 4</u> (Finances of the Union)	Mr. R. Prélaz
<u>Committee 5</u> (Staff matters)	Mr. A.B. MacLennan
<u>Committee 6</u> (Technical Cooperation)	Mr. A. Embedoklis
<u>Committee 7</u> (Structure of the Union)	Mr. A. Rutkowski
<u>Committee 8</u> (Purposes, Rights and Obligations)	Mr. D. Schuster
<u>Committee 9</u> (Basic Instrument of the Union)	Mr. A. Noll
<u>Committee 10</u> (Editorial)	Mr. P.A. Traub

These officials will be assisted as necessary by others detached from ITU Headquarters.

R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 104-E

19 May 1989

Original : English

PLENARY MEETINGNote by the Secretary-General

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Under No. 459 of the International Telecommunication Convention, one of the tasks of the first Plenary Meeting is to constitute the Conference secretariat, which is as follows :

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<u>Committee 8</u> (Purposes, Rights and Obligations)	Mr. D. Schuster
<u>Committee 9</u> * (Basic Instrument of the Union)	Mr. A. Noll
<u>Committee 9 [or 10]</u> * (Editorial)	Mr. P.A. Traub

These officials will be assisted as necessary by others detached from ITU Headquarters.

R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

* Subject to the Conference taking (at an early plenary meeting) a decision in principle to separate the present Convention into a Constitution and another instrument of a less permanent character.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 105(Rev.1)-E
14 June 1989
Original : English

PLENARY MEETING

Note by the Secretary-General

FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAMME OF MAJOR CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS 1990-1994

As indicated in the covering page of Document 41(Rev.1), this document contains the preliminary financial estimates of the programme of major conferences and meetings 1990-1994, as listed in page 4 of Document 41(Rev.1).

Cost estimates include the financial aspects of proposed IFRB Seminars and continuation of the existing provision for Seminars organized by or with Administrations Members of the Union in accordance with Resolution 28 of the Nairobi Convention.

R. E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

Annex : 1

Note : Page 2 of Document 105 has been updated to take into account decisions of Committee 5 at its seven session, subject to the future work programme of the Union, concerning transfer of credits for certain posts from conferences and meetings budgets to the operating budgets (Sections 2/3).

CONFERENCE & MEETINGS COSTS (For five years : 1990 - 1994)

(In thousands of Swiss Francs 1/4/89)

YEAR	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	total
Administrative Council*	681	681	681	681	681	3.405
CCITT Study Group	5.832	8.068	8.837	4.508	6.830	34.076
CCITT Plenary Assembly				1.317		1.317
CCIR Study Group		4.069	4.021	6.099		14.189
CCIR Plenary Assembly	1.651				1.747	3.398
World Administrative Radio Conference	1.380	1.380	8301**	1.380		12.441
Plenipotentiary Conference					5.046	5.046
SEMINARS						
I.F.R.B (Geneva)	100		100		100	300
I.F.R.B (Regional)		270		270		540
Fellowships for IFRB seminars	650	720	650	720	650	3.390
ADMINISTRATIONS	200	200	200	200	200	1.000
TOTAL	10.494	15.389	22.790	15.175	15.254	79.102

*included in the annual expenses of the Union

**8 weeks. If Conference splits into 2 conferences (see page 4 of Document 41 (Rev.1) the total credits would be marginally higher and spread to another year

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 105(Rev.1)-E

12 June 1989

Original : English

PLENARY MEETING

Note by the Secretary-General

FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAMME OF MAJOR CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS 1990-1994

As indicated in the covering page of Document 41(Rev.1), this document contains the preliminary financial estimates of the programme of major conferences and meetings 1990-1994, as listed in page 4 of Document 41(Rev.1).

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CONFERENCE & MEETINGS COSTS (For five years : 1990 - 1994)

(In thousands of Swiss Francs 1/4/89)

YEAR	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	total
Administrative Council*	681	681	681	681	681	3.405
CCIFT Study Group	5.832	8.068	8.837	4.508	6.830	34.076
CCIFT Plenary Assembly				1.317		1.317
CCIR Study Group		4.069	4.021	6.099	1.747	15.936
CCIR Plenary Assembly	1.651					1.651
World Administrative Radio Conference	1.380	1.380	8301**	1.380		12.441
Plenipotentiary Conference					5.046	5.046
SEMINARS						
I.F.R.B (Geneva)	100		100		100	300
I.F.R.B (Regional)		270		270		540
Fellowships for IFRB seminars	650	720	650	720	650	3.390
ADMINISTRATIONS	200	200	200	200	200	1.000
TOTAL	10.494	15.389	22.790	15.175	15.254	79.102

*included in the annual expenses of the Union

**8 weeks. If Conference splits into 2 conferences (see page 4 of Document 41 (Rev.1) the total credits would be marginally higher and spread to another year

ANNEX

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 105-E

22 May 1989

Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

Note by the Secretary-General

FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAMME OF MAJOR CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS 1990-1994

As indicated in the covering page of Document 41(Rev.1), this document contains the preliminary financial estimates of the programme of major conferences and meetings 1990-1994, as listed in page 4 of Document 41(Rev.1).

Cost estimates include the financial aspects of proposed IFRB Seminars and continuation of the existing provision for Seminars organized by or with Administrations Members of the Union in accordance with Resolution No. 28 of the Nairobi Convention.

R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

Annex: 1

CONFERENCE & MEETINGS COSTS (For five years : 1990 - 1994)						
<i>(In thousands of Swiss Francs 1/4/89)</i>						
YEAR	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	total
Administrative Council*	681	681	681	681	681	3,405
CCITT Study Group	7,038	9,209	9,875	5,320	7,839	39,280
CCITT Plenary Assembly				1,317		1,317
CCIR Study Group		4,413	4,240	6,768	1,931	17,351
CCIR Plenary Assembly	1,888					1,888
World Administrative Radio Conference	1,380	1,380	8534**	1,380		12,674
Plenipotentiary Conference					5,333	5,333
SEMINARS						
I.F.R.B (Geneva)	100		100		100	300
I.F.R.B (Regional)		270		270		540
Fellowships for IFRB seminars	650	720	650	720	650	3,390
ADMINISTRATIONS	200	200	200	200	200	1,000
TOTAL	11,937	16,873	24,280	16,656	16,733	86,479

*included in the annual expenses of the Union

**8 weeks. If Conference splits into 2 conferences (see page 4 of Document 41 (Rev.1) the total credits would be marginally higher and spread to another year

ANNEX

2
PP-89/105-E

**CONFÉRENCE DE
PLÉNIPOTENTIAIRES**

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 au
Document 106-F/E/S
24 mai 1989

Note du Secrétaire général

RAPPORT SUR LA MISE EN OEUVRE DE LA RESOLUTION PL/3 DE LA CAMTT-88

Paragraphe 2.2, 6e ligne, remplacer 31 par 33.

Note by the Secretary-General

REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WATTC-88 RESOLUTION PL/3

Sub Para. 2.2 - Line 6. Change 31 to 33.

Nota del Secretario General

INFORME SOBRE LA EJECUCION DE LA RESOLUCION PL/3 DE LA CAMTT-88

Párrafo 2.2 - Línea 8. Sustitúyase 31 por 33.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 106-E

15 May 1988

Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

Note by the Secretary-General

1. Subject - Report on the implementation of WATTC-88 Resolution PL/3
2. Reasons and background

WATTC-88 Resolution PL/3, inter alia, instructed the Secretary-General to continue and complete, on a priority basis, the detailed study of the costs of providing and operating telecommunication services between developing and developed countries and to report on the matter to the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nice, 1989. In pursuance of this, the Secretary-General initiated action and convened a meeting of administrations in April 1989 to seek their views and cooperation on the conduct of the study and the time frame for the same. In the light of the deliberations of this meeting, which agreed on a study methodology, a questionnaire for eliciting data and a time frame, the study is programmed for completion by the end of April 1990, with the assistance of a two-member expert team, especially engaged for the purpose. This report gives the background to adoption of Resolution PL/3 by WATTC-88, status of the implementation and outlines the study approach.

3. Recommendation

The Plenipotentiary Conference is invited to note the status of implementation of Resolution PL/3 and provide any further guidance as deemed necessary in the matter.

R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

Annex: 1

ANNEX

APPORTIONMENT OF REVENUES IN PROVIDING INTERNATIONAL
TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

WATTC-88 - RESOLUTION PL/3
REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

1. Background

1.1 As a result of its consideration of WATTC-88 Resolution PL/3, the 44th session of the Administrative Council decided to transmit it to the Plenipotentiary Conference (see Document 21).

1.2 In December 1984, the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development issued its now well-known report entitled "The Missing Link". The major focus of the report was on the serious and unacceptable disparity in the distribution of telecommunication services world-wide. Further, the Commission identified the non-availability of adequate financial resources for outlay on telecommunications in third world countries as one of the major constraints in the satisfactory development of this sector. The central theme of the report's wide range of recommendations was to achieve the balanced growth of international telecommunications. The mutuality of interests that should motivate the developed and developing countries to embark on joint endeavours in this regard was also emphasized by the Independent Commission.

1.3 To this end, one of the Independent Commission's recommendations was that Member States of the ITU consider the possibility of various alternatives for mobilizing additional resources for this sector including:

"... a rearrangement in the international traffic accounting procedures with the aim of setting aside a small proportion of revenues from calls between developing and industrialized countries. The resources transferred thereby should be devoted to the telecommunications sector in the developing country or countries concerned, or contributed to a fund and used for example to finance pre-investment costs."¹

By way of illustration, the Commission referred to the method of a preferential division of accounting rates then in vogue among commonwealth countries.

1.4 The Secretary-General of the ITU was given the responsibility for stimulating and monitoring the progress on the implementation of the various recommendations and to report on the matter to the Administrative Council and the Plenipotentiary Conference. As a follow-up to the particular recommendation cited above, it was decided to initiate a study to establish useful and objective analytical data which could be drawn upon by administrations in further actions as deemed appropriate by them.

1.5 Examination by the ITU Secretariat and comments received from Member administrations revealed that approaches such as preferential adjustments to international accounting arrangements was not practical. (It has since been abandoned by the commonwealth countries.) Whilst respecting the recommendations of the

¹ The Missing Link Report, Chapter 9, paragraph 30.

Independent Commission, it was therefore considered desirable that any such study be carried out within the framework of the existing CCITT Recommendations. It should be noted that CCITT Recommendation D.150 was amended and adopted by the VIIIth CCITT Plenary Assembly in Malaga-Torremolinos in 1984 to provide for revenue-sharing on a basis other than 50/50, should it be found that significant differences exist in the cost of the provision of international telecommunication services. This change resulted from the general expectation that for a number of reasons, the costs at the developing country end are apt to be higher, and if so, it would be equitable to provide for a correspondingly higher share of the traffic revenue in consideration of the costs incurred.

1.6 A study was carried out during 1987-88 against this background by a team of experts especially engaged for this task. The objective was to study the costs of providing and operating international telecommunication services between industrialized and developing Member countries of the ITU. It was envisaged that the interests of all Members of the Union would be served by such a study and that the study would promote greater understanding among Members and remove doubts and reservations on these matters.

1.7 The study was structured in such a manner as to collect dependable and sustainable analytical cost information from a sufficiently representative group of industrialized and developing Member countries of the ITU. The number of countries ultimately chosen (42) represented over 25% of the ITU membership from all of the five regions. A questionnaire was circulated to them to elicit the necessary information. The study team noted the difficulties encountered in obtaining data required to perform a reasonable and reliable analysis of the costs of international services. The team also found that administrations vary in their administrative, accounting and operational techniques and this contributed to variations in the findings and extent of reliability of the data.

1.8 The Secretary-General's Circular-letter No. DM-1908 of 27 September 1988, forwarded the report of the "Study of the Cost of Providing and Operating Telecommunication Services between Industrialized and Developing Countries". The report concluded that adequate study data was not available to enable any conclusive statement to be made regarding disparity of the costs between developing and industrialized countries. However, the report recommended, among other things, that administrations individually or collectively should undertake further study on a broader scale as soon as practicable to build on the findings of the report. It also recommended that Members place a priority on the establishment of costing data bases, and future researchers should undertake to develop a questionnaire which may be more representative of the particular circumstances prevailing in the developing countries, whilst insuring an appropriate level of commonality with data collected from the industrialized countries.

1.9 Recognizing the significance of this issue, its importance to all Members and in the light of the findings of the study report, the matter was considered by the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference (WATTC-88). Several proposals by way of draft Resolutions were considered by the Conference, namely India (Document 37), Lebanon (Document 43), and 26 Administrations of Europe (Document 66). After careful examination of these proposals, the Conference adopted Resolution PL/3, inter alia, instructing the Secretary-General:

- "... 1. to take action to have the study referred to in "considering (f)" completed on a priority basis;
2. to report on the matter to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nice, 1989);

3. to make the study available to Members so that further action can be taken by them on the basis of full consideration of the results of the study."

1.10 The 44th session of the Administrative Council in early 1989 considered Resolution PL/3 and decided to forward it to the Plenipotentiary Conference. The Secretary-General informed the Council that he has initiated action for continuing the study and in accordance with the terms of the Resolution he would also submit a report to this Conference.

2. Implementation activities

2.1 The meeting of administrations

The continuation of the study and its completion on a priority basis was entirely dependent on the supply of data and related information for the study from administrations. It was therefore felt necessary to exchange views with experts from administrations. Accordingly, the Secretary-General decided to convene a meeting of administrations in Geneva, within the time available before the Plenipotentiary Conference, to enable their views to be taken into account in the conduct of the study and to seek their assistance in obviating the difficulties encountered in the earlier study. This would also help the Secretary-General to report on the matter to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

2.2 A meeting was convened in Geneva from 17-19 April 1989 to which all Member administrations were invited. To facilitate meaningful discussions and results, working documents prepared by a two-member team of experts, i.e. the background paper, proposed study methodology and a draft questionnaire for eliciting the necessary data were circulated in advance. In spite of the short notice, it was heartening that 31 administrations from both industrialized and developing countries and covering a representative cross-section of all regions, participated in the meeting. As a result of the deliberations, the study methodology and associated cost model, the questionnaire and time frames were agreed. These will provide a uniform basis for the supply of data required by Member administrations and for their analysis and treatment by the expert study team, specifically contracted for this purpose. A report covering the meeting has been circulated to administrations.

2.3 Basis for the study

2.3.1 The purpose of the study would be to establish in an objective manner, the broad order of costs of providing and operating international telecommunication services between industrialized and developing countries and to see if there are significant and consistent differences. For this purpose, only the proportionate costs in respect of facilities for handling the traffic between these two groups of countries would be taken into account.

2.3.2 This study will be based on fully-allocated historical costs with 1986 as the reference year and oriented towards working out the cost of a unit (per minute) of international traffic.

2.3.3 The cost model will comprise all three principal elements, i.e. international transmission links, international switching facilities and the national extension.

2.3.4 Whilst the questionnaire will seek sufficient details of the international facilities to enable the cost to be calculated by the study team, an option will be available for administrations to work out and furnish the unit costs but provide enough details to enable validation checks and ensure uniformity of approach.

2.3.5 All the relevant proportionate cost elements, i.e. a) amortized costs of facilities, b) operating and maintenance costs, and c) other operating costs not covered by b) will be considered. In view of the importance of transit traffic between the industrialized and developing countries, outpayments and revenues in respect of such traffic would also be taken into account.

2.3.6 In view of the considerable country-to-country variations in the structure, geographical extent, organizational arrangements, etc. of the national networks, administrations will be required to provide the unit cost as calculated by them.

2.3.7 The questionnaire reflects these requirements and will be accompanied by an illustrative example.

2.4 Time frame for the study

Considering the importance attached by administrations to this study and the need for having reliable data, the meeting decided on a practical time frame as outlined below:

- Study methodology and questionnaire to be circulated to administrations by mid-May 1989.
- Queries from administrations and requests for clarifications to be received in the ITU Secretariat by 31 July 1989.
- The availability of the study of team of experts will be from 1 August 1989.
- All requests for clarification to be provided to administrations by the team before 31 August 1989.
- The last date for the receipt of the completed questionnaire from administrations is 15 January 1990.
- Completion of the study, conclusions thereon and submission of the report by the study team by 30 April 1989.

During the period from 1 August 1989, administrations will be able to call on the assistance and advice of the expert team, and for this purpose are requested to designate points of contact at their end.

2.5 The study is being financed from extra-budgetary resources. It is hoped that a large number of administrations will find it possible to participate and cooperate with the Secretary-General and the study team, enabling them to proceed with and complete the study in a factual, objective and independent manner. The confidentiality of the information provided by administrations will be fully protected, since some administrations have particularly indicated that the information required for the study would be of a sensitive nature. It is however also hoped that all Member administrations appreciate the need for a certain degree of openness, especially in view of the increasing world-wide emphasis on cost-based approaches to the establishing of international accounting rates and for the sharing of revenues.

2.6 The Conference is requested to note the status of the implementation of WATTC-88 Resolution PL/3 and provide any guidance it may wish in this regard.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 107-E

22 May 1989

Original English

PLENARY MEETING

Note by the Secretary-General

USE OF THE UNITED NATIONS TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK
FOR THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS TRAFFIC OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

I have the honour to transmit herewith to the Conference the attached ~~document~~ submitted by the United Nations for information.

R. E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

Annex: 1

ANNEX

UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES

POSTAL ADDRESS: ADDRESS POSTALE UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10011
CABLE ADDRESS: ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE UNATIONS NEWYORK

REFERENCE TELS 5-2

12 May 1989

Dear Mr. Butler,

The enclosed is submitted in accordance with the decision of the 44th Administrative Council to supplement the remarks in Document 6830-E (CA 44/14) concerning Resolution 39 with additional information.

The United Nations would be most grateful if the enclosed comments were conveyed to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

Yours sincerely,

J. Richard Foran
Assistant Secretary-General
for General Services

Mr. Richard Butler
Secretary-General
International Telecommunication
Union
Place des Nations
CH 1211 Geneva 20
SWITZERLAND

RESOLUTION No. 39

**Use of the United Nations Telecommunication Network
for the Telecommunications Traffic of the Specialized Agencies**

In consideration of Resolution No. 39 of the 1982 Nairobi Conference and in response to the interest expressed by a number of the Specialized Agencies in using the United Nations Telecommunications Network, as well as the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) Report "Changing Use of Computers in Organizations of the United Nations System in Geneva: Management Issues", the Administrative Council at its 41st Session, authorized the Secretary-General to study jointly with the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, the matters raised in the JIU report.

The Secretary-General proposed to the United Nations nodalities for the study of the requirements of the Specialized Agencies so as to facilitate the dimensioning and the design of the enlarged United Nations network expected also to carry enhanced service. The United Nations consulted the Secretariats of the Specialized Agencies to obtain data for the configuration of an appropriate network.

The Specialized Agencies have now been surveyed and the results of this survey have been analysed. It appears that in addition to conventional text and voice communication, there is a keen interest in the exchange of computerized data between Agencies and their regional offices. Some of these requirements are not being fully met by existing telecommunication facilities. This indicates a need for a further enhancement of the United Nations network in order to accommodate the Specialized Agencies' requirements. The present United Nations network is composed of Alternate Voice Data circuits connecting United Nations' offices and Commissions in Addis Ababa; Ethiopia, Bangkok, Thailand; Geneva, Switzerland; Nairobi, Kenya; Santiago, Chile and Vienna, Austria, with the New York, United States Headquarters.

It is apparent that in the first instance, the network should be extended to all cities where the Specialized Agencies' Headquarters are located. This enhancement would include Bern, Switzerland; London, England; Montreal, Canada; Paris, France; Rome, Italy and Washington, United States. The European cities would be connected to the Geneva Telecommunications Centre and the North American ones to New York.

Many of the primary areas of interest of the Specialized Agencies would be covered by circuitry extended to the locations already enumerated. The survey did reveal however that there is also a significant demand to exchange information with Copenhagen, Denmark; Dakar, Senegal and Lima, Peru. A matrix of the United Nations System requirements is shown at Table A.

The resultant network would be a multi-channel broad band system interconnecting the primary telecommunications centres of New York and Geneva. New York would have appropriately dimensioned direct circuits to Addis Ababa, Baghdad, Bangkok, Lima, Montreal, Nairobi, Santiago, Vienna and Washington. Geneva would have appropriately dimensioned direct circuits to Bern, Copenhagen, Dakar, London, Paris and Rome. The user requirements would be met by message switching for telegraphic transmissions and circuit switching for medium-speed data and telephonic transmission. A diagram of the enhanced network is shown at Table B.

The objective of this enhanced United Nations telecommunications network would be to provide a more effective means for information exchange within and between the various organizations of the United Nations system. In this respect, it is noted that the Telecommunications authority of administrations where United Nations system offices are located would be requested to lease the appropriate circuit capacity to the United Nations. Should the required facilities not be available, a satellite system may be proposed to be implemented either in collaboration or in partnership with the Administration concerned. The United Nations will continue to use the Administrations telecommunications services of National Administrations or their recognized private agencies and facilities for most in-country communications.

In this respect, the basic conditions for use of the United Nations network would include tariffs as well as organizational qualifications and limitations.

- a) Specialized Agencies would pay for the telecommunications services. The costs would be based on expenses of operating the service and existing international tariffs. These tariffs would be promulgated within the framework of current International Telecommunications Conventions, regulations and practices.
- b) The Network users would be exclusively the principal organs of the United Nations, United Nations Offices and Programmes, Specialized Agencies of the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency.
- c) Transmissions would be limited to those information exchanges in the conduct of the United Nations Systems business and inter and intra United Nations Systems offices.

The amendment of the text of Resolution No. 39 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference would allow the United Nations to carry traffic of the Specialized Agencies over the United Nations Telecommunications network subject to the specific conditions listed above.

TABLE A

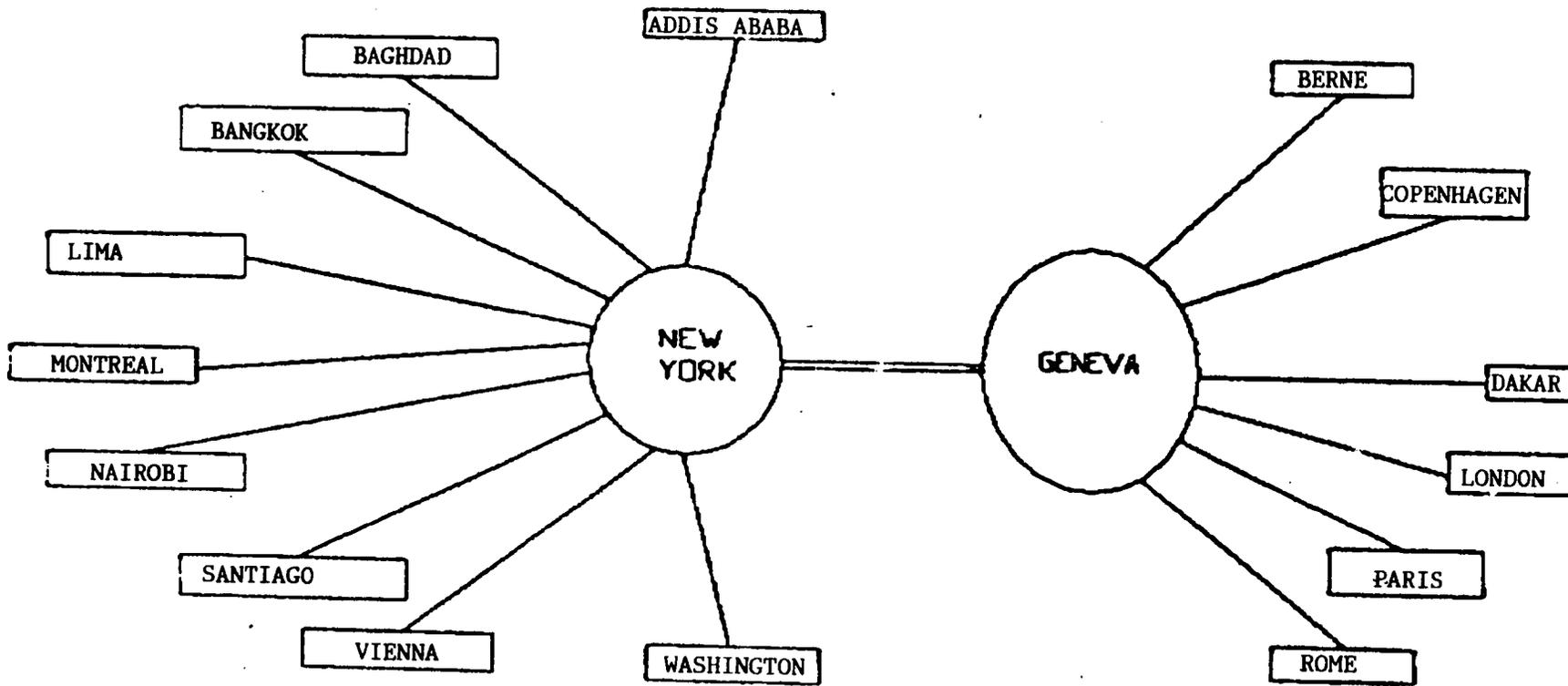
Traffic matrix

AGENCY LOCATION	FAD	IAEA	ICAD	IFAD	ILO	IMF	IMD	ITU	UNES CO	UNI DO	UPU	IBRD	VHD	VIPO	VMD
ADDIS ABABA			X		X				X	X	X			X	
BAGHDAD			X							X	X				
BANGKOK			X		X				X	X	X			X	
BERNE											0				
COPENHAGEN													X		
DAKAR			X						X						
GENEVA		X	X		0	X	X	0	X	X	X		0	0	0
LIMA			X		X										
LONDON			X				0			X	X			X	
MONTREAL			0						X	X	X		X		
NAIROBI			X						X	X	X			X	
NEW YORK		X	X	X	X				X	X	X				
PARIS				X	X	X	X		0	X	X			X	
ROME	0			0	X										
SANTIAGO															
VIENNA		0								0					
VASHINGTON					X	0	X					0			

LEGEND : 0 - HEADQUARTER'S
X - HEAVY TRAFFIC LOCATIONS

TABLE B

United Nations Enhanced Telecommunications Network



PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 108-E

15 May 1989

Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

Federal Republic of Germany

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Introduction

The Federal Republic of Germany has submitted a basic document in which it proposes a coordinated examination of certain general problems concerning the financing, structure, personnel matters and working procedures of the Union. In addition to that document it is in this document pointing out some specific problems to which possible solutions are proposed.

2. Proposals of the Federal Republic of Germany on specific problems

2.1 Introduction of a Basic Instrument

The Federal Republic of Germany appreciates the successful work of the working group which prepared a draft for the "Basic Instrument of the Union" in conformity with Resolution No. 62.

In some cases, the report of the working group contains alternative texts which are commented on below. This applies in particular to proposals concerning Articles 43 and 46 [52+48] of the Draft Constitution and Article 35 of the Draft Convention.

2.2 Working procedures of the CCIs

In its Resolution No. 2, the CCITT Plenary Assembly held in Melbourne resolved a change of certain working procedures which will in particular speed up the final adoption of recommendations. The proposal submitted by the Federal Republic of Germany is intended to introduce such improved working procedures in the two CCIs. For this reason we are suggesting that Articles 17 [69] and 20 [72] of the Draft Convention be adjusted.

2.3 CCITT Laboratory

The CCITT Plenary Assembly resolved to dissolve its laboratory since no need was seen for its further existence. This decision is subject to the PP's approval.

The PP could

- take note of and approve the resolution of the CCITT Plenary Assembly, or
- amend the Draft Convention.

The Federal Republic of Germany proposes that the corresponding numbers in the margin of the Draft Convention (Article 6 [58] and 27 [79]) be deleted as the laboratories mentioned there or any similar technical installations are not considered necessary.

2.4 Review and simplification of the Radio Regulations

The Radio Regulations are now so extensive that their usefulness is considerably impaired and they are becoming difficult to handle. We therefore propose

- to reduce the documents to be kept to the indispensable minimum,
- to simplify the regulation procedures,
- to review the definitions for services.

A Draft Resolution (A) to this effect is annexed.

2.5 Direct access to the ITU's data base

Particularly with the IFRB, the exchange of data between Member countries and the ITU has to be simplified and accelerated.

A working group of the IFRB was dealing with this problem in the last few years. The results of this work have been used as the basis of a proposal made by the Federal Republic of Germany for amending Article 10 of the Draft Constitution and submitting a Draft Resolution (B).

DRAFT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 10

International Frequency Registration Board

D/108/1
MOD

[79] 80

c) to furnish advice to Members with a view to the operation of the maximum practicable number of radio channels in those portions of the spectrum where harmful interference may occur, and with a view to the equitable, effective and economical use of the geostationary satellite orbit, taking into account the needs of Members requiring assistance, the specific needs of developing countries as well as the special geographical situation of particular countries, and to provide Members of the Union with information contained in the IFRB data bases.

Reasons: To include provisions with respect to the IFRB's duty to provide access to the information it holds. Further details should not be incorporated in the Constitution but could be dealt with e.g. in a Resolution (see proposal D/.. /18).

ARTICLE 43

Provisions for amending this Constitution

D/108/2

NOC	187	2
SUP	187	2a
SUP	187	2b

Reasons: It must be possible to submit modifications to a proposal - especially modifications resulting from Conference discussions - at the Conference. This is guaranteed by No. 187 2. The wording is clearer and shorter than the alternative texts 2a and 2b.

D/108/3
MOD

189 4. To be adopted, any proposed amendment as well as the proposal as a whole, whether or not modified, shall be approved, at a Plenary Meeting, by at least two-thirds of the Members of the Union ~~two-thirds of the delegations accredited to~~

~~the Plenipotentiary Conference and having the right to vote].~~

Reasons: The quorum required for amending the Constitution should be high as this long-term basic instrument should be amended as rarely as possibly.

D/108/4
MOD

191 1st alternative text:
6. {Any amendments to this Constitution adopted by a Plenipotentiary Conference shall be contained in ~~Protocols dealing with either one single or more, but interrelated amended provisions. Each such~~ in a single Protocol. This Protocol shall as a whole enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of instruments of acceptance with the Secretary-General by three-quarters of the Members and shall be binding on all the Members of the Union; acceptance of only a part of such a protocol shall be excluded.}

D/108/5
SUP

191 2nd alternative text

D/108/6
NOC

192 1st alternative text

D/108/7
SUP

192 2nd alternative text

D/108/8
MOD

194 9. Upon entry into force of such {a Protocol} {amendments} to this Constitution, the Secretary-General shall register {it} {them} with the Secretariat of the United Nations, in accordance with the provisions of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations. Paragraph 4 of Article 46 [52+48] of this Constitution shall also apply to such amendments.

Reasons: Any amendments to the Constitution adopted by a Plenipotentiary Conference should be contained in a single legal instrument

In addition, the following is commented on No. 191: The provision that the Protocol shall be binding on all Members - i.e. including the Members that have not accepted it or will not accept it - involves certain risks. An amendment might conflict with the national constitutional law of a Member. For instance, the obligation to exercise censorship

over the transmission of messages, would certainly not be acceptable for some countries. If an amendment of this kind were adopted with the required quorum, the countries concerned could only withdraw from the Union. In that case, the principle of universality could not be maintained. However, the Federal Republic of Germany trusts that any future amendments of the Constitution will not be in contradiction with fundamental constitutional principles of the Members.

ARTICLE 46 [52+48]

Entry into Force and Related Matters

D/108/9
MOD

[193] 198 1. (1) This Constitution and the Convention shall enter into force between Parties thereto on the 30th day after deposit of:

~~{the 25th instrument of ratification or accession.}~~
~~{the [41st] [55th] instrument of ratification or accession.}~~

{instruments of ratification or accession by more than a {quarter} {third} of the Members of the Union.}

Reasons: Entry into force should be conditional on a representative number of Members.

DRAFT CONVENTION

ARTICLE 17,20 [69,72]

- D/108/10
MOD [404] 201 a) consider the reports of study groups and
if applicable according to No. 201A,
approve, modify or reject the draft
recommendations contained in these reports;
- D/108/11
ADD 201A aa) take note of the amended or new
recommendations adopted by the study groups
during the study period in accordance with
the procedure prescribed by the Plenary
Assembly concerned.
- D/108/12
ADD 218A Study groups shall be allowed to finally
adopt recommendations in accordance with
special procedures to be prescribed by the
Plenary Assemblies.

Reasons: To allow a flexible response to technological
developments, standardisation results must be
provided more quickly. This can be achieved by
introducing a special procedure which will allow
recommendations to be finally adopted between
Plenary Assemblies. The IXth CCITT Plenary
Assembly, Melbourne 1988, already accepted such
an adoption procedure in its resolution No. 2.

ARTICLE 6,27 [58,79]

- D/108/13
SUP [325] 121
- D/108/14
SUP [624] 392

Reasons: There is no need for the Union to operate
laboratories or similar technical installations.
This has also been confirmed by the IXth
Plenary Assembly which decided that the CCITT
laboratory is no longer needed and therefore
recommended its dissolution (Document AP IX-
Temp. 36/73).

ARTICLE 35

Provisions for amending this Convention

D/108/15
MOD

423 4. To be adopted, any proposed modification to a proposed amendment as well as the proposal as a whole, whether or not modified, shall be approved at a Plenary Meeting, by more than half ~~[of the delegations accredited to the Plenipotentiary Conference and having the right to vote]~~ [of the Members of the Union].

Reasons: It seems sensible to require that more than half of all Members of the Union - not only half of the Members present at the Plenary Meeting - approve an amendment.

D/108/16
MOD

425 1st alternative text:
6. [Any amendments to this Convention adopted by any Plenipotentiary Conference shall be contained in ~~Protocols dealing with either one single or more, but interrelated amended provisions. Each such~~ in a single Protocol. This Protocol shall as a whole enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of instruments of acceptance with the Secretary-General by two-thirds of the Members and shall be binding on all the Members of the Union; acceptance of only a part of such a protocol shall be excluded.]

D/108/17
SUP

425 2nd alternative text

D/108/18
NOC

427 1st alternative text

D/108/19
SUP

427 2nd alternative text

D/108/20
MOD

429 10. Upon entry into force of such [a Protocol] ~~[amendments]~~ to this Convention, the Secretary-General shall register [it] ~~[them]~~ with the Secretariat of the United Nations, in accordance with the provisions of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations. Paragraph 4 of Article 46 [52+48] of this Constitution shall also apply to such amendments.

Reasons: Any amendments to the Convention adopted by a Plenipotentiary Conference should be contained in a single legal instrument.

D/108/21

DRAFT RESOLUTION (A)

**Panel of Experts on Allocations and Improved Use of the Radio
Frequency Spectrum**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International
Telecommunication Union (Nice, 1989),

considering

- a) the need to review the service definitions (Radio Regulations Article 1) to cater for converging technologies and to develop the basis for a future review of the Table of Frequency Allocations (Radio Regulations Article 8), with a view to maximising the efficient use of the frequency spectrum, to cover multifunctional radio systems and improve the administrative provisions to allow more service and system sharing;
- b) the relevant parts of the final report of the Panel of Experts implemented in accordance with Resolution No. 68 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi 1982, which concluded the need to simplify the regulatory procedures in the Radio Regulations and the related terminology, phraseology and mechanisms themselves;
- c) the need to minimise the amount of records the IFRE is requested to keep in accordance with No. [82] 83 of the Constitution;

resolves

that a Panel of Experts should study the problems mentioned above and prepare proposals to solve these problems;

resolves further

- a) to invite the Administrative Council:
 1. to establish a Panel of Experts from administrations with the following terms of reference:
 - 1.1 to review, in the light of technical developments, the definitions in Article 1 of the Radio Regulations and the structure and definitions of the relative status of allocations in Article 8 of the Radio Regulations with a view to improving the utilisation and economic use of the radio frequency spectrum and increasing the flexibility in order to give more sharing possibilities;

- 1.2 to review the other regulatory provisions and procedures of the Radio Regulations with a view to developing proposals to simplify the Radio Regulations in general;
 - 1.3 to review the actual practice of the IFRB in applying provision No. [82] 83 of the Constitution with a view to defining what records are essential and develop proposals to simplify the keeping of records and minimise the paper load or other means of storing those records;
 2. to request the Panel of Experts to conduct the review and to submit a report including recommendations to the Administrative Council with respect to 1.1 and 1.3 of the terms of reference to the Council Meeting in [1991] and with respect to 1.2 to the Council Meeting in [1993];
 3. to consider the reports and recommendations of the Panel of Experts and to forward the report together with their own conclusions thereon to administrations by [1 January 1992 and 1 January 1994];
 4. to include these subjects in the agenda of subsequent World Administrative Radio Conferences for decision;
- b) to invite Administrations to respond to the initiative to be taken by the Administrative Council by nominating appropriate specialists to join the Panel of Experts;
- c) to invite the Secretary-General, the Chairman and members of the IFRB, and the Directors of the CCIs to afford the Panel of Experts all necessary assistance required for the successful completion of the review.

Reasons: Experience gained in the past clearly indicates the need to improve the administrative provisions in Articles 1 and 8 of the Radio Regulations in order to cater for converging technologies and to allow full use of sharing possibilities between various radio services that are feasible from a technical point of view.

At the same time it seems necessary to minimise the amount of records the IFRB is requested to keep.

Furthermore we see the need to simplify the regulatory procedures in the Radio Regulations in general.

For this work, a Panel of Experts - supervised and directed by the Administrative Council - should be established which would have to develop proposals on the items mentioned above. These proposals should subsequently be decided upon by competent World Administrative Radio Conferences.

D/108/22

DRAFT RESOLUTION (B)

Direct Remote Access to the Databases of the IFRB

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International
Telecommunication Union (Nice, 1989),

considering

- a) the report of the Voluntary Group of Experts and the Joint Report from the Secretary-General and the IFRB on Remote Access, which were prepared in response to Res. 69 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi, 1982.
- b) the changes this Conference made in respect of No. [79] 80 of the Constitution;
- c) the need to provide Members of the Union with information contained in the IFRB data bases, preferably through direct remote access to the computer, and with application software needed to process that information, in order to facilitate the application of the procedures in the Radio Regulations by administrations and to achieve a more effective use of telecommunication networks;
- d) the need of equal access by Members of the Union to the data bases of the IFRB and the application software;

considering further

the three different aspects of direct remote access for the purpose of:

1. selective retrieval of data;
2. submitting data, notices etc;
3. remote engineering studies using the software and data bases of the IFRB;

having accepted

in principle the conclusions and recommendations related to remote access as contained in the report of the Administrative Council to this Conference;

resolves

to endorse the development and implementation of the direct remote access services as well as all other means of data exchange (i.e. tape, disc, CD-ROM, etc.) in the most efficient and expedient manner;

instructs the IFRB

to proceed with the implementation of remote access to the IFRB data bases in accordance with above mentioned *further considering 1. and 2.* and prepare the necessary programs and procedures for the implementation of *further considering 3.*;

instructs the Secretary-General

- a) to ensure the incorporation of the remote access facilities in the ITU Information Exchange System within the appropriate budgetary ceilings and under the control of the Administrative Council;
- b) to price the direct remote access services in accordance with the provisions applicable to the pricing of publications and to give due consideration to the principle of equal access by the Members of the Union;
- c) to use or develop, together with the other Organs of the Union, technical assistance programs to support the related training and technology requirements of the developing countries;

instructs the Administrative Council

to monitor the implementation of the remote access services;

further instructs the Secretary-General together with the IFRB

to report regularly to the Administrative Council on the progress achieved

Reasons: To allow an orderly implementation of remote access services, taking into account the various implications related with this subject.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 109-E
22 May 1989
Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

Kingdom of the Netherlands

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

Future Administrative Radio Conferences

Article 6 no. 38 of the Convention states that the Plenipotentiary Conference shall establish a programme of conferences and other meetings.

The Netherlands Administration recommends that the PC-89 adopts a critical attitude towards the programme of conferences and that future administrative radio conferences are limited to those which:

1. can be clearly justified by objective necessity;
2. offer reasonable prospects of a successful outcome;
3. provide sufficient time for essential preparations.

In this respect and in order to achieve the most effective results within the constraints of a limited budget, the Netherlands takes the view that priorities should be set regarding the programme of future conferences. It therefore wishes to make the following proposals.

HOL/ 109 /1 - That consideration should be given to the scheduling of a selective allocation conference to cover the following subjects:

- 500-3000 MHz specifically:
 - a. additional allocations for the mobile-satellite service and the mobile service in accordance with Res 208 (MOB-87);
 - b. an allocation for the broadcasting-satellite service (sound) in accordance with Res COM 5/1 (ORB-88); and of a band for associated feeder links from within any of the existing fixed-satellite service bands, whether currently allocated on a worldwide basis or not;

- c. Recommendation COM 6/F (ORB-88) in respect of the space research and space operations services;
 - d. any consequential changes to Article 8 of the Radio Regulations or other provisions arising from any changes in respect of a. to c. above.
- 11.7-23 GHz specifically to consider the selection of a frequency band for use by the broadcasting-satellite service in accordance with Resolution COM 5/3 (ORB-88) to provide for the introduction of wide band high definition television. Further, to consider any consequential changes to Article 8 of the Radio Regulations arising from such a decision together with the identification of an appropriate band to accommodate feeder links from within any of the existing fixed-satellite service bands whether currently allocated on a worldwide basis or not.
 - (2-30) MHz specifically to consider extension of broadcasting bands below (30 MHz) and if necessary the re-accommodation of any displaced services;

Reason: We feel that it is too early to convene a new general WARC within the next few years, because the last one was only held 10 years ago. Nevertheless, several cases have shown that there is a pressing need to re-allocate parts of the frequency spectrum. If our proposal is accepted, the most urgent problems can be solved at a conference with a limited mandate without unduly burdening the ITU budget.

Panels of Experts

HOL/109 /2 - Consideration should be given to the establishment of:

- a. An international Panel of Experts to review the service definitions to cater for converging technologies and to develop the basis for a future review of the Table of Allocations, with a view also to maximizing the efficient use of the frequency spectrum.
- b. An international Panel of Experts to give further consideration to improving and where possible simplifying the Radio Regulations, the need for which is clearly identified in the Report on the Long Term Future of the IFRB. This subject needs to be handled by a separate Panel of Experts. Further thought

will have to be given to the scope of the review (perhaps specifically identifying parts of the RR's to be included in the review and those to be excluded) and the timing of the review in relation to the work of the other Panel of Experts mentioned at a. above.

Reason: The subjects mentioned above need to be studied because of developments in technology which have resulted in no less than 35 different services being defined at present and the continuing complexity of the Radio Regulations.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 110-E

22 May 1989

Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

Greece

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

In Document 98, Greece explains why it deems that the 1989 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference is crucial and important for the international telecommunications. In that document also, some general principles are proposed to optimize resources and expenses. Due to the rapid growth of technology and the revolutionary changes in our societies, an increased need both for effective telecommunications and for new developed services have become vital. To satisfy this need the ITU has:

- to promote effectively the international cooperation for the development of telecommunication networks and services;
- to prepare for this purpose the appropriate standards; and
- to improve the existing or prepare new regulations for the international functioning of telecommunications.

Such a job has to be implemented quickly and at reasonable cost, if at all possible, without any further increase of the current ITU budget. This task cannot be carried out within the ITU's present structure and methods of work. By simply increasing the number of personnel but maintaining present procedures, the ITU no longer fulfills its Member States' expectations from it in the international telecommunications. The law of "Diminishing Returns" does not allow for real improvement. It is time therefore for some more daring decisions.

On the basis of the above-mentioned views the following amendments are proposed. The proposals refer to the text of the International Telecommunications Convention of Nairobi 1982.

PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1

Composition of the Union

GRC/110/1
MOD

6

2. For the purpose of 5, if an application for membership is made, ~~by diplomatic channel and through the intermediary of the country of the seat of the Union,~~ during the interval between two Plenipotentiary Conferences, the Secretary-General shall consult the Members of the Union; a Member shall be deemed to have abstained if it has not replied within four months after its opinion has been requested.

ARTICLE 38 [45]

Ratification

GRC/110/2
MOD [177] 173

1. This Constitution and the Convention shall be ratified simultaneously by any signatory in accordance with its constitutional rules in force and in one single instrument. Each instrument of ratification shall be deposited, in as short a time as possible, with the Secretary-General ~~(by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the Government of the country of the seat of the Union)~~. The Secretary-General shall notify the Members of each deposit of such instrument of ratification.

Reasons: In agreement with the suggestion made by the Group of Experts which aimed at simplifying the course of action.

ARTICLE 39 [46]

Accession

GRC/110/3
MOD [183] 178

2. The instrument of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General ~~(by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the government of the country of the seat of the Union)~~. Unless otherwise specified therein, it shall become effective upon the date of its deposit. The Secretary-General shall notify the Members of each accession when it is received and shall forward to each of them a certified copy of the act of accession.

Reasons: In agreement with the suggestion made by the Group of Experts which aimed at simplifying the course of action.

ARTICLE 44 [47]

Denunciation of the Constitution
and the Convention

GRC/110/4
MOD [184] 195

1. Each Member which has ratified, or acceded to, this Constitution and the Convention shall have the right to denounce them by a notification addressed to the Secretary-General ~~(by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the Government of the country of the seat of the Union)~~. The Secretary-General shall advise the other Members thereof.

Reasons: In agreement with the suggestion made by the Group of Experts which aimed at simplifying the course of action.

ARTICLE 4

Purposes of the Union

GRC/110/5
MOD

- 19 b) coordinate efforts to eliminate harmful interference between radio stations of different countries and to improve the use made of the radio frequency spectrum and of the geostationary orbit for space radiocommunication services;

Reasons: To recognize and clarify that the ITU is the recognized organization for international regulations governing the use of the radio frequency spectrum and of the geostationary satellite orbit; this measure would further enhance the Union's international role in all radio matters.

ARTICLE 5

Structure of the Union

NOC 29

NOC 30

GRC/110/6
MOD 31

- b) the International Frequency Registration Board ~~(IFRB)~~ Office (IFRO);

GRC/110/7
SUP 32

- c) ~~the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR);~~

GRC/110/8
MOD 33

- d) the International ~~Telegraph and Telephone~~ Telecommunications Consultative Committee ~~(CCITT)~~ (CCIT).

Reasons: For the purpose of coherence and efficiency and in order to avoid confusion, the Convention (or whatever the new instrument may be) has to reflect the true situation. The ITU is itself international and the unique body for international telecommunications. A merger of the present CCIR and CCITT is proposed since the new CCIT has to cover all telecommunication services. For additional explanations of these proposals, see also the reasons under Article 11.

ARTICLE 6

Plenipotentiary Conference

43 (see proposal for Article 10.)

GRC/110/9
MOD

44 1) elect the Directors of the International Frequency Registration Office and of the International Telecommunications Consultative Committees and fix the dates of their taking office;

Reasons: Consequential to proposals for Articles 5 and 10.

ARTICLE 9

General Secretariat

GRC/110/10
MOD [67] 68

(4) The Secretary-General shall take all the action required to ensure economic use of the Union's resources and the overall function for the Union in accordance with the decisions of the Plenipotentiary and the Administrative Conferences and the instructions of the Administrative Council and he shall be responsible to the Administrative Council for all administrative and financial aspects of the Union's activities. The Deputy Secretary-General shall be responsible to the Secretary-General.

Reasons: To improve the efficiency and the coherence of the functioning of the Union, a more precise definition of the duties of the Secretary-General is needed. The present Article 9 addresses the question of how and when the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General shall undertake their duties, but fails to describe what these functions may entail. A clearer and more complete definition of their duties is therefore required in line with Articles 10 and 11 which define the duties of the present IFRB and the CCIs.

ARTICLE 10

GRC/110/11
MOD

International Frequency Registration ~~Board~~ Office

Reasons: Consequential to the proposals set out in Article 5. In order to align this Article with Article 11 on the present CCIs, the duties of the IFRO should be listed first, and it is therefore proposed that paragraphs 76 to 82 be renumbered 73 to 79 respectively.

GRC/110/12

MOD [76] ~~77~~ 73 5 1. The essential duties of the International Frequency Registration ~~Board~~ Office (IFRO) shall be:

GRC/110/13

(MOD) [77] ~~78~~ 74 stands.) (Modify the number only, the text to remain as it

GRC/110/14

(MOD) [78] ~~79~~ 75 stands.) (Modify the number only, the text to remain as it

GRC/110/15

MOD [79] ~~80~~ 76 c) to furnish advice to Members with a view to the operation of the maximum practicable number of radio channels in those portions of the spectrum where harmful interference may occur, and with a view to the equitable, effective and economical use of the geostationary satellite orbit, taking into account the needs of Members requiring assistance, the specific needs of developing countries as well as the special geographical situation of particular countries, and to provide Members of the Union with information contained in the IFRB data bases;

Reasons: To include provisions with respect to the IFRO's duty to provide access to the Members on information it holds.

GRC/110/16

(MOD) [80] ~~81~~ 77 stands.) (Modify the number only, the text to remain as it

GRC/110/17

MOD [81] ~~82~~ 78 e) to provide technical assistance in making preparations for and organizing radio conferences in consultation, as appropriate, with the other permanent organs of the Union, and with due regard for the relevant directives of the Administrative Council in carrying out these preparations; the ~~Board~~ Office shall also provide assistance to the developing countries in their preparations for these conferences;

GRC/110/18

(MOD) [82] ~~83~~ 79 stands.) (Modify the number only, the text to remain as it

GRC/110/19
MOD

~~73~~ 80 ~~1-2~~. The International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) Office (IFRO) shall consist work through the medium of a Director and a Board of five independent Member Countries, all of whom shall be elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference. The Director shall work permanently at ITU Headquarters. The Board will meet periodically as and when there is a need for collegiate consideration of issues arising from the work of the IFRO. The Board's members, one from each region, shall be elected from the candidates sponsored by countries Members of the Union, in such a way as to ensure equitable distribution amongst the regions of the world. Each Member of the Union may propose only one candidate who shall be a national of its country.

GRC/110/20
MOD

~~74~~ 81 ~~2-3~~. The Director members of the International Frequency Registration Board Office shall take up ~~their~~ his duties on the dates determined at the time of ~~their~~ his election and shall remain in office until dates determined by the following Plenipotentiary Conference. ~~At each election any serving member of the Board may be proposed again as a candidate by the Member of which he is a national. He shall be answerable to the Secretary-General.~~

GRC/110/21
MOD [75] 76

4. The members of the Board and the Director of the International Frequency Registration Board Office shall serve, not as representing their respective Member States countries or a region, but as impartial agents entrusted with an international mandate custodians of an international public trust.

GRC/110/22
ADD

76A The working arrangements of the IFRO are defined in the General Regulations.

Reasons: To face the new situation which will emerge from the Frequency Management System, to economize on expenses and to increase the coherence of the work of the Union, while at the same time providing a possibility for Member States, through the Board of the IFRO, to be directly and immediately aware of radio-frequency matters.

ARTICLE 11

GRC/110/23
MOD

International Telecommunications Consultative Committees

In order to increase the coherence of the Union, economize on resources and expenses and to give the Union a suitable structure to face the challenges of our times, Greece deems that there is margin for considerable improvement also in the work of the present CCIs by merging them, with perhaps a consequential reduction in the number of Study Groups, thus avoiding overlapping. In the past, radiocommunications functioned quasi independently, serving mostly the mobile services. Nowadays, with the increasing integration and digitalization of telecommunications, this is no longer the case. Irrespective of whether the mobile services are used by ships, airplanes, land or space vehicles, they are finally connected to international or national networks and have therefore to follow and satisfy those standards. This is currently even more valid for radiocommunications of the fixed services. The few exceptions hardly justify the luxury of independent bodies performing similar work within the ITU and utilizing resources which could be better used elsewhere.

The emerging ISDN and broadband ISDN dictate reconsideration of the work of the CCIs and their potential merger.

Taking into consideration the above, it is strongly recommended that:

- 1) the Plenipotentiary Conference considers and adopts the proposal of merging the CCITT and the CCIR into the CCIT, the International Telecommunications Consultative Committee, bearing in mind that the Director of the CCIT would also be answerable to the Secretary-General;
- 2) once all the foregoing proposals are adopted, the Plenipotentiary Conference is to take immediate follow-up action for their implementation, including:
 - amendment of relevant provisions of the Convention and/or Constitution of the Union so as to reflect properly the new structure of the International Frequency Registration Office and the International Telecommunications Consultative Committee;
 - any other necessary action.

PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE DRAFT CONVENTION

ARTICLES [58] 6 AND [79] 27

GRC/110/24
SUP [325] 121

GRC/110/25
SUP [624] 392

Reasons: There is no need for the Union to operate laboratories or similar technical installations as confirmed by the IXth Plenary Assembly which decided that the CCITT laboratory is no longer needed and therefore recommended its dissolution (Document AP IX-Temp. 36/73). This will also lead to economies.

ARTICLE 25 [77]

Rules of Procedure of Conferences and Other Meetings

3. Powers of the Chairman of the Conference

GRC/110/26
ADD

261a 5. Should it appear that the conference will not complete its work within the allotted duration but could do so with a brief extension, the Chairman may, after consultation with the Secretary-General and the Steering Committee, submit a proposal to the conference for a maximum extension of one day, provided that the budget for the conference will not thereby be exceeded. Such a proposal shall be adopted at a Plenary Meeting if supported by a simple majority.

Reasons: To provide the possibility of completing the work and coping with difficulties which cannot be foreseen by the Administrative Council when determining the duration of a conference.

10. Conditions Required for Discussion of, and Vote on,
any Proposal or Amendment

GRC/110/27
MOD [497] 288

2. Each proposal or amendment duly supported shall be submitted ~~to a vote after~~ for discussion and thereafter for decision and, if necessary to a vote.

Reasons: To reflect the effective working practice of the Union, in its decision-making process and to ensure that only if a need arises delegates may, if they so wish, decide thereupon after a vote.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 111-E
22 May 1989
Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

Japan

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Seven years have passed since the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference. During this time, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has been playing an important role in technical standards setting of all kinds of telecommunication and other related activities, and in securing orderly utilization of frequencies and geostationary satellite orbits. Today, in the world of telecommunications where technological evolution and service diversification are prominent, the ITU, as a specialized organization in the field of telecommunications, is required to effectively conduct its duties by adapting to the changing environments.

The role of telecommunications has become bigger than ever in smoothing relationships and promoting cooperation between countries of the international society. International cooperation is important for the development of telecommunications which form the infrastructure of the society of peoples. Consequently, the importance of the roles played by the ITU is increasing and the Plenipotentiary Conference, which is responsible for directing the entire ITU activities, is expected to produce fruitful results.

2. The ITU must deal with new challenges positively in order to meet the changing situation and at the same time aim at the efficient management of the organization in view of the severe financial situation of the Union Members. In order to meet these demands, the ITU should strive to rationalize and make its work more efficient in order to reduce its operating costs. One should not forget that the efforts of the Union Members being made under the tense global economic situation should also be echoed by the ITU.

3. In the Plenipotentiary Conferences, in Montreux in 1965, in Malaga-Torremolinos in 1973, and in Nairobi in 1982, Japan has proposed to create a Constitution out of the basic instrument of the ITU in order to give it a permanent nature. At the Nairobi Conference, Japan also proposed to divide the instrument into three parts, namely, a Constitution, General Rules and a Convention from the standpoint that a Constitution is necessary in order for the Union to secure its legal stability and its continuity. As a result of deliberations a Resolution was adopted to split the provisions of the present Convention into two documents and to create a Group of Experts to prepare the drafts.

Using the criterion of division whether a provision of the present Convention is of a fundamental character and based on the principle that modifications made to the provisions of the present Convention must be

J/111/1 limited to those that are logically inevitable because of the division, the Group prepared a draft Constitution and Convention of the ITU. In recognition of the fact that it is important to have a Constitution, Japan basically supports the proposal prepared by the group. Japan wishes that the Union Members will also positively support the division of the basic instrument of the Union.

J/111/2 4. The Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) was established on Administrative Council Resolution No. 929 for the unique purposes of expanding and promoting the role of telecommunications in the economic and social development of the Member countries. Respecting this purpose, Japan has positively made a large contribution including funds, personnel and policy-making. In terms of funds, Japan has become one of the largest fund contributors of the CTD. The CTD has been relying on voluntary contributions by various public and private organizations, and the shortage of funds has become a great problem. As a countermeasure against this problem, the Japanese member of the Advisory Board has proposed an affiliate system in which affiliate Members contribute funds based on their voluntary selection of units. As the proposed system is capable of stabilizing and expanding funds, while maintaining a voluntary nature, which is also the case with the CTD fund raising at present. Japan respectfully proposes an affiliate system for the CTD (see draft Resolution J/111/9).

J/111/3 5. The complexity of the procedures provided in the present Radio Regulations places a heavy burden on both the administrations and the International Frequency Registration Board, and it is urgently needed to simplify the procedures.

Japan proposes that, in order to simplify the Radio Regulations and to study its legal as well as technical feasibility in advance, the International Frequency Registration Board drafts simplified Radio Regulations and that a Group of Experts be set up to consider the draft, taking into account opinions of the various administrations and that the Administrative Council prepare a future World Administrative Radio Conference for simplification of the Radio Regulations (see draft Resolution J/111/10).

6. One of the important purposes of the ITU is to collect and publish information concerning telecommunications. The publications published by the Union are extremely useful for the Union Members and for the global telecommunication community. Their wide distribution deepens the recognition by various sectors of telecommunications and consequently could play an important role in promotion of domestic and international development in telecommunications.

J/111/4 Japan hopes that the Union will continue its efforts to lower the price of its publications and to promote their distribution. It is presently suggested that part of the burden borne by the Supplementary Publication Account be charged to the ordinary budget in order to lower prices. However, it is feared that this will greatly affect the ordinary budget of the Union and will increase the financial burden on the Union Members.

Japan hopes that, regarding the publication work and the Supplementary Publication Account, in-depth and comprehensive studies be made on the following points in order to secure higher efficiency:

- a) Reduction of publication and printing costs through the promotion of subcontracting by competitive bidding and reduction in personnel costs through the promotion of automation.
- b) A distribution method, including use of electronic media, with the best cost benefits ratio in accordance with the purposes of distribution.
- c) Establishment of rational copyright policies to promote distribution of publications and to put a publication account on a sound basis.
- d) Formation of a study group to make publication work more efficient.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 40

Administrative Regulations

J/111/5
ADD

- 180A 2A Members may make reservations with regard to the application of one or more of the provisions of the Administrative Regulations at the time of signing of, ratification of, or accession to this Constitution and the Convention.

Reasons: It is desirable to explicitly provide for the right of Members to make reservations with regard to their acceptance of the Administrative Regulations whether partially or as a whole at the time of signing of, ratification of, or accession to this Constitution and the Convention in this Constitution.

J/111/6
ADD

- 181A 3A Revised Administrative Regulations or new Administrative Regulations adopted by competent administrative conferences shall be binding on all Members after the time of entry into force except for such Members as may notify the Secretary-General of their reservations with regard to one or more of the provisions of the Regulations within six months after their adoption.

Reasons: The decisions on the World Administrative Conference shall be binding on all Members from the time of entry into force except Members whose delegation have made reservations at conferences. But we consider it necessary to study revised or new regulations carefully before we decide whether reservations should be made or not.

ARTICLE 25

16. Reservations

J/111/7
SUP 349

J/111/8
SUP 350

Reasons: The provisions concerning reservations of Administrative Regulations is unnecessary since these provisions should be provided in Article 40 of the Constitution.

On the other hand, concerning the provisions of reservations with regard to this Constitution and the Convention we would like to refer to Articles 19 and 20 of the VIENNA CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF TREATIES.

J\111\9
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Stable Funds Raising for the Centre for Telecommunications Development

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union
(Nice, 1989),

considering

- a) that it is necessary to secure stable funds to the Centre for Telecommunications Development in order to promote the activities of the Centre which was established based on Administrative Council Resolution No. 929;
- b) that countries contributing funds to the CTD are, by and large, home countries of the Advisory Board members, presumably because the activities of the CTD are not well understood by countries which are not represented on the CTD Advisory Board;
- c) that it will be effective to establish an affiliate system and to provide the affiliate members with information of the CTD activities in order to promote understanding of the CTD in countries other than the countries of the Advisory Board members;

resolves

to establish the affiliate system described below:

1. affiliate members can be government agencies or non-government entities;
2. application to join the affiliate system shall be made through telecommunication administrations;
3. the affiliate members shall decide membership fees by selecting the number of units, a unit being a fixed amount;

requests the CTD Advisory Board

to decide and implement the details of the affiliate system;

instructs the CTD

to provide periodically the Administrative Council and the affiliate members with information concerning the situation of the membership and contributions as well as the CTD activity programmes and their implementation;

invites administrations

to endeavour to increase the number of affiliate members and the number of units selected;

and instructs the Administrative Council and the Secretary-General

to provide necessary support to the CTD Advisory Board in introducing the above-mentioned affiliate system.

J\111\10
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Simplification of the Radio Regulations

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union
(Nice, 1989),

considering

- a) that the procedures provided in the present Radio Regulations are too complex, and they place a burden on both the administrations and the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB), and accordingly it is required to simplify the procedures provided in the Radio Regulations for the purpose of their efficient execution of the work of administrations and the IFRB;
- b) that there are some redundant descriptions in the present Radio Regulations, and it would be possible to simplify them;
- c) that simplification of the Radio Regulations requires its legal and technical feasibility study before a World Administrative Radio Conference;

resolves

to start its preparatory study for simplification of the Radio Regulations;

instructs the IFRB

to draw up a draft of the simplified Radio Regulations;

instructs the Administrative Council

1. to establish a Group of Experts designated, on a voluntary basis, by administrations to study a draft of the simplified Radio Regulations and to report the results of their study to the Administrative Council;
2. to ensure that the Group of Experts, taking into account opinions of all administrations, as much as possible, prepares a report that will be distributed to all administrations before 1 January 1993;
3. to take necessary measures to enable the next Plenipotentiary Conference to decide on the schedule of the World Administrative Radio Conference for the simplification of the Radio Regulations;

instructs the Secretary-General and the Director of the CCIR

to provide all necessary assistance to the IFRB and the Group of Experts for execution of this Resolution.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 112-E

23 May 1989

Original: Spanish

PLENARY MEETING

Chile

BUDGET OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

1. Introduction

The Additional Protocol I of the Nairobi Convention, 1982, established the limits of the ITU budget for the period 1983 to 1989 to cover the expenses of:

- the operation of the ITU;
- conferences, meetings of the International Consultative Committees and seminars;
- extended use of the computer by the IFRB.

It also established a procedure for varying these limits, by the weighted application of changes in certain pre-selected indices and, in the case of the meetings of the International Consultative Committees and the extended use of the computer, by using sums either accrued from previous years or charged to future years.

Lastly, the Administrative Council was authorized in the Additional Protocol I to meet expenditures which are not foreseen but are urgent by exceeding the limits by not more than 1%.

2. Evaluation of the application of Additional Protocol I in the period 1983 to 1989

The Report of the Administrative Council to this Conference (Document 47) contains an exhaustive and detailed analysis of the ITU's expenditure budget, for the period 1983-1989.

Notwithstanding the above Report and in order to provide a better appreciation of the magnitudes involved and to visualize a few trends, some graphs prepared with the information supplied by the Administrative Council are attached herewith.

The following information is shown in these graphs:

- a) Figure 1 shows an evaluation of annual operating costs compared with the ceilings laid down in Additional Protocol I. The actual expenditure columns show the amounts obtained under sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 of Additional Protocol I (above-ceiling expenditure).
- b) Figure 2 shows the trend of above-ceiling expenditure and of factors determining its evaluation.

c) Figure 3 shows the breakdown of ITU operating costs into the following items:

- staff and social;
- operation;
- technical cooperation;
- Administrative Council.

It may be noted that Section 8, Implementation of Resolution 65 (drafting of documents in the official languages of ITU) has been considered as an operating cost, even though it contains a large staff component.

d) Figure 4 shows the trends of the above-mentioned items and of the amount of the contributory unit.

e) Figures 5 and 6 show the trend of expenditure on conferences, meetings, seminars, in overall terms for the whole of the period 1983-1989, with information similar to that under a) above.

f) Figure 7 shows the trend of expenditure on the extended use of the computer by the IFRB.

The following conclusions may be drawn from the above evaluations:

- i) It may be noted in general that budgets have been kept below the limits established in Additional Protocol I, subject to the evaluation of the above-ceiling expenditure derived from the application of sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3.
- ii) Above-ceiling expenses represent a significant proportion of the budgets to which they are related. The tendency is to remain slightly below 10% in the case of the operating costs of the ITU.
- iii) The above trend does not reflect any close correlation with the factors determining the amount of above-ceiling expenses (Figure 2).
- iv) Among the ITU's operating costs, the most significant items are related to staff costs, which amount to over 70%, and to operating costs, slightly above 10%.
- v) In recent years, expenditure on technical cooperation has gradually increased, with an estimate of nearly 7.5% for the current year.
- vi) As a result of the ITU's sober financial management, the contributory unit has shown a tendency to stabilize since 1986, with an estimated 32% of accrued increase during the period considered, due to the strong increase in the years 1984 and 1985.

- vii) It appears from the Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference that since 1982 there has been a deficit in the Special Accounts budget for Technical Cooperation. This budget covers the cost of managing technical cooperation projects, mainly within the framework of the UNDP, and other chargeable technical assistance projects. The 1982 Plenipotentiary Conference did not establish any limit for this expenditure.

3. Considerations regarding the budget to cover future expenditure of the ITU

In light of the results of the financial management of the ITU for the period 1983 to 1989, the following proposals are put forward:

- CHL/112/1 An appendix to the Convention (draft Convention, Document B) should be maintained with the same characteristics and structure of Additional Protocol I to the ITU Convention, Nairobi, 1982, in order to preserve an effective instrument for controlling the financial management of the ITU, in the interest of Members, who in the event contribute the necessary financial resources.
- CHL/112/2 Considering the financial effect of above-ceiling expenses, the weighting given to the factors referred to under sections 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 of Additional Protocol I needs to be revised and improved. If this Conference is unable to complete this analysis, the task should be entrusted to the Administrative Council.
- CHL/112/3 Without detracting from the measures which need to be adopted within the Department of Technical Cooperation to reduce the considerable budget deficit, brought about by the support provided by the ITU to telecommunication projects financed by the UNDP, budget limits should be established for the Special Accounts for Technical Cooperation, with a view to reducing to zero the accumulated deficit, within a period of five years, and of maintaining as a matter of course a provision equivalent to 5% of the funds assigned by the UNDP to telecommunication projects, in order to absorb expenditure arising from the support provided by the ITU for these projects, taking into account that this Conference will take measures aimed at diminishing these costs.
- CHL/112/4 To the provisions contained in the Additional Protocol I of the Nairobi Convention, 1982, should be added others aimed at lessening the impact of significant increases in the value of the contributory unit. To this effect, the Administrative Council should ensure that the values of the contributory unit, with respect to the previous budgetary year, does not increase by more than 7%. The Administrative Council should adopt whatever budgetary cuts are required to implement the above.

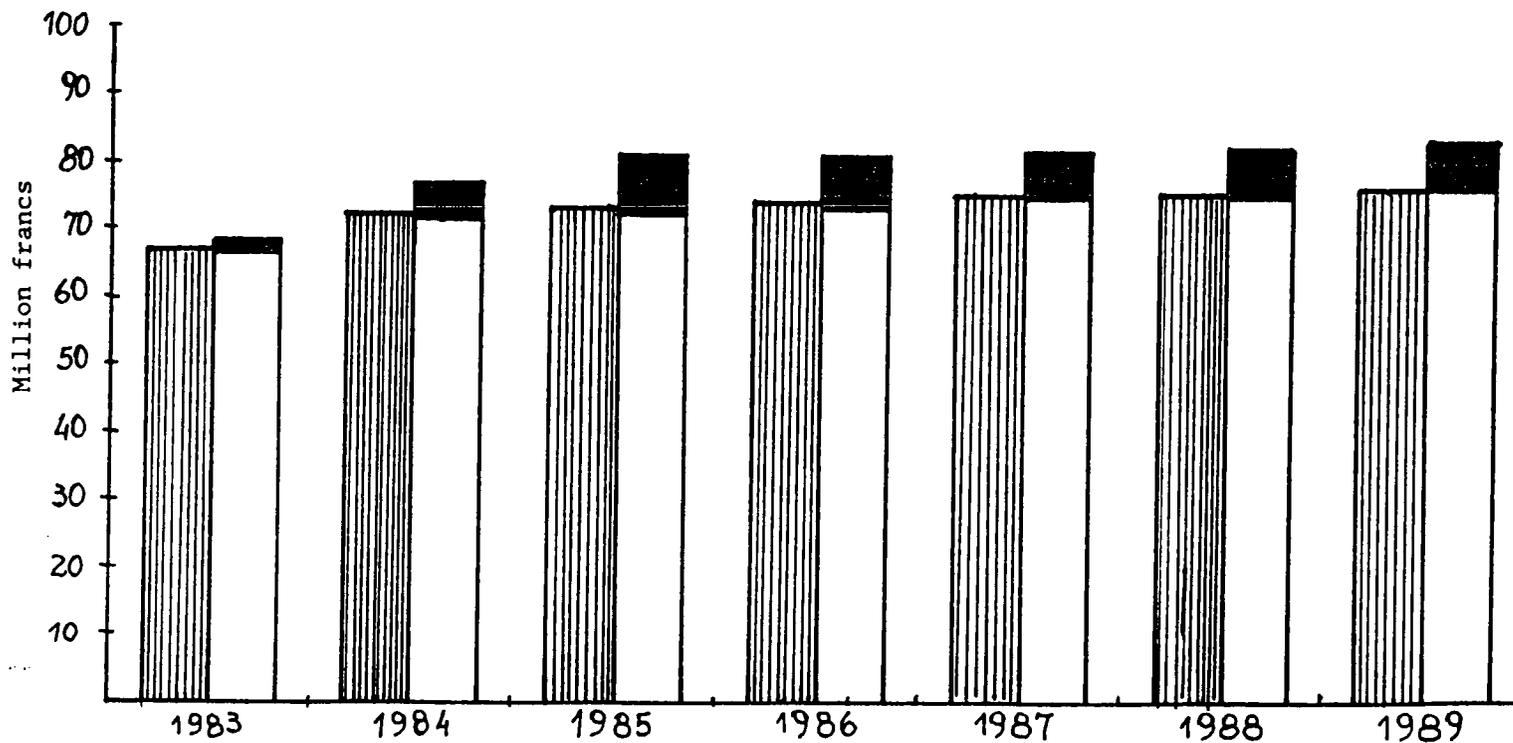
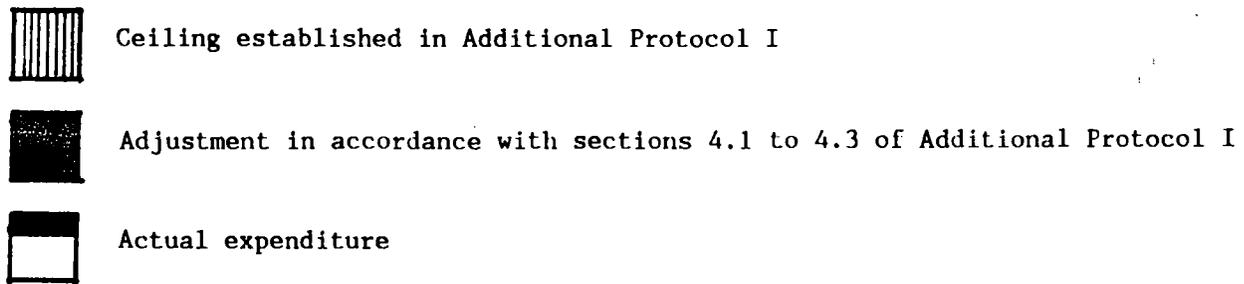
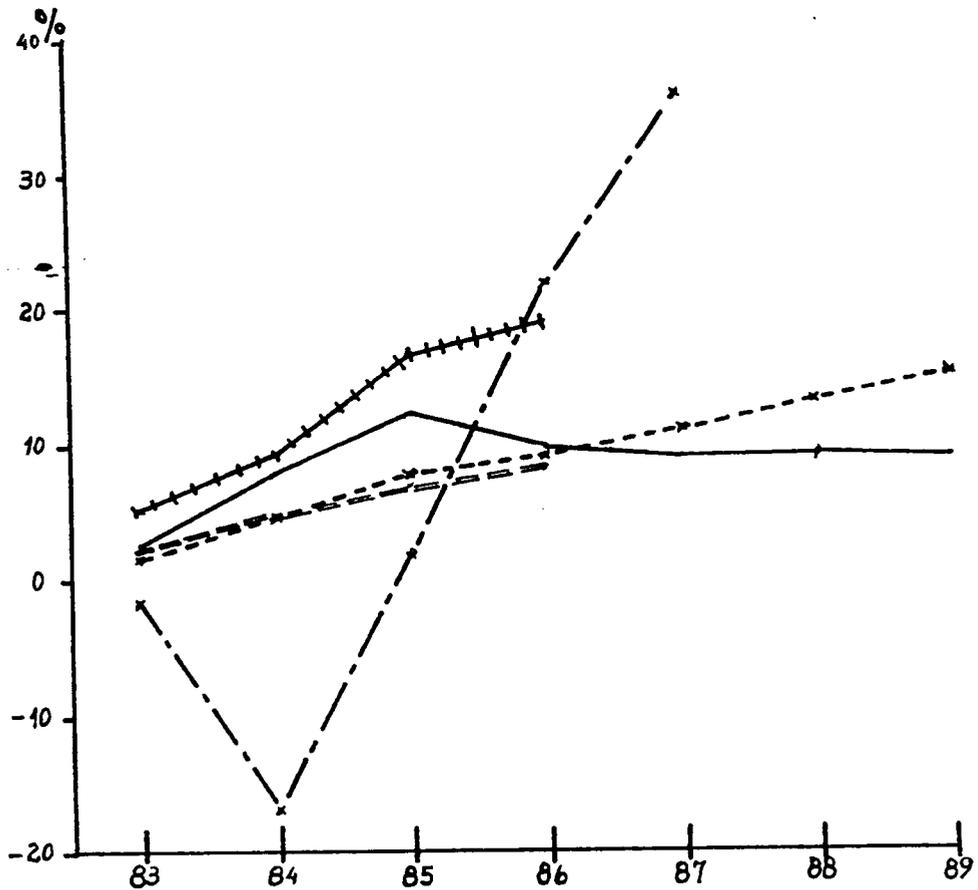


FIGURE 1

ITU operating budget, Section 1, Additional Protocol I



- Budget difference, in accordance with 4.1 to 4.3 of Additional Protocol I, in relation to the ceiling on actual expenditure.
- Trend of the cumulative cost of living change in Switzerland.
- . - . - . Correction factor for the variation in the exchange rate between US \$ and Sw Fr.
- ==== Increase in P3/1 salary + adjustment.
- +—+—+— Increase in G5/1 salary.

FIGURE 2

Trend of above-ceiling expenses

Addition to the ITU operating budget, as a result of applying 4.1 to 4.3 of Additional Protocol I.

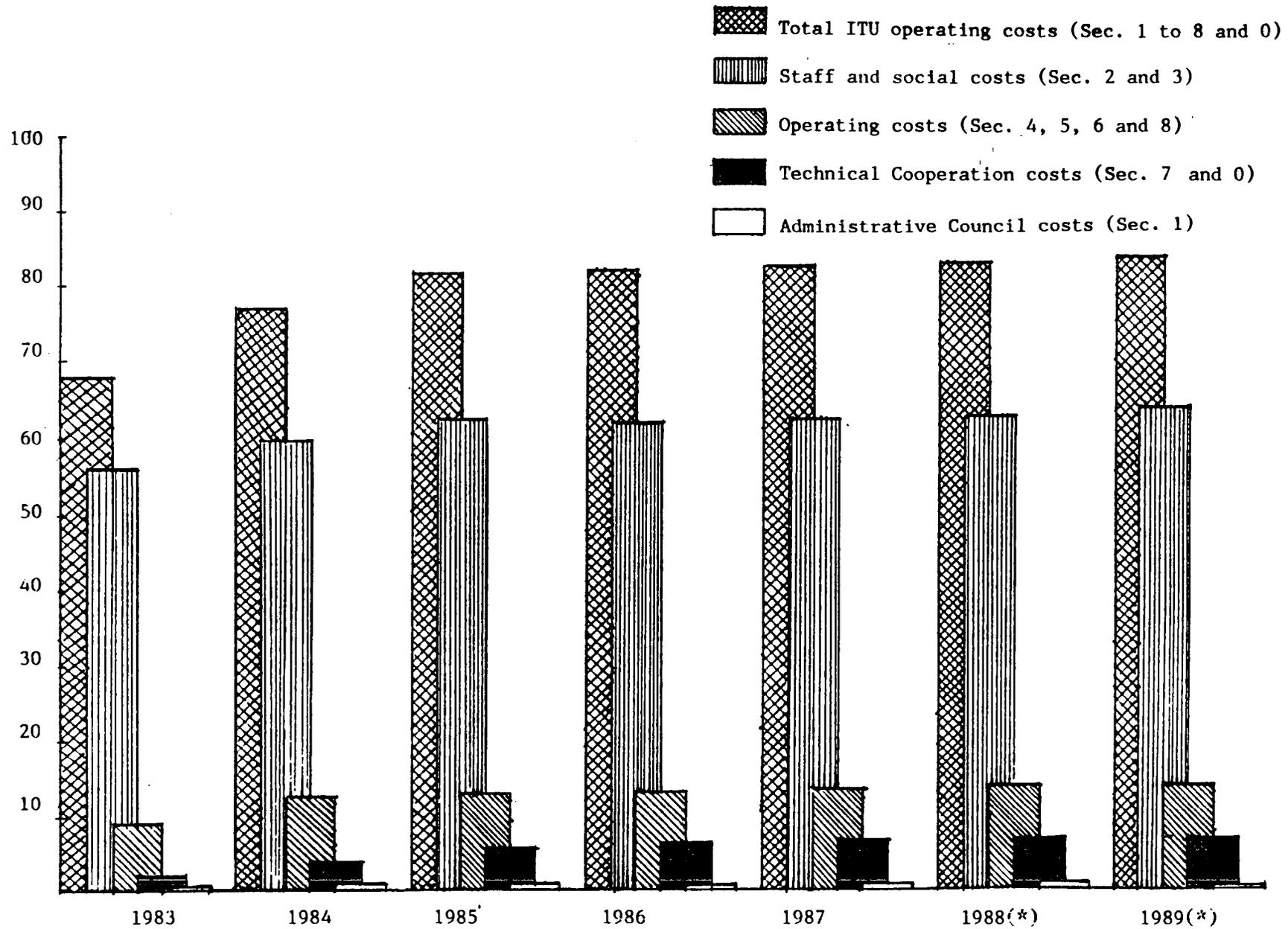


FIGURE 3

Analysis of ITU operating budget (period 1983-1989)
(Sections 1 to 8 and 0)

* Estimated

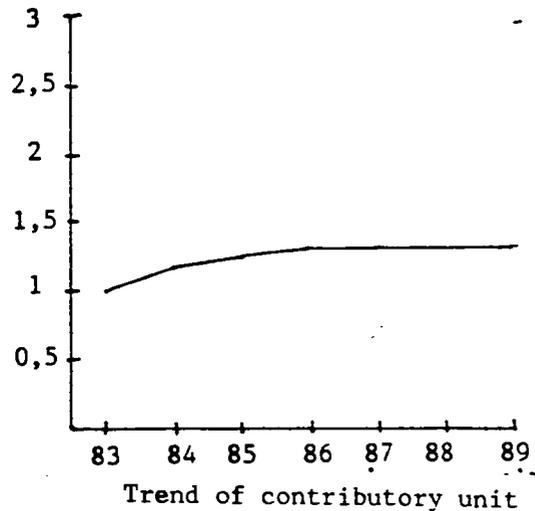
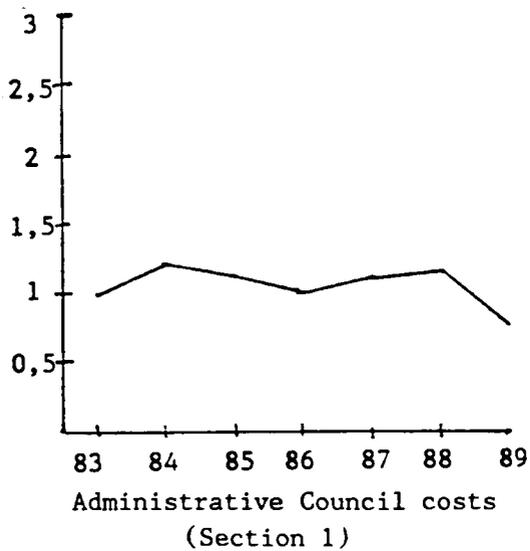
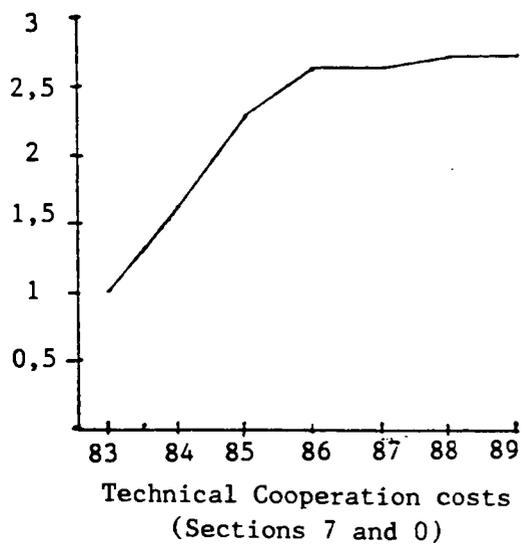
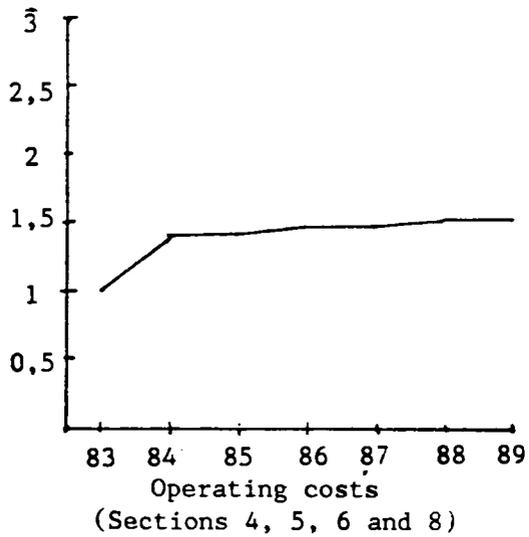
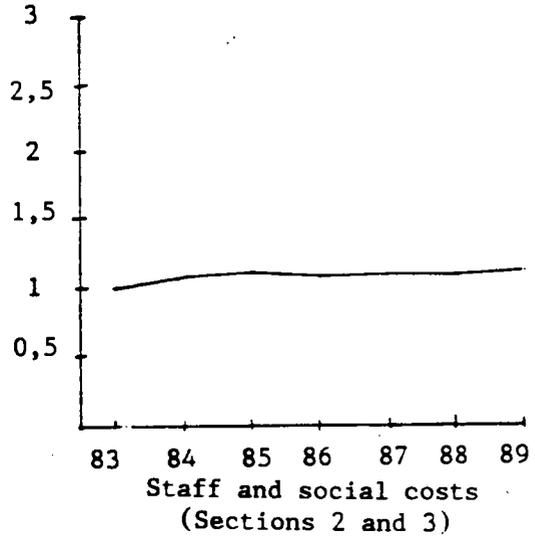
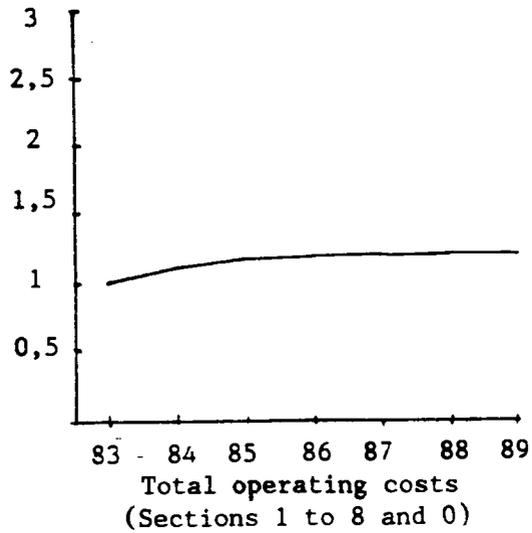


FIGURE 4

Analysis of the estimate of ITU operating costs

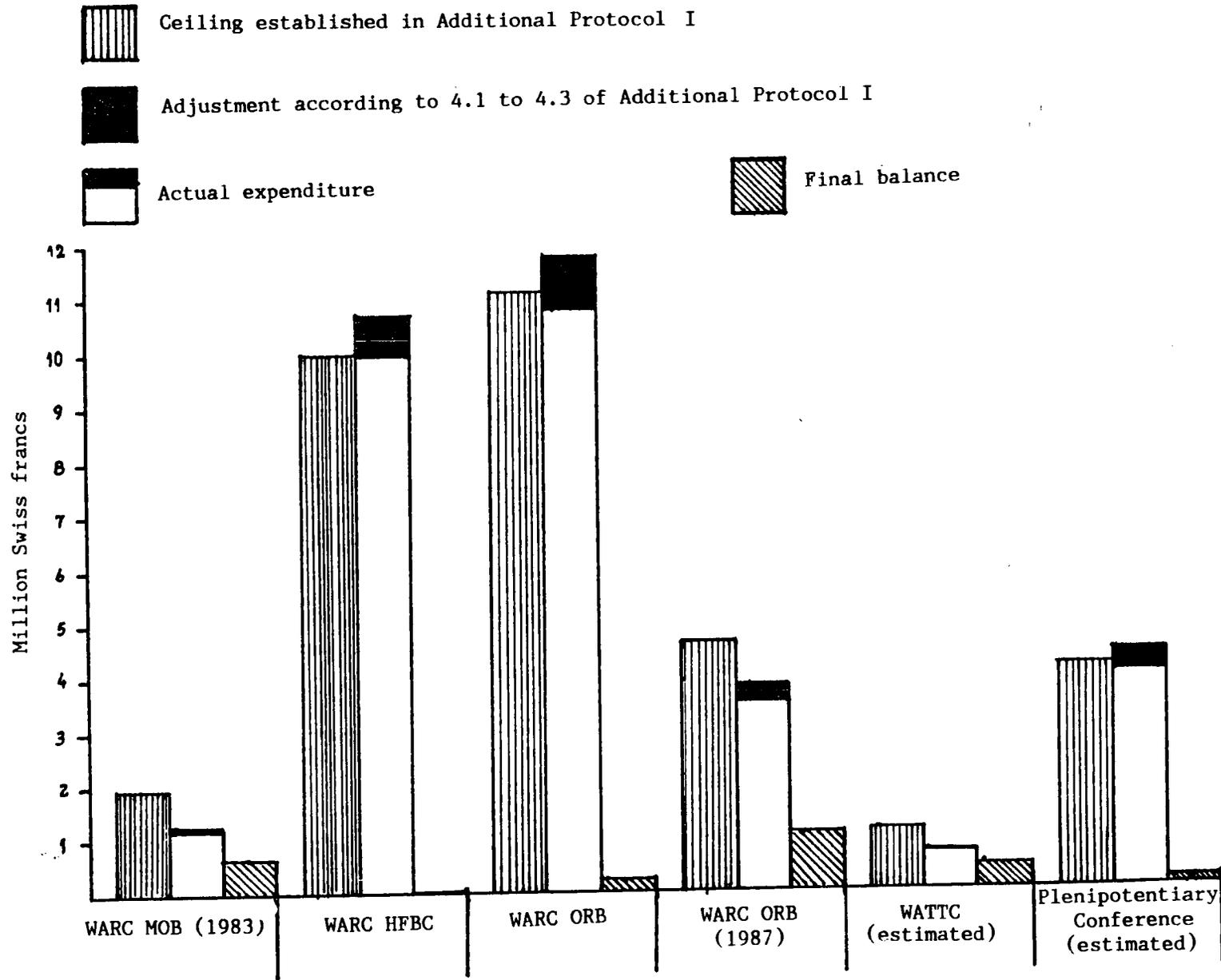


FIGURE 5

Budget of World Administrative Conferences

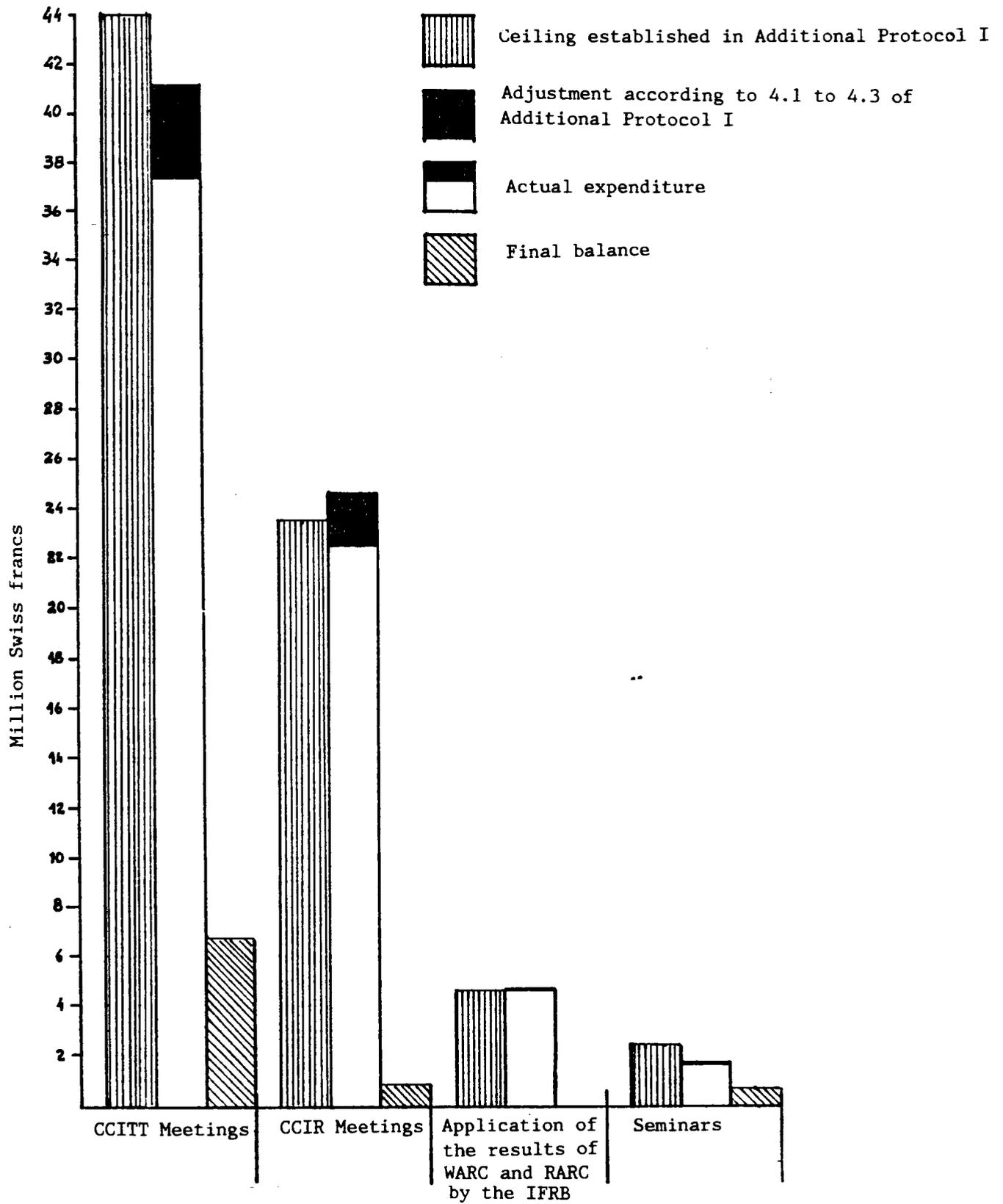


FIGURE 6

Budget for meetings and seminars and IFRB costs arising from conferences

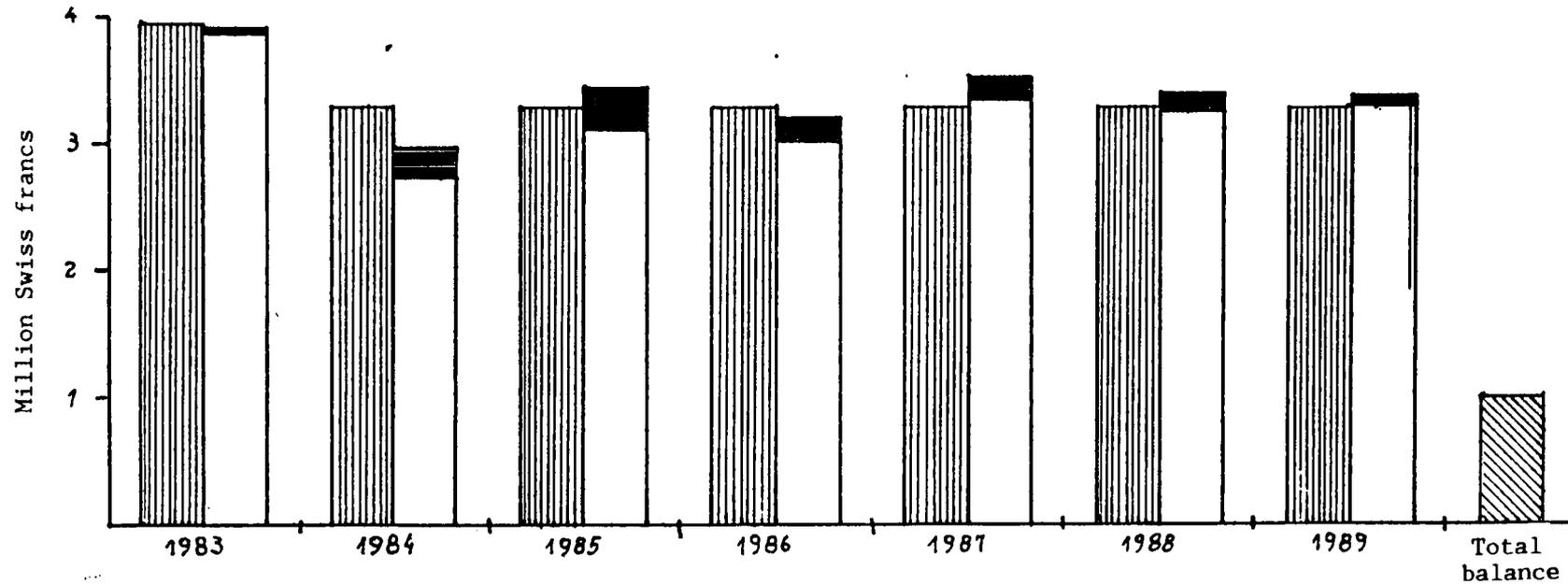
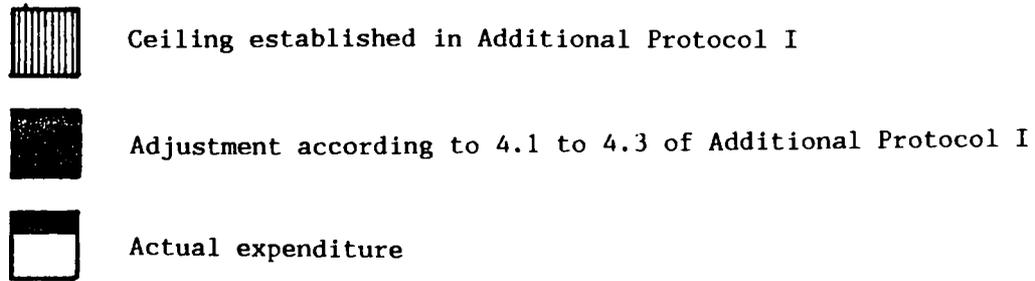


FIGURE 7

Budget of the extended use of the computer by the IFRB

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 113-E

23 May 1989

Original: Spanish

PLENARY MEETING

CHILE

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

1. Introduction

As a result of the agreements reached by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nairobi, 1982), technical cooperation was established once and for all as one of the ITU's fundamental objectives. This can be seen from the provisions of No. 14 of the Convention and from the inclusion of No. 20. That Conference also introduced the provisions in Nos. 62 and 110 into the Convention and approved 19 Resolutions on technical cooperation activities.

This Plenipotentiary Conference will have the delicate task of evaluating the results achieved, determining what modifications or readjustments are needed and programming technical cooperation activities for the period up to the next Plenipotentiary Conference, i.e. from 1990 onwards.

Accordingly, the developing countries attending this Plenipotentiary Conference will try to maximize the potential for technical cooperation, within the provisions of Article 4 of the Convention, under the pressure of their urgent needs, resulting from the dizzy pace of technological development and the increasingly unequal distribution of telecommunication media for the public service in the world.

It is to be expected, nevertheless, that the developing countries' aspirations will once again come up against the now traditional lack of financial resources. The developing countries will have to respond to this situation with imaginative solutions which, without involving significant financial increases in the ITU's budget, will enable it to expand its technical cooperation activities in the telecommunication field.

There are thus two basic objectives:

- a) to make the fullest possible use of the financial resources available for technical cooperation, both at the global and at the regional level;
- b) to overhaul the infrastructure for ITU support to developing countries in carrying out technical cooperation projects with a view to making it as efficient as possible.

It is obvious that if objective a) is to be achieved, objective b) will have to be achieved first.

Against this background, we have identified three areas which are of prime importance for achieving the above objectives, areas on which action will have to be planned in the short term, as explained below.

2. ITU participation in the administration of projects financed by UNDP

As stated in the Report of the Administrative Council (Document 47), there is a considerable shortfall on the cost of the support provided by the Technical Cooperation Department for projects financed by UNDP.

It is obvious that the cause of the shortfall is UNDP's open intention of sharing the costs involved in the administration of technical cooperation projects with the United Nations specialized agencies providing support, and in particular with the ITU.

Given this state of affairs, all there is to be done is to urge UNDP to modify its policy for fixing the rate of overhead costs, at least with regard to the ITU. Similarly, there is no denying the fact that in order to make good the shortfall and ensure that it does not recur, the ITU budget will have to include the funds necessary to cover the expenditure incurred under this head.

The ITU will accordingly have to undertake to keep its administrative costs to a minimum. In this connection, it is well known that UNDP, having its headquarters in New York, works in United States dollars, while the ITU, having its headquarters in Geneva, works in Swiss francs, and that as a result the exchange rate has an unfavourable effect on administrative costs. The answer to this situation is that the activities carried out in this field by the Technical Cooperation Department in Geneva should be decentralized to the ITU's regional offices.

Other factors that need to be analysed from the standpoint of their effect on project administrative overheads are the number of projects in progress and their duration.

It is accordingly proposed that:

CHL/113/1 The ITU budget should include the funds necessary to amortize the accumulated financial shortfall caused by the ITU's participation in the administration of UNDP-financed projects and that it should in future provide adequate financing for such participation. To minimize the effect of this proposal on the value of the contributory unit, annual limits should be set on the amounts available for this purpose and machinery should be established to enable the Administrative Council to lower the limits when it is expected that the value of the contributory unit will increase beyond a pre-established percentage of its value.

CHL/113/2 The work at present being done by the Technical Cooperation Department should be decentralized from Geneva so as to reduce the negative effect of the exchange rate between the US dollar and the Swiss franc.

CHL/113/3 Other factors affecting project administrative overheads should be analysed with a view to reducing them, mainly by ensuring that actual costs are related to the duration and number of projects.

3. ITU regional presence

From Document 33, containing the proposals of an ad hoc Group set up by the ITU Administrative Council and the conclusions reached by the Council itself on those proposals, it can be seen that there is a latent interest in strengthening the ITU's regional presence, which has already proved its worth.

Chile is therefore in favour of strengthening the ITU's regional presence with a view to making its technical cooperation activities more expeditious and efficient. However, it is necessary to move cautiously in this matter, assigning resources in proportion to each region's actual situation. In assessing that situation, due weight should be given to the socio-economic characteristics of the countries in each region, the level of development of their telecommunication networks, their development plans at least over the medium term, the needs expected to result from those plans, the existence of regional or sub-regional telecommunication organizations, etc.

On the basis of this allocation of resources in the light of the actual situation in each region, a plan of action should be drawn up, with phases for the short, medium and long term, covering such matters as the determination of appropriate methods for establishing priority for technical cooperation projects, encouraging participation by countries, through appropriate publicity and through some degree of recognition of countries' interest in taking part in technical cooperation activities, etc.

To sum up, the costs entailed by action to strengthen the ITU's regional presence should be strictly in line with each region's specific needs and interest in taking part in technical cooperation programmes.

4. Centre for Telecommunications Development

It is evident from Document 34 that this Plenipotentiary Conference will deal with the Centre's situation, and in particular its possible merger with the TCD.

Chile considers that there are some advantages in having the Centre in existence at the present time, particularly in relation to participation by the private sector in the field of technical assistance with a view to contributing to telecommunication development.

It also recognizes that the Centre did not come into operation until April 1987, so that it is not yet possible to make any serious assessment of the effects of its activities.

For all those reasons, Chile is in favour of allowing the Centre for Telecommunications Development to continue its independent existence with a view to assessing its progress after a reasonable period (three to four years) and considering then whether it should be merged with the TCD.

**PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE**

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 114-E
25 May 1989

Portugal

Replace page 3 by the page annexed.

POR/114/5 ADD	57D	(4) Elected Members shall not be eligible for re-election at either of the two Conferences following the end of their term of office, unless the number of candidates is less than the number of seats to be filled by election.
POR/114/6 ADD	57E	(5) Except in the case of vacancies arising as provided for in the Convention, the Members elected to the Administrative Council shall hold office until the date on which a new Administrative Council is elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference.
POR/114/7 (MOD)	58	<u>3.</u> Each member of the Council shall appoint a person to serve on the Council who may be assisted by one or more advisers.
POR/114/8 (MOD)	59	<u>4.</u>
POR/114/9 (MOD)	60	<u>5.</u>
POR/114/10 (MOD)	61	<u>6.</u> (1)
NOC	62 - 64	

Reasons: To ensure effective rotation and, at the same time, the presence of the largest contributing countries on the Administrative Council.

D. Proposed amendment of Article 3 of the Draft Convention

ARTICLE 3

Administrative Council

POR/114/11 MOD	31	1. (1) The Administrative Council is composed of four <u>the</u> Members of the Union <u>who have been elected and appointed</u> by the Plenipotentiary Conference <u>in accordance with Article 8 of the Constitution.</u>
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Reasons: To take into account the amendment of Article 8 of the Constitution.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 114-E

23 May 1989

Original: French/
English

PLENARY MEETING

Portugal

PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

BASIC INSTRUMENT OF THE UNION

A. Subject - Election of Members of the Union to the Administrative Council

- Amendment of Article 8, paragraph 1 (1) of the Draft Constitution (Document A) submitted by the "Group of Experts on the Basic Instrument of the Union".
- Amendment of Article 3, paragraph 1 (1) of the Draft Convention (Document B) submitted by the "Group of Experts on the Basic Instrument of the Union".

B. Introduction

Portugal considers that the promotion of a greater commitment to and involvement in ITU activities by all Member States is absolutely indispensable.

With this in mind, participation at Administrative Council level is considered to be of the greatest importance, as this will permit a more detailed knowledge of the workings and activities of the Union and consequently heighten the interest and responsibility of each Member State.

An institutionalized machinery to ensure the effective rotation of Members of the Administrative Council to secure an equitable sharing of seats among all regions is therefore essential.

On the other hand, we consider that it is equally essential to designate Members on a permanent basis, both in the interest of the Union itself and also in view of the legitimate interest of the major contributors in taking part in management.

Finally, as the ITU has its Headquarters in Switzerland, the latter should be appointed to Membership of the Council in order to facilitate relations with the Swiss authorities.

Therefore, taking into account the Draft Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union and the Draft Convention of the International Telecommunication Union, submitted by the Group of Experts on the Basic Instrument of the Union, Portugal hereby presents its proposal for the modification of Article 8 of the Draft Constitution and the consequential amendments of Article 3 of the Draft Convention.

C. Proposed amendment of Article 8 of the Draft Constitution

ARTICLE 8

Administrative Council

POR/114/1
MOD

57

1. (1) The Administrative Council shall be composed of forty-one Members of the Union ~~elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference with due regard to the need for equitable distribution of the seats on the Council among all regions of the world. Except in the case of vacancies arising as provided for in the Convention, the Members of the Union elected to the Administrative Council shall hold office until the date on which a new Administrative Council is elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference. They shall be eligible for re-election.~~ 25 of whom shall be elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference and 16 of whom shall be appointed on the basis of their class of contribution in effect at the beginning of the Conference.

POR/114/2
ADD

57A

2. (1) The election and appointment shall be carried out with due regard to the need for equitable distribution of the seats on the Council among all regions of the World, in the following manner:

Region A - 8 seats, 3 to be filled by the Members of the region with the largest contributions and 5 by election;

Region B - 7 seats, 3 to be filled by the Members of the region with the largest contributions, 1 by Switzerland and 3 by election;

Region C - 4 seats, 2 to be filled by the Members of the region with the largest contributions and 2 by election;

Region D - 11 seats, 4 to be filled by the Members of the region with the largest contributions and 7 by election;

Region E - 11 seats, 4 to be filled by the Members of the region with the largest contributions and 7 by election.

POR/114/3
ADD

57B

(2) When, during the appointment procedure, classes of contribution within a region are found to be identical, preference shall be given to the Member who was not represented in the previous Council. If equality continues to exist, lots shall be drawn between the Members in an equal position, unless agreement is reached by those Members among themselves.

POR/114/4
ADD

57C

(3) Appointed Members who accept their designation may not, during their term of office, reduce their class of contribution in effect at the beginning of the Conference.

POR/114/5 ADD	57D	(4) Elected Members shall not be eligible for re-election at either of the two Conferences following the end of their term of office, unless the number of candidates is less than the number of seats to be filled by election.
POR/114/6 ADD	57E	(5) Except in the case of vacancies arising as provided for in the Convention, the Members elected to the Administrative Council shall hold office until the date on which a new Administrative Council is elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference.
POR/114/7 (MOD)	58	<u>3.</u> Each member of the Council shall appoint a person to serve on the Council who may be assisted by one or more advisers.
POR/114/8 (MOD)	59	<u>4.</u>
POR/114/9 (MOD)	60	<u>5.</u>
POR/114/10 (MOD)	61	<u>6.</u> (1)
NOC	62 - 64	

Reasons: To ensure effective rotation and, at the same time, the presence of the largest contributing countries on the Administrative Council.

ARTICLE 3

Administrative Council

POR/114/11 MOD	31	1. (1) The Administrative Council is composed of 41 <u>the Members of the Union who have been elected and appointed by the Plenipotentiary Conference in accordance with Article 8 of the Constitution.</u>
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Reasons: To take into account the amendment of Article 8 of the Constitution.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 115-E
23 May 1989
Original: Spanish

COMMITTEES 4, 7, 8, 9

Argentine Republic

CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ARTICLE 1

Composition of the Union

ARG/115/1
MOD

6

Delete the following part of the text: by diplomatic channel and through the intermediary of the country of the seat of the Union ...

ARTICLE 38

Ratification

ARG/115/2
MOD

173

Delete the following part of the text: by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the Government of the country of the seat of the Union ...

ARTICLE 39

Accession

ARG/115/3
MOD

178

Delete the following part of the text: by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the Government of the country of the seat of the Union...

ARTICLE 44

Denunciation of the Constitution and the Convention

ARG/115/4
MOD

195

Delete the following part of the text: by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the Government of the country of the seat of the Union ...

Reasons: The Secretary-General, as the depository of this international Treaty, must receive the instruments of ratification, accession and acceptance of Protocols, with no need for any action by the Government of the country of the seat of the Union.

The Group of Experts (Resolution No. 62, Nairobi) proposed the deletion of this part of the text, which coincides with our opinion.

ARTICLE 4

Purposes of the Union

ARG/115/5
MOD

- 22 e) foster collaboration among its Members with a view to the establishment of rates at levels as low as possible consistent with an efficient service and taking into account the necessity for maintaining independent financial administration of telecommunication on a sound basis, founded on an equitable apportionment of revenues and the need to promote the universal development of telecommunications.

Reasons: In Resolution PL/3, WATTC-88: "Apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services" brings out a question of paramount importance, i.e., the apportionment of rates for international traffic between terminal countries of different levels of development.

In response to the terms of this Resolution, the General Secretariat of the ITU is engaged in a thorough study of the costs of providing and operating telecommunication services between developed and developing countries.

This study is the continuation of a previous survey, which led to no definite conclusions, apart from the recognition of the existence of cost differences between terminals.

For our part, we take the view that the "financial administration of telecommunication on a sound basis" also calls for an appropriate apportionment of international traffic revenues.

Thus, if the equity of apportionment includes the "promotion of the universal development of telecommunications" component, it would answer the Recommendation made by the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development in its Report "The Missing Link" to the effect that the developed countries should set aside a small part of their revenues from traffic with the developing countries for the benefit of the telecommunications of the latter.

ARTICLE 4

Purposes of the Union

ARG/115/6
MOD

- 14 a) to maintain and extend international cooperation between all Members of the Union ~~for the improvement~~ and to facilitate the world-wide standardization of telecommunications, with a satisfactory quality of

service, to ensure their rational use, of
~~telecommunications of all kinds~~, as well as to promote
and to offer technical assistance to developing
countries in the field of telecommunications.

ARG/115/7
ADD

- 18A a)bis to frame Recommendations designed to ensure the
interconnection and interoperability of
telecommunication facilities of all kinds, to be
freely adopted by the Members of the Union.

ARTICLE 11

International Consultative Committees

ARG/115/8
ADD

- 85A (2)bis The world-wide standardization of telecommunications
shall constitute a permanent objective of the Recommendations
formulated by the CCITT.

In view of its pre-eminent role in the standardization
of telecommunications, the CCITT shall maintain suitable relations
with other international standardization bodies and shall deal
with any requirements arising with regard to national and regional
standardization.

ARTICLE 23

Establishment, Operation and Protection of Telecommunication Channels and Installations

ARG/115/9
MOD

- 143 1) Members shall take such steps as may be necessary to
ensure the establishment, under the best technical conditions, of
the channels and installations necessary ~~to carry on the rapid and
uninterrupted exchange of international telecommunications~~ for the
world-wide interconnection and interoperability of
telecommunication facilities with a satisfactory quality of
service.

Reasons: 1. Article 4, MOD 14a): Resolution PL/5 of WATTC-88, which
reflects Resolution No. 17 of the IXth CCITT Plenary Assembly (Spirit of
Melbourne), is adequate to ensure that the ITU deals with the world-wide
standardization of telecommunications as a main purpose of its
activities.

It was in the light of these decisions that we felt it necessary
to include in the text the notion that the Union should have as its
objective and hence also its responsibility to ensure that the Members of
the Union have at their disposal telecommunication facilities that are
standardized at a world-wide level, a development which is essential to
secure accelerated development, convergence of technologies and the
provision to the user of new services involving substantial investments.

2. Article 4, ADD 18A a)bis: Given the need to facilitate among all Members of the Union the world-wide standardization of telecommunications, we considered it is logical to reflect this purpose in the proposed text, since the terms employed: "interconnection, interoperability" are those used in the International Telecommunication Regulations (Article 1, No. 1.3).

We also thought it is useful to make it clear that Recommendations adopted by the CCITT are not binding on the Members.

3. Article 11, ADD 85A (2)bis: This proposal, which derives from the foregoing ones, emphasizes the central role of the CCITT in standardization, while at the same time establishing new fields of national and regional activity.

4. Article 23, MOD 143 1: This proposal closes the circle started with the three previous proposals and brings out a matter of substance, since the Members are called upon to ensure the world-wide interconnection and interoperability of telecommunication facilities.

5. These four proposals form a whole: with them, we intended to respond to certain of the decisions (concerning standardization) adopted by the Members of the Union at the IXth CCITT Plenary Assembly and WATTC-88 in Melbourne.

ARTICLE 5

Structure of the Union

ARG/115/10
ADD

33A 5. The following permanent coordination organ.

e) Coordination Committee (CC)

Reasons: The provisions contained in the Constitution and the Convention governing the position, duties and working of the Coordination Committee weaken its substance by the failure to spell out the fact that the Committee forms part of the structure of the Union and by withholding from it the hierarchical status which it requires to perform its coordinating functions.

On the other hand, the Administrative Council itself places the Coordination Committee on the same level as the permanent organs of the Union.

This is apparent from the Report to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Document 47) in which, under the heading: Permanent Organs of the Union (section 4), it includes the Coordination Committee (section 4.1), together with a detailed description of its activities.

The volume of work performed in the period from 1 January 1982 to 31 December 1988, with 114 meetings held, the subjects discussed and the nature of its membership and its duties, prompts us to wonder whether there are really any reasons to prevent the Coordination Committee from

being added to the list of permanent organs of the Union.

As a contribution to this analysis, we would point out that the Committee has taken a regular part in the preparation of the draft budget of the Union, in questions of technical cooperation and assistance (procurement of equipment and services), staff (post classification, appointments, promotions, evolution of conditions of service in the United Nations Common System), the structure of the Committees at major ITU conferences, action taken on conference Resolutions and Recommendations, etc.

ARTICLE 12

Coordination Committee

ARG/115/11
ADD

100A 4. The Coordination Committee shall establish its own rules of procedure for approval by the Administrative Council.

Reasons: This provision is intended to equip the Committee with rules governing its management structure, operation and continuity.

Since the outcome of the coordination efforts of the Committee is largely intended for the Administrative Council, for its evaluation and decision, we thought it is useful to bring this point out in the text.

ARTICLE 15

Finances of the Union

ARG/115/12
MOD

114 3. Members, should they decide to increase their class of contribution, shall be free to choose their class of contribution for defraying Union expenses. If the class of contribution is reduced, Members may drop only to the next lower class, unless the exceptional circumstances provided in No. 119 are invoked.

Reasons: This proposal has a single purpose: to reduce to a minimum the risks and undesirable effects to which the Union would be exposed by a sudden decline in the number of contributory units.

ARTICLE 15

Finances of the Union

ARG/115/13
ADD

119A 5A Likewise, Members may, subject to the approval of the Administrative Council, reduce the level of the contributory unit selected under No. 115, if their relative contributory positions

are substantially worse than their previous positions from the date fixed in No. 117 for a new period of contribution.

Reasons: In its Final Report, the Group of Experts (Resolution No. 62, Nairobi) recommends that, under the new concept of the basic instrument of the Union, the substantive questions covered in the Additional Protocols to the existing Nairobi Convention should be replaced by appropriate decisions by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

Section 3 of Additional Protocol II contains a reason which Members may invoke to reduce their class of contribution.

We find that this is an important reason, that it is of a permanent character and that it represents an exception additional to those listed in No. 119, section 5 of the Constitution. We therefore propose its inclusion.

ARTICLE 23

Establishment, Operation and Protection of Telecommunication Channels and Installations

ARG/115/14
ADD

146A 5. Members shall ensure that, through the available communication infrastructures, users shall be given the possibility of interworking between different services, without affecting other existing international services widely available to the public throughout the world.

Reasons: The disparity existing throughout the world with regard to the provision to the public of new and conventional services is recognized in Resolution PL/6 adopted by WATTC-88.

This existing situation and the likelihood that it will persist in the future, in view of the different levels of development of countries, means that criteria must be established to ensure that, in the transition between services offered to the public, Members maintain the availability of conventional services to allow world-wide communications.

We therefore considered it necessary to call upon the Members of the Union to make efforts to attain this objective.

ARTICLE 27

Special Arrangements

ARG/115/15
ADD

150A Members shall take the necessary steps to ensure that special arrangements are made only in cases where the existing arrangements fail to meet satisfactorily the relevant telecommunication needs, that no technical prejudice is caused to the telecommunication facilities of third countries and that any adverse effects on the orderly development, operation or usage of

the international telecommunication network by other Members are minimized.

Reasons: Opinion PL/A: Special Telecommunication Arrangements, formulated by WATTC-88 in connection with Article 9 of the International Telecommunication Regulations adopted by that Conference, contain provisions intended to preclude the possibility of any prejudice to third countries resulting from special arrangements.

These provisions substantiate the proposal for ADD 150A.

In assessing their importance, the Argentine Administration considers it useful to regard them as criteria which should be applied to special arrangements under the Constitution.

ARTICLE 34

Relations with the United Nations

ARG/115/16
SUP

163

Reasons: The Final Report of the Group of Experts (Resolution No. 62, Nairobi) draws attention, in sections 24 to 30, to the advisability of deleting No. 163 and that the Agreement between the United Nations and the ITU does not form part of the Constitution.

The arguments put forward are of a legal and practical character.

From the legal angle, the point is made that the Agreement in itself constitutes an international treaty.

From the practical standpoint, it is argued that the text of the Agreement (Article XVIII) needs to be revised and updated.

If the Agreement is maintained as an Annex to the Constitution, it will need to be updated and revised.

With a view to avoiding unnecessary complications, we would support the proposal to delete the text.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 116-E
23 May 1989
Original: Spanish

COMMITTEES 4, 7, 8

Argentine Republic

CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ARTICLE 4

General Secretariat

ARG/116/1
ADD

- 87A lbis) prepare, publish and keep up to date the list of Members of the Union with the following data:
- names of States that acquire the status of Members of the Union,
 - their status with regard to:
 - deposit of the instrument of ratification of the Constitution and the Convention: date of deposit,
 - deposit of the instrument of accession: date of deposit,
 - deposit of the instrument of acceptance of protocols of amendment to the Constitution and/or Convention: date of deposit,
 - their status with regard to:
 - notification of approval of any revision of the Administrative Regulations: date of notification,
 - any denunciation of the Constitution and Convention:
 - notification of denunciation: date on which it will take effect.

Reasons: Publication of the list - in place of the list contained in Annex 1 to the Constitution - together with the additional data will in our view provide useful material for Members, especially since it can be updated.

ARTICLE 25

Rules of Procedure of Conferences and Other Meetings

13. Right to Vote

ARG/116/2
ADD

313A 3. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed at meetings of the Administrative Council.

Reasons: The Council established the inadmissibility of proxy voting in Rule 18 of its Rules of Procedure, in exercise of the authority given by the Constitution in Article 8, No. 59.

Our aim in proposing this provision is to get all Members to actually attend, particularly on occasions when the Council has to deal with controversial questions on which a decision has to be taken by a vote.

We consider it desirable to preserve this decision of the Council by incorporating such a provision in the Convention at the same time as we make an exception in respect of voting by proxy.

ARTICLE 27

Finances

ARG/116/3
MOD

386 c) Recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations which share in defraying the expenses of conferences or meetings in accordance with Nos. 384 and 385 of this Convention, shall freely choose from the scale in No. 376 of this Convention their class of contribution for defraying Union expenses, with the exception of the $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{8}$ unit classes reserved for Members of the Union, and shall inform the Secretary-General of the classes chosen;

Reasons: The factors taken into consideration by the Argentine Administration include the following:

a) Recognized private operating agencies (RPOA), scientific and industrial organizations (SIO) and international organizations (IO) make an important technical contribution to the proceedings of the CCIs while at the same time deriving substantial benefits from their work.

b) The Plenipotentiary Conference (Nairobi, 1989) recognized this fact and resolved (Resolution No. 52) that they should be encouraged to choose the highest possible contributory class, instructing the Secretary-General to inform such agencies and organizations of the terms of the Resolution.

c) This produced no positive results with regard to income.

d) The present contributions of such agencies and organizations are:

Unit Class	Number of participants	Total units
<u>CCIR</u>		
5	1	5
2	4	8
1	13	13
0.5	82	41
<u>CCITT</u>		
5	1	5
3	5	15
2	4	8
1.5	2	3
1	14	14
0.5	203	101.5
Total:	329	213.5

1990 budget

Value of the contributory unit:

Members: 240,000 Swiss francs

RPOA, SIO, IO: 48,000 Swiss francs (1/5 of the contributory unit of Members).

The table of contributions shows that out of a total of 329 participants, 285 (86.63% of the total) opt for the 1/2 unit class, paying 1/10 of the contributory unit of Members, i.e. 24,000 Swiss francs a year.

e) Out of an ordinary budget for 1990 of 105,981,000 Swiss francs, the estimated expenditure for the CCIs will be 20,864,000 Swiss francs for meetings, common services and computer service and 10,143,000 Swiss francs for the Directors and appointed staff of the CCI specialized secretariats (76 posts) with an estimated income of 10,248,000 Swiss francs from the contributions of RPOA, SIO and IO.

Implementing the proposal would mean:

1. An increase in the contribution made by RPOA, SIO and IO of the order of 6,450,000 Swiss francs (an increase of 142.5 units, equivalent to 28.5 Members' contributory units).
2. As a consequence of that increase, the contributory unit for Members would be reduced from 240,000 Swiss francs to approximately 226,400 Swiss francs, i.e. a drop of about 14,000 Swiss francs.
3. The same percentage reduction would apply to the remaining RPOA, SIO and IO participants, of whom there are 44, in classes higher than 1/2 unit.

We do not consider that implementing the proposal would create any risk of a fall in the present extent of participation by RPOA, SIO and IO for two reasons: the benefits derived from participating in studies undertaken by the CCIs and the limited size of the increase, taken individually.

It should be added that among the alternative methods of securing greater income from RPOA, SIO and IO, we renounce the idea of modifying the present 1/5 formula to 1/4 or 1/3, because this would call for a greater effort from the 44 which contribute in classes higher than 1/2 unit. It seems to us fairer to establish a higher voluntary floor - 1 unit - so that the remaining 285 participants bring their contributions into balance with those of the 44.

Finally, we believe that Members, especially the relatively less developed ones which do not at present take part in the CCIs' work, would be more likely to do so as a result of the reduction there would be in their contributory share if this proposal were adopted.

ARG/116/4
ADD

389A f)bis In cases of debts owed by recognized private operating agencies or scientific or industrial organizations, where there is an obvious difficulty in collecting the debt, the Member concerned shall be asked to intervene and shall from that moment be responsible for the action in question.

Reasons: Recognized private operating agencies, like scientific or industrial organizations, are allowed to attend administrative conferences and to participate in the activities of the International Consultative Committees on the basis of approval by the Member concerned (Nos. 154 f), 193 and 198). An RPOA may even act on behalf of the Member itself (No. 194).

In view of the need to put the Union's finances on a sound basis, it seems appropriate that the Member which at the time authorized the agency or organization to take part in the work of the ITU should intervene to collect the debt.

In such cases, it would be for the Member concerned to decide whether it should make itself responsible for paying the debt if the latter could not be collected.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 117-E
23 May 1989

For information

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

I would like to welcome the delegations taking part in the Nice Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union and wish them all a pleasant stay in France.

This Conference is specially important owing to the rapid development of telecommunications in the world and the growing part they are playing in international economic relations.

Telecommunications, which foster relations between people, should contribute towards the economic progress of a more united world community.

I am therefore convinced that your work is extremely valuable and I wish you every success.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

24 May 1989

STRUCTURE OF THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE (NICE, 1989)

(Approved at the First Plenary Meeting)

The Agenda of the Conference appears in Article 6 of the International Telecommunication Convention (Nairobi, 1982). This Article is reproduced in Document 1 of the Conference.

Bearing in mind Nos. 464 to 479 inclusive of the International Telecommunication Convention (Nairobi, 1982), the following committees with their terms of reference are suggested. These terms of reference have been drawn up within the framework of the Convention, the Conference Agenda and in the light of experience gained at previous conferences.

Committee 1 - Steering Committee

Terms of reference :

- To coordinate all matters connected with the smooth execution of work and to plan the order and number of meetings, avoiding overlapping wherever possible in view of the limited number of members of some delegations (Nos. 468 and 469 of the International Telecommunication Convention, Nairobi, 1982).

Committee 2 - Credentials Committee

Terms of reference :

- To verify the credentials of delegations and to report on its conclusions to the Plenary Meeting within the time specified by the latter (Nos. 390 and 471 of the International Telecommunication Convention, Nairobi, 1982).

Committee 3 - Budget Control Committee

Terms of reference :

- To determine the organization and the facilities available to the delegates, to examine and approve the accounts of expenditure incurred throughout the duration of the Conference and to report to the Plenary Meeting the estimated total expenditure of the Conference as well as the estimated costs entailed by the execution of the decisions of the Conference (Nos. 476 to 479 inclusive of the International Telecommunication Convention, Nairobi, 1982).

.../...

Committee 4 - Finances of the Union

Terms of reference :

- To examine the financial management of the Union and approve the accounts for the years 1982 to 1988;
- to study the financial position of the Union and proposals affecting the finances of the Union;
- to determine the financial needs of the Union for the period up to the next Plenipotentiary Conference (Additional Protocol I);
- to examine other questions and proposals relating to the finances of the Union;
- to consider the report by the Administrative Council on the activities of the Union in so far as financial matters are concerned.

Committee 5 - Staff matters

Terms of reference :

- To examine questions and proposals on staff matters such as : staffing policies, grading of posts, UN Common System, geographical distribution, etc;
- to consider the report by the Administrative Council on the activities of the Union in so far as staff matters are concerned.

Committee 6 - Technical Cooperation

Terms of reference :

- To examine questions and proposals relating to telecommunication development, the technical cooperation activities of the Union, funding of technical cooperation activities, transfer of technology, the changing nature of technical cooperation activities and the Centre for Telecommunication Development, etc.
- to consider the report by the Administrative Council on the activities of the Union in so far as technical cooperation is concerned.

Committee 7 - Structure of the Union

Terms of reference :

- To examine questions and proposals relating to the structure and internal organization of the Union : Plenipotentiary Conference, administrative conferences, Administrative Council and the permanent organs, including the secretariats.

Committee 8 - Purposes, rights and obligations

Terms of reference :

- To examine questions and proposals relating to the following : the purposes, composition, rights and obligations and general legislative provisions for the functioning of the Union, other than those dealt with in Committees 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9, including provisions relating to languages.

Committee 9 - Basic Instrument of the Union

Terms of reference

- (i) To examine proposals arising from the report of the Group of Experts established in accordance with Resolution No. 62 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference on the separation of the provisions of the present Convention into two instruments, namely :
 - a) a Constitution containing the provisions which are of a fundamental character, and
 - b) a second instrument of a less permanent character comprising the other provisions which by definition might require revision at periodic intervals;
- (ii) To deal with matters of a juridical character related to the adoption and amendment of a Constitution and associated second instrument.

Committee 10 - Editorial Committee

Terms of reference :

- To perfect the form of the texts to be included in the Final Acts of the Conference, without altering the sense, for submission to the Plenary Meeting (Nos. 473 and 474 of the International Telecommunication Convention, Nairobi, 1982).

Note : The work of the Committees will proceed on the basis of any general guidelines established by the Plenary Sessions for particular matters.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 119-E

1 June 1989

Original: English

MINUTES

OF THE

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

Tuesday, 23 May 1989, at 1600 hrs

1. Opening address by His Excellency Mr. Paul Quilès, Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Space of the French Republic
2. Address by the Secretary-General of the ITU

1. Opening address by the Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Space

His Excellency Mr. Paul Quilès, Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Space of the French Republic, delivered the following inaugural address:

"Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I shall read a message from Mr. François Mitterand, President of the French Republic, who is represented here by one of his Advisers, Mr. P. Oury:

"I would like to welcome the delegations taking part in the Nice Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union and wish them all a pleasant stay in France.

This Conference is specially important owing to the rapid development of telecommunications in the world and the growing part they are playing in international economic relations.

Telecommunications, which foster relations between people, should contribute towards the economic progress of a more united world community.

I am therefore convinced that your work is extremely valuable and I wish you every success."

Ministers,
Plenipotentiaries,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Directors,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

After the Conference held in Kenya seven years ago, it is now France which is acting as host at Nice to the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union. This is a source of much pleasure and pride to me, since I have the feeling that this intergovernmental organization, the oldest in the world, has returned to France, 125 years after its inception in Paris, to seek, not a second birth (which would be an overstatement) but at least a fresh beginning, and a means of matching its organization and its responses to a rapidly changing telecommunications environment.

Although history does not repeat itself, it seems to me that the 1865 Convention enshrined an objective which was ambitious in its simplicity and which remains a topical issue: to establish an international communication network. This means that questions relating to standards and regulation, and particularly coordination, were already in the foreground.

Of course, we were only 20 signatory countries at that time, and we have now become 166, which provides clear evidence of the universal character of telecommunications.

The scale is far from being the same, and the technology has likewise changed considerably, as has also, needless to say, the range of problems involved, which have become extremely complex, accompanied as they are nowadays by the fundamental issues of cooperation and the dissemination of knowledge and know-how among all countries.

In this connection, I would draw attention to the enormous and disquieting gap which persists between the North and the South of our planet. I must say that I was particularly struck by a section in the "Missing Link" (the Report of the Maitland Commission) which makes the point that 75% of the 600 million telephones in existence throughout the world are concentrated in only nine countries. I can clearly only subscribe to the comments by the rapporteurs whom you appointed at the Nairobi Conference in 1982 to the effect that a disparity of this magnitude is unacceptable both from the human standpoint and from the point of view of a clearly understood common interest.

It is my belief, and this is precisely why I have selected this example, that all the difficulty and also all the value of the exercise in which the ITU has been engaged for such a long time in the telecommunications field resides indeed in the fact that the two terms are indissociably linked, since economic interest calls for the establishment of a world-wide telecommunications network, which is essential to human progress.

In this field, as in others, the North will not be able to found its own wealth on the inadequacies of the South; this is a fact of which we can be sure.

I therefore find it particularly welcome that, in the course of these five weeks of deliberations aimed at establishing the new Convention, you will be dealing with the question of the reduction of the technological gap between the developed and the developing countries, and sometimes even separating the industrialized countries themselves.

Other fundamental issues will be discussed to take account of the radical changes in the telecommunication sector linked with the giant strides made by technology and by regulatory developments. These topics concern the adaptation of the Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) set up in 1985 to speed up and stimulate activities connected with the growth in telecommunications. They bear likewise on the financing of cooperation activities, on the dissemination of knowledge, access to information and, more fundamentally, on the manner in which the ITU itself may respond, in terms of organization and structures, to the new telecommunications environment, which has clearly undergone considerable change since Nairobi seven years ago.

What is the telecommunications landscape that we see today?

I think that it may be very simply described. The evolution of telecommunications is due in the first place to a technological revolution affecting, at one and the same time, the integration of components, data-processing, which have been marked by steady and rapid progress, and the digitization of transmission and switching equipment. Spectacular results have been achieved in both plant and telecommunication services, the cost of which has been sharply reduced. This has gone hand in hand with an unprecedented development in the supply of infrastructures. In this context, I would mention, in particular, the switched telephone network, the packet-switched data networks, such as Transpac in France, radio-relay systems, satellites, the radiotelephone and the integrated services digital network, which in France we have christened Numeris to make it easier to remember.

The other effect of this technological revolution is a considerable expansion, not only of speech teleservices, but also of data and picture transmission. The ISDN carries pictures over the switched telephone network, a development which was unthinkable until quite recently. In France, the TELETEL programme has made it possible, in the space of only a few years, to introduce an enormous range of Telematic services made available to the general public by means of the Minitel terminals.

The role of telecommunication equipment and services is considerable. In Europe, the United States of America and Japan, this sector produced a turnover of 250 billion US dollars in 1986. I note, moreover, that in this figure services account for four times more than plant. In France, a turnover of 125 billion francs was reached in 1987.

Is any further evidence required to show that information has now become the third production factor after work and capital? It seems to me that this is no longer necessary, given the leading role which the telecommunication sector has now assumed in economic competitiveness. The telecommunication networks now constitute the veritable nervous system of a modern economy, which means that they are of vital importance to the development of trade and goods.

Finally, it is my view that, alongside the electronic office and informatics, telecommunications provide a potent means of improving productivity mainly, but not exclusively, at the business and office level. We cannot escape the fact that such a phenomenon of change is bound to produce disturbance in the social life of the citizen as well as in the office or on the shop floor, but we must remain aware that this form of revolution is doubtless the most "promising" for our common future.

On the other side of the equation, and because he is aware of all these telecommunications benefits, the customer is becoming increasingly demanding and is calling for high-quality services, of course at lower cost. This reaction represents a major challenge for the big telecommunication operators. It is absolutely essential that they should be able to meet this challenge by updating not only their equipment, but also their behaviour. Furthermore, new agents, attracted by the prospects of growth and profits in the telecommunication services market, have appeared on the scene, which introduces a fresh factor for the conventional operators: competition, becoming keener in a context characterized by what has a little hastily been described as deregulation.

This so-called deregulation phenomenon is a central issue in the telecommunication field. This development has resulted from the bringing together and the interpenetration of two technologies: data-processing and telecommunications, which until then had evolved within legally distinctive frameworks - with very few restrictions for data-processing and very strict rules for telecommunications.

The deregulation of telecommunications is an international fact which cannot be dismissed, but we must ensure that the phenomenon is controlled and that it becomes in effect favourable, over the long term, to the consumer and to the technological, economic and social balance of our countries and of the international community. These are our dominant concerns, and ones which will guide us in particular in the construction of the telecommunications Europe, which, as you know, represents a great design on which much effort is currently being expended. We seek to promote the introduction of harmonized regulations calculated to speed up the interconnection of networks and develop the most efficient services on the scale of our own continent.

I believe that it is also important to ensure that the international rules of the game are upheld at the global level, and this is the task of the ITU.

At Bangui, during the Conference of French-speaking Post and Telecommunication Administrations (CAPTEF), I had occasion to bring out the dangers involved, in particular for the weakest, by a rapid and untrammelled development of telecommunication regulations. There is the danger of creaming off services, which makes it impossible for states to decide their own destiny, since we are all aware here of the strategic importance of telecommunications, and communications in the wider sense, for economic development.

A further danger is that a two-tier world will be created in this sector, that information and know-how will fail to be widely disseminated and that certain countries or regions may be excluded from the process.

At the same time, we are in favour of the development of an open international value-added services market, since this meets the requirements of the expansion of international trade.

From this point of view, France welcomes the new International Telecommunication Regulations adopted last December at the World Administrative Telephone and Telegraph Conference (WATTC) in Melbourne. These Regulations, which appear very well-balanced, are distinguished both by a great flexibility in the application procedures, particularly for new services, and by the unequivocal reaffirmation of the great principles on which the activities of the ITU are founded:

- the principle of national sovereignty, which is the recognized right of each state to regulate the services offered on its own territory as it wishes;
- the principle of priority granted to the international network in handling international telecommunication services;
- the principle of international cooperation for the harmonious development of services; and
- the possibility for the Member countries of reaching special agreements in specific cases which are of no concern to the majority of members.

The reaffirmation of the three principles of sovereignty, openness and cooperation is a major success for the ITU, whose continuity and universality are thus upheld.

I should like to revert to these two terms, universality and continuity, since I consider them to be involved, closely linked, with the discussion which you will have concerning the future of the Union.

You yourself, Mr. Secretary-General, emphasized the ITU's role as a "global catalyst", striving to bring into harmony the various national activities so as to ensure that the different national telecommunication systems can be harnessed for world-wide operations. It is also the task of the ITU to maintain and amplify international cooperation and to afford technical assistance to the developing countries. It is likewise required to promote the development of techniques designed both to enhance the performance of telecommunication services and to increase their use. Hence the ITU is concerned with regulation and standards, and also with the management of the natural resources belonging to mankind as a whole, such as the frequency spectrum and the satellite orbit. The Advisory Group, which you set up to deal with the policy to be followed in telecommunications, emphasizes that, in order to harmonize the national efforts, as stipulated by the ITU Convention, it is no longer enough to correlate technical parameters, but it is now essential to harmonize and coordinate national policies. A further level of universality would thus be reached in the role of the Union.

This issue, which you are about to discuss, is a fundamental one and touches also upon the organization and the structures of the ITU, for which this new function would constitute a genuine challenge.

Hence these important matters which are now placed before you. I am thinking in particular of the proposal which has been made to reform the Basic Instrument of the Union by separating out its provisions into a Constitution and a Convention. The intended purpose here is to place the fundamental provisions governing our Union on a stable footing. This move is indeed calculated to ensure the Union's continuity within the context of a continually changing world. Attention must also be paid to maintaining the unitary character of the basic instrument.

Technical cooperation, to which I attach of course great importance, is governed by the same logic. In order to carry out this task, the ITU must be equipped with resources to match its ambitions. This means not only adequate funding, but also a highly efficient and rigorous organization.

These are, therefore, in broad outline, the questions facing the ITU today. This demonstrates the scale and the scope of your labours, and I wish to express every encouragement to you in your efforts. It is my belief, as I have already said on several occasions, that the world of telecommunications is undergoing a process of extremely rapid change, so that it is highly important that the ITU should, in this respect, serve as an element of stability and reference. I think that, together with technical cooperation, this is the best service that can be rendered to the nations, all of which are seeking to make the best possible choices for the future.

Your deliberations are taking place likewise at a time when a genuine "communications society" is very clearly taking shape; this will lead to drastic changes in the nature of human activities and the manner in which they are carried out. Your work therefore forms part of a process whose promise we cannot yet even begin to assess.

However, I would not leave this rostrum without bidding you welcome to this privileged corner of France. I have requested Mr. Jean Grenier, whom most of you know and whose qualities you appreciate, to represent me in the course of the next few weeks; I know that he will carry out this task with efficiency and skill, but I shall be observing very closely, with him, the progress of your deliberations, and I plan of course to return several times to Nice during the course of the Conference, which we shall be bringing to a close on 26 June. Throughout this period, we shall do everything in our power to ensure that you retain a happy memory of your stay and to create the best possible conditions for you at this 13th ITU Conference.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with this hope, and with the certainty that your work will be of the greatest importance for the future of world telecommunications, that I have the honour to open this Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union".

2. Address by the Secretary-General of the ITU

Mr. R.E. Butler, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union, delivered the following address:

"Mr. Minister,
Eminent Personalities of France,

May I on behalf of the International Telecommunication Union express the gratitude of all delegations present for the honour you have done us in inaugurating the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference.

All of us recognize that this Conference now returns the ITU plenipotentiaries to the country which 124 years ago provided the motivation and the venue for the creation of the Union Telegraphique - which in 1934 became the International Telecommunication Union.

In an era of comparatively rapid change, Napoleon III and his aides had the vision and the wisdom to recognize the benefits of consolidating the three interrelated international telecommunication regimes of the day into a single Union and thus provide the beginnings of a world-wide perspective on the operation and development of telecommunications.

Many decades later, the French soil now brings us together - also in a period of remarkable change - to consider what structures, what processes and what resources will be made available to the ITU for the operation and development of global telecommunications in the 1990s and beyond. May the intellectual innovation and spirit of courage, which is so much a part of French history and culture, guide us in our deliberations here. Indeed, we thank you, Mr. Minister, for the honour of inviting our Conference to this beautiful city of Nice as part of your bicentenary celebration of the French Revolution.

Mr. Minister,
Honourable Ministers,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

France has played a remarkable role throughout history, not only in the creation and evolution of, as well as contribution to the ITU, but also especially in the past two decades in advancing the entire field of telecommunications both in your own country and in many other parts of the world. There are many examples, but the rapid realization of the potential impact of informatics in the 1960s and later the initiatives for the upgrading and digitalization of telecommunications has been admirable from diverse perspectives. With this modernization came the accelerated use of terminals and various communication devices and the power and freedom of using new and innovative systems extended to the public on the widest possible basis. This gave fresh meaning to the words, *liberté, égalité, fraternité*. It is also an example of how telecommunications and information systems are so inextricably bound together - a matter of considerable importance for this Conference as we look towards the 21st century.

The integrated telecommunication systems that are so rapidly turning the world into a geodesic network are generating a new kind of global consciousness. The network nodes of the 90s will have more processing power than the supercomputers of today. A single optical fibre has the potential capacity of conveying nearly most of today's intercontinental telecommunication traffic.

Telecommunications is the revolution of our times, and how profoundly it influences our work, leisure, health, and wealth. It is closely linked with international trade and commerce involving a rapidly growing array of participants and services. What electric power and railways contributed to the Industrial Age, telecommunications are now contributing to the Information age which is almost here.

Telecommunications offer unprecedented opportunities for mankind in spreading knowledge, observe events in real time throughout the world, and creating the conditions to strengthen hopes of peace and prosperity.

At the same time, we are confronted with a great challenge to bring the benefits of technology and the attendant capabilities to the majority of the world's population. Without telecommunications there can be no development; and without development there

are no resources to invest, in telecommunications or anything else. Without development there is economic stagnation. It is imperative that definitive steps are taken to ensure that this vicious cycle is broken, and broken soon.

With the increasing ability of modern technology to provide lower cost telecommunication services, the opportunity exists - if the will can be found - to provide basic telecommunications to those billions of people who do not have this capability.

During the past seven years since the last Plenipotentiary Conference, we have witnessed more change in telecommunications and associated communications technology and infrastructures than in the previous seventy. This profound change in the dynamics of this industry compresses the time scales on which we operate, and impinges on the way the Union is structured and functions, not to mention the need for adequate resources to keep up with the dynamics. The Union cannot race into the 21st century, still tethered to the 19th.

During the next five and a half weeks, the future of the world telecommunications is in the hands of the Plenipotentiaries of this Conference. I am sure you have the wisdom and foresight to take all the necessary decisions that will permit telecommunications to play its role as an instrument of growth in national and international economies, that all mankind is endowed with its benefits, and that the Union would continue to assume its supremacy.

I urge you to rise to the challenge of our times, reaffirm and further strengthen the Union's mandate and its primacy in the global arena, review its structure to match the demands placed on it and provide it with the necessary resources to respond to the needs of the times.

In conclusion, allow me once again, Mr. Minister, to thank you for your gracious words of welcome. May I also express our sincere appreciation of all that your Government and the telecommunication authorities and enterprises have done to contribute to the excellent material organization of this Conference."

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

Document 120-E
24 May 1989

NICE, 1989

For information

Inaugural address by His Excellency Mr. Paul QUILES
French Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Space

Ministers,
Plenipotentiaries,
Mr. Secretary-General,
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Of course, we were only 20 signatory countries at that time, and we have now become 166, which provides clear evidence of the universal character of telecommunications.

The scale is far from being the same, and the technology has likewise changed considerably, as has also, needless to say, the range of problems involved, which have become extremely complex, accompanied as they are nowadays by the fundamental issues of cooperation and the dissemination of knowledge and know-how among all countries.

In this connection, I would draw attention to the enormous and disquieting gap which persists between the North and the South of our planet. I must say that I was particularly struck by a section in the "Missing Link" (the Report of the Maitland Commission) which makes the point that 75% of the 600 million telephones in existence throughout the world are concentrated in only nine countries. I can clearly only subscribe to the comments by the rapporteurs whom you appointed at the Nairobi Conference in 1982 to the effect that a disparity of this magnitude is unacceptable both from the human standpoint and from the point of view of a clearly understood common interest.

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1) What is the telecommunications landscape that we see today?

I think that it may be very simply described. The evolution of telecommunications is due in the first place to a technological revolution affecting, at one and the same time, the integration of components, data-processing, which have been marked by steady and rapid progress, and the digitization of transmission and switching equipment. Spectacular results have been achieved in both plant and telecommunication services, the cost of which has been sharply reduced. This has gone hand in hand with an unprecedented development in the supply of infrastructures. In this context, I would mention, in particular, the switched telephone network, the packet-switched data networks, such as Transpac in France, radio-relay systems, satellites, the radiotelephone and the integrated services digital network, which in France we have christened Numeris to make it easier to remember.

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with this hope, and with the certainty that your work will be of the greatest importance for the future of world telecommunications, that I have the honour to open this Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

Document 121-E

24 May 1989

NICE, 1989

For information

Address by Mr. R.E. BUTLER, Secretary-General
International Telecommunication Union

Opening Ceremony

Plenipotentiary Conference

Nice, 1989

Mr. Minister,
Eminent Personalities of France,

May I on behalf of the International Telecommunication Union express the gratitude of all delegations present for the honour you have done us in inaugurating the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference.

All of us recognize that this Conference now returns the ITU plenipotentiaries to the country which 124 years ago provided the motivation and the venue for the creation of the Union Telegraphique - which in 1934 became the International Telecommunication Union.

In an era of comparatively rapid change, Napoleon III and his aides had the vision and the wisdom to recognize the benefits of consolidating the three interrelated international telecommunication regimes of the day into a single Union and thus provide the beginnings of a worldwide perspective on the operation and development of telecommunications.

Many decades later, the French soil now brings us together - also in a period of remarkable change - to consider what structures, what processes and what resources will be made available to the ITU for the operation and development of global telecommunications in the 1990s and beyond. May the intellectual innovation and spirit of courage, which is so much a part of French history and culture, guide us in our deliberations here. Indeed, we thank you Mr. Minister, for the honour of inviting our Conference to this beautiful city of Nice as part of your bicentenary celebration of the French Revolution.

Mr. Minister
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Ladies and Gentlemen

France has played a remarkable role throughout history, not only in the creation and evolution of as well as contribution to the ITU, but also especially in the past two decades in advancing the entire field of telecommunications both in your own country and in many other parts of the world. There are many examples, but the rapid realization of the potential impact of informatics in the 1960's and later the initiatives for the upgrading and digitalization of telecommunications has been admirable from diverse perspectives. With this modernization came the accelerated use of terminals and

various communication devices and the power and freedom of using new and innovative systems extended to the public on the widest possible basis. This gave fresh meaning to the words, liberté, égalité, fraternité. It is also an example of how telecommunications and information systems are so inextricably bound together - a matter of considerable importance for this Conference as we look towards the 21st century.

The integrated telecommunication systems that are so rapidly turning the world into a geodesic network are generating a new kind of global consciousness. The network nodes of the 90s will have more processing power than the supercomputers of today. A single optical fiber has the potential capacity of conveying nearly most of today's intercontinental telecommunication traffic.

Telecommunications is the revolution of our times, and how profoundly it influences our work, leisure, health, and wealth. It is closely linked with international trade and commerce involving a rapidly growing array of participants and services. What electric power and railways contributed to the Industrial Age, telecommunications are now contributing to the Information age which is almost here.

Telecommunications offer unprecedented opportunities for mankind in spreading knowledge, observe events in real time throughout the world, and creating the conditions to strengthen hopes of peace and prosperity.

At the same time, we are confronted with a great challenge to bring the benefits of technology and the attendant capabilities to the majority of the world's population. Without telecommunications there can be no development; and without development there are no resources to invest, in telecommunications or anything else. Without development there is economic stagnation. It is imperative that definitive steps are taken to ensure that this vicious cycle is broken, and broken soon. ◊

With the increasing ability of modern technology to provide lower cost telecommunication services, the opportunity exists - if the will can be found - to provide basic telecommunications to those billions of people who do not have this capability.

During the past seven years since the last Plenipotentiary Conference, we have witnessed change in telecommunications and associated communications technology and infrastructures than in the previous seventy. This profound change in the dynamics of this industry compresses the time scales on which we operate, and impinges on the way the Union is structured and functions, not to mention the need for adequate resources to keep up with the dynamics. The Union cannot race into the 21st century, still tethered to the 19th.

During the next five and a half weeks, the future of the world telecommunications is in the hands of the Plenipotentiaries of this Conference. I am sure you have the wisdom and foresight to take all the necessary decisions that will permit telecommunications to play its role as an instrument of growth in national and international economies, that all mankind is endowed with its benefits, and that the Union would continue to assume its supremacy.

I urge you to rise to the challenge of our times, reaffirm and further strengthen the Union's mandate and its primacy in the global arena, review its structure to match the demands, placed on it and provide it with the necessary resources to respond to the needs of the times.

In conclusion, allow me once again, Mr. Minister to thank you for your gracious words of welcome. May I also express our sincere appreciation of all that your government and the telecommunication authorities and enterprises have done to contribute to the excellent material organization of this Conference.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 122-E
29 May 1989
Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES
OF THE
FIRST PLENARY MEETING

Tuesday, 23 May 1989 at 1720 hrs

Chairman: Mr. J. GRENIER (France)

Documents

1.	Election of the Chairman of the Conference	-
2.	Election of the Vice-Chairman of the Conference	-
3.	Structure of the Conference	DT/2
4.	Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of Committees	-
5.	Composition of the Conference Secretariat	104

1. Election of the Chairman of the Conference

1.1 The Secretary-General said that, following a proposal by the Minister for Posts and Telecommunications and Space, France, the meeting of Heads of delegations had unanimously nominated Mr. J. Grenier (France) as Chairman of the Conference.

Mr. Grenier was elected Chairman of the Conference by acclamation.

1.2 The Chairman thanked the Conference for electing him and delivered the following address:

Mr. Secretary-General,
Ministers,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I should like to thank you most warmly for the confidence you have shown in me by electing me Chairman of this important Conference.

As you know, I am personally very attached to the International Telecommunication Union, having been able to appreciate its decisive role in world telecommunications over the 25 years I have been taking part in its work. I have in fact already attended two previous Plenipotentiary Conferences, first in Malaga-Torremolinos and then in Nairobi.

You may thus rest assured that I shall do my best to discharge the heavy responsibility you have entrusted to me. I join with you in expressing the hope that the work of the Conference will be brought to a successful conclusion through the collaboration of all delegations here present.

This Conference comes seven years after the one held in Nairobi. In their addresses, my Minister, Mr. Quilès, and Mr. Butler both referred to the major changes which have occurred in the telecommunication sector since Nairobi:

- Being an engineer myself, I would like to mention first of all the technical developments, such as the appearance of high-capacity transmission systems, progressive network digitization and the remarkable development of what is known in France as Telematics, based on the interaction of telecommunications and data-processing techniques. I might also stress the importance of the first transoceanic optical-fibre links, the first telecommunication satellites to use on-board switching, and the introduction of more and more intelligence into our networks.
- Changes in the field of regulation may be said to a large extent to follow from technological changes, but also from users' changing needs, which we must satisfy, the issues involved having been debated at length at the WATTC in Melbourne.

Clearly these changes affect our different countries to a greater or lesser extent depending on the sophistication of their networks, their social and economic development, their cultures and traditions. Without having compared notes with Mr. Butler, I too would like to refer to the notion of a challenge for the ITU, whose primary role is to encourage at the international level the harmonious development of technical resources and telecommunication services and to improve their operation, so as to make them generally available to the public.

This challenge therefore consists in mapping out new paths for international cooperation which will accommodate both the diversity of national telecommunication

policies and the objectives of harmonization and universality, to which we are all attached.

The implementation of these new forms of cooperation may entail a number of changes in the basic texts of the Union. As you know, you will have to decide an important question, namely, the splitting of the International Convention into two instruments, a Constitution and a Convention, which together would form the basic instrument of the Union.

Beyond these institutional modifications, we may also be faced with the problem of changes in the structure of the Union. Should the existing organs be adapted or merged, or should new organs be established? These questions are now before us.

I should like to pay particular attention to technical cooperation and assistance activities, in which the developing countries rightly perceive the possibility of benefitting from a transfer of technology and acquiring the know-how needed to update and operate their telecommunication networks. I personally attach great importance to these cooperation activities, for which I have been responsible in FRANCE TELECOM for many years. I am not sure whether this is why Mr. Quilès chose to propose me to chair this meeting. You will have understood that for our Minister in France these cooperation matters rank high on the list of priorities.

The Conference will also have to deal with the question of the limits on Union expenditure for the period extending up to the next Plenipotentiary Conference.

Without wishing to cover all the ground, I have simply tried to draw attention to a number of important problems which appear on the agenda of the Conference, and to which suitable solutions will have to be sought in a spirit of cooperation.

I hope that your meeting will be guided by the sunny spirit of the Côte d'Azur, without, of course, forgetting - though here again I did not compare notes with Mr. Butler - my country's motto - Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, which I hope will serve as inspiration to us all.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am certain that, despite the complexity of the issues to be debated and the diversity of views regarding the solutions to be adopted, this Conference will produce positive results, which will enable the Union to continue to affirm its leading position and its effectiveness as an international telecommunication organization responsible for coordinating general policy matters and ensuring the world-wide development of networks and services.

Mr. Secretary-General,
Minister,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The task with which you have entrusted me is of course very difficult, though at the same time very stimulating. On your behalf, I accept the responsibility and thank you once again for the honour you have shown me. At the same time, I would add that I am worried by the magnitude of the task ahead and I would personally crave your kind assistance. It goes without saying that I am entirely at the disposal of this assembly and of each delegation for it is upon you, first and foremost, that the success of the Conference will depend; my one aim will be to interpret your wishes faithfully. It is my sincere hope that, in this year of 1989 when we are celebrating the bicentenary of a Revolution which left its mark on history, the International Telecommunication Union will be fully able to meet the challenge of the new revolution affecting all our

peoples. As our Minister said a short while ago, history does not repeat itself. He does not wish the Union to repeat the French Revolution, but rather to take account of the technological revolution and demonstrate its clear-sightedness and adaptability.

2. Election of the Vice-Chairman of the Conference

2.1 The Secretary-General announced that the Heads of Delegations had nominated the following as Vice-Chairmen of the Conference:

Ambassador T. Marshall	(United States)
Mr. A. Ituassu	(Brazil)
Mr. C. Lemos Simmonds	(Colombia)
Mr. H. Venhaus	(Federal Republic of Germany)
Mr. P. Muscat	(Malta)
Mr. Y.B. Zoubarev	(Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
Mr. A. Popov	(Bulgaria)
Mr. J. Tomaszewski	(Poland)
Mr. R. Sagna	(Senegal)
Mr. A. Wolde Amanuel	(Ethiopia)
Mr. D.A. Mark	(Nigeria)
Mr. Son Zhiyuan	(China)
Dr. F.A. Zaidan	(Saudi Arabia)
Mr. S.M. Gharazi	(Islamic Republic of Iran)

The aforementioned nominees were elected Vice-Chairmen of the Conference by acclamation.

3. Structure of the Conference (Document DT/2)

3.1 The Secretary-General drew attention to Document DT/2 outlining the proposed structure for the Conference as unanimously recommended by the meeting of Heads of Delegations.

Document DT/2 was approved.

4. Election of the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees

4.1 The Secretary-General read out the following nominations by the meeting of Heads of Delegations for the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees:

<u>Committee 2:</u>	Chairman	: Mr. J. Szekely (Hungary)
	Vice-Chairman	: Mr. A. Sanda (Cameroon)
<u>Committee 3:</u>	Chairman	: Dr. M.K. Rao (India)
	Vice-Chairman	: Mr. M. Wakrim (Morocco)
<u>Committee 4:</u>	Chairman	: Mr. H. Ghazal (Lebanon)
	Vice-Chairman	: Mr. P. Gagné (Canada)
<u>Committee 5:</u>	Chairman	: Mr. F. Molina Negro (Spain)
	Vice-Chairman	: Dr. K.D. Meier (German Democratic Republic)

Committee 6: Chairman : Mr. H. Vignon (Benin)
Vice-Chairman : Mr. M.A. Yusoff (Malaysia)

Committee 7: Chairman : Mr. A. Vargas Araya (Costa Rica)
Vice-Chairman : Mr. Y. Otaki (Japan)

Committee 8: Chairman: : Mr. M.F. Dandato (Zimbabwe)
Vice-Chairman : Mr. V. Cassapoglu (Greece)

Committee 9: Chairman : Mr. H.H. Siblesz (Netherlands)
Vice-Chairman : Mr. M. Bangué-Tandet (Central African
Republic)

Committee 10: Chairman : (France)
Vice-Chairmen : Mr. R.J. Priddle (United Kingdom)
Mr. V. Rubio Carreton (Spain)

The Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen so nominated were elected unanimously.

5. Composition of the Conference Secretariat (Document 104)

5.1 The proposed composition of the Conference Secretariat, assisted as necessary by other officials detached from ITU Headquarters, was announced:

Secretary of the Conference:	The Secretary-General
Executive Secretary:	Mr. X. Escofet
Administrative Secretary:	Mr. J. Escudero
Secretary of the Plenary and Committee 1:	Mr. J. Francis
Secretary of Committee 2:	Mr. X. Escofet
Secretary of Committee 3:	Mr. R. Prelaz
Secretary of Committee 4:	Mr. R. Prelaz
Secretary of Committee 5:	Mr. A. MacLennan
Secretary of Committee 6:	Mr. A. Embedoklis
Secretary of Committee 7:	Mr. A. Rutkowski
Secretary of Committee 8:	Mr. D. Schuster
Secretary of Committee 9:	Mr. A. Noll
Secretary of Committee 10:	Mr. P. Traub

That composition was noted.

The meeting rose at 1750 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1(Rev.1) to

Document 123-E

21 June 1989

Original: Spanish

MINUTES
OF THE
SECOND PLENARY MEETING

1. On the cover-page replace "6.9 Statement by the Secretary of State for Communications of Mexico" by "6.9 Statement by the Under-Secretary for Communications and Technological Development of Mexico".
 2. In paragraph 6.9 replace "The Secretary of State for Communications of Mexico" by "The Under-Secretary for Communications and Technological Development of Mexico", and in the third sub-paragraph from the end, replace the figure "90%" by "80%".
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PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 123-E
19 June 1989
Original: Spanish

MINUTES
OF THE
SECOND PLENARY MEETING

1. On the cover-page replace "6.9 Statement by the Secretary of State for Communications of Mexico" by "6.9 El Secretario de Estado para las Comunicaciones de México".
 2. In paragraph 6.9 replace "The Secretary of State for Communications of Mexico" by "El Secretario de Estado para las Comunicaciones de México", and in the third sub-paragraph from the end, replace the figure "90%" by "80%".
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PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 123-E
30 May 1989
Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

SECOND PLENARY MEETING

Wednesday, 24 May 1989, at 0930 hrs

Chairman: Mr. J. GRENIER (France)

Subjects discussed:

Documents

- | | | |
|-----|--|-------------|
| 1. | Address by the Secretary-General | - |
| 2. | Allocation of documents to Committees | DT/5(Rev.1) |
| 3. | Convening of the Conference | 85 |
| 4. | Date by which the Credentials Committee must submit its conclusions | - |
| 5. | Working hours of the meetings of the Conference | - |
| 6. | General policy statements | |
| 6.1 | Statement by the Minister for Transport and Communication of Kenya | - |
| 6.2 | Statement by the Minister for Tourism, Posts and Telecommunications of Indonesia | - |
| 6.3 | Statement by the Minister of Communications of Colombia | - |
| 6.4 | Statement by the Minister of Communications of India | - |
| 6.5 | Statement by the Minister of Communications of Algeria | - |
| 6.6 | Statement by the Minister of Communications of Kuwait | - |

- 6.7 Statement by the Minister of Posts, Telegraphs and
Telephones of the Islamic Republic of Iran -
- 6.8 Statement by the Minister of Communications of Malta -
- 6.9 Statement by the Secretary of State for Communications
of Mexico -
- 6.10 Statement by the Secretary of State for Posts and
Telecommunications of the German Democratic Republic -
- 6.11 Statement by Prof. Stojanović of Yugoslavia -
- 7. Election of Chairmen of Committees -

1. Address by the Secretary-General

1.1 The Secretary-General delivered the following address:

"This 1989 Plenipotentiary Conference will indelibly leave its mark on our Union as we are at a critical phase of launch into the Information Age. The issues before this Conference and the manner in which they are resolved will have a profound influence on the future of the ITU and the entire world of telecommunications which it supports.

I believe that the Plenary sessions in the early stages need to focus intensely on three major issues in order for the concerned committees to come up with practical and manageable suggestions for implementation.

These issues are:

- 1) the impact on the Members and the ITU of the changing telecommunication environment in terms of globalization of telecommunications and information networks; the need for their balanced, universal development, and the related institutional restructuring;
- 2) the functioning of the Union and resources; and
- 3) the timeliness for the setting up of a more or less permanent legal instrument of the ITU.

But, before I come to speak on these issues, let me recall briefly the highlights of the major events that have taken place since 1982 which will serve as a background to project and propose future action.

Past conferences and meetings

No one can deny that the programme of conferences and meetings of the Union established by the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, 1982, was unusually heavy. It is therefore gratifying that we are able to report to the Conference that, except for a Region 3 conference, for which the Members of that Region had not expressed sufficient interest nor an urgent need, the programme established at Nairobi has been implemented. This was achieved, notwithstanding the complexities associated in seeking to accommodate the needs of all Members of the Union in regard to both:

- the equitable access to, and the related planning and use of the radio frequency spectrum for diverse service developments in various world and regional administrative conferences which provided innovative legislative concepts and significant opportunities for the application and integration of many new technological and service applications; and
- the consequences of the changing telecommunication environment, including the necessity for replacement of the Telegraph and Telephone Regulations, 1973, by the International Telecommunication Regulations adopted at the Melbourne WATTC Conference, 1988.

In addition, there has also been a tremendous upsurge in the ITU's Consultative Committees activity brought about by the convergence of information technologies with branches of telecommunications, resulting from the rapid spread of digitalization with all of its consequences on the various means of transmission and switching. This process of convergence can only accelerate among all branches of telecommunications as the revolutionary impact of digitalization proceeds.

Indeed, whilst at first sight there may seem to be a less intensive programme of world administrative conferences unfolding for the next period, financial estimates for the expected growth for servicing and documentation of meetings are likely to offset economies in a reduced conference programme, i.e. unless we have some reform of present methods, organization and work processes, particularly for the working arrangements and decision-making processes within the organs of the Union.

The World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference (WATT-88, Melbourne), produced the world's first treaty for integrated international telecommunication networks and services in the new environment. The outcome of WATTC-88 is an elegant yet pragmatic balance between the specific recognitions of national sovereignty and global needs, with the establishment of basic rules for cooperation between the concerned parties. WATTC laid great stress on interconnectivity between networks and systems - be they public or private and gave advice and information to this Conference in the calls for revision of our Convention, and as to working methods and definitions as well as the decision making in standardization and other matters.

The World Administrative Radio Conference (1984-1987) for the improved planning of the HF bands exclusively allocated to the broadcasting service adopted certain partial solutions. In so doing, it recommended that consideration should be given to an enlargement of the bands concerned. In addition, the Conference gave necessary directives for further improvement and adaptation of the computer software developed by the IFRB for the planning process. The latter is to be taken up in a forthcoming WARC, and I would like to emphasize the need to give special attention to the way in which Members prepare for this new Conference given the complexity of the issues concerned. You are well aware that they are not technical in character.

These are matters which the present Plenipotentiary Conference would need to consider in the context of a new administrative radio conference(s) suggested for 1992 or so. A related question is that of some limited spectrum re-allocation required for mobile-satellite services as well as satellite HDTV and sound broadcasting.

Finances

As regards the Union's finances, a number of points are worth mentioning:

- For every financial year since the last Plenipotentiary Conference, expenditure has been kept within the authorized limits, with income invariably in excess of the estimates. Furthermore, over the period from 1982 to 1989 the Administrative Council was able to approve budgets within the limits set by the Nairobi Conference in Additional Protocol I. The expenditure limits for twelve specific functional activities set by the Nairobi Conference have thus been fully complied with. Nevertheless, across-the-board cuts decided by the Nairobi Conference at a late stage presented innumerable problems in the financial management of the Union, given the ever-increasing demands made on it by a sector known for its dynamic growth. It is difficult to measure the true impact of these cuts, but it is clear that without them, the Union's activities would have produced more satisfactory results and better service. In any event, the establishment of the base for the new Protocol ceilings will necessitate adjustment between certain functional limits.
- The situation as regards the Union's cash resources was not very satisfactory in the years 1984 to 1986. The ITU has no working capital fund and thus depends entirely on Members' contributions. During these years, the Union was unable to meet its commitments without recourse to advances from the Government of the Swiss Confederation. Advances of up to 9 million Swiss francs were required for brief periods in 1986. In all

cases, the advances were refunded before the end of the financial year. This shortfall in cash resources was largely due to arrears, because arrears for contributions and publications now total over 32 million Swiss francs, including 8.5 million for 1988, and 23.5 million for 1987 and previous years. For purposes of comparison, the corresponding amounts were 18.5 million Swiss francs at the end of 1981, including 8.5 million for 1981 and 10 million for previous years. Thus, the arrears have more than doubled in the interval between the two Plenipotentiary Conferences.

Difficulties have also been encountered by the Union in balancing the budget of administrative and operational costs for technical cooperation projects in spite of the economy measures enforced since the last Plenipotentiary Conference in 1982. This problem arises from the political consensus reached in 1980 by the UNDP Governing Council and the UN General Assembly concerning agency support costs. It also relates to the consequences of currency fluctuations to be shared by the Agencies and to the fact that no corresponding recognition was made in the ceiling provisions of the Financial Protocol. The relationship between the UNDP and the Specialized Agencies was changed from a simple executing agency role to a full partnership one and, as such, the ITU is required to share the actual administrative and operational costs incurred for the overall management of technical cooperation projects. The Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference resolved that the ITU observe the relevant UNDP decisions in this matter.

The Administrative Council has taken certain measures to find additional resources in conformity with four Finance Plans put forward by the Secretary-General. It will now be up for this Plenipotentiary Conference to take the necessary steps to solve the root causes of these shortfalls.

Apart from these items, which have given both the Administrative Council and myself some cause for concern, the Union's finances may be considered to be in a healthy state.

Staff

The performance of the staff of the Union was undoubtedly affected by certain decisions made by the 1982 Plenipotentiary Conference and subsequently by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The financial cuts decided by the last Plenipotentiary Conference, with no corresponding reduction in the extensive work programme adopted, fell most heavily upon the staff of the Union. To meet budgetary restrictions, it was necessary to freeze an appreciable number of posts. The reduced staff of the Union responded in a magnificent manner to the call to undertake more work, and the need for increased efficiency. There are, however, limits to this situation. I must invite attention to the negative impact on quality of services and staff morale in facing continued growth of requirements for Administrations, RPOA's and SIO's whose requirements are being serviced.

Decisions of the General Assembly of the United Nations leading to the freezing of professional salaries, the general deterioration of conditions of employment in the Common System with a major impact in Geneva, and the reduction and uncertainty in pension benefits have been strongly resented by the staff. These deteriorations have led to recent unrest.

The efforts of the Administrative Council to obtain corrective action at the level of the Common System have had little effect. In response to Resolution No. 61 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, studies have been made with a view to maintaining the level of pensions and a planned Pension Purchasing Power Protection

Insurance scheme has been developed for consideration by the Conference. Detailed supporting draft regulations are provided together with comments relating to legal aspects of the insurance plan. The adoption of this scheme would provide an acceptable degree of protection for pensions against further deterioration and would serve to alleviate present staff anxieties.

It is evident that action is necessary to improve the conditions of employment offered to the staff of the Union and to make these conditions more competitive if the Organization is to attract and retain staff of the calibre necessary to achieve the aims of its Members.

Then there is the question of how the Union is to tackle another function which has been formally recognized by the Nairobi Plenipotentiary. I am referring here to the perennial problem of technical cooperation and assistance issues which are of paramount importance to the great majority of the Members.

Technical cooperation activities

Preceding Plenipotentiary Conferences have adopted different initiatives to tackle the root causes of the gaps in the development and expansion of the telecommunication networks world-wide. The Malaga-Torremolinos Conference initiated the Special Funds to augment resources for technical cooperation. The Nairobi Conference launched the Voluntary Programme, and created an Independent Commission to study the matter, in addition to recognizing explicitly in the Convention that cooperation for development as one of the basic purposes of the Union.

Although progress was made as a result of the above actions, we cannot say that it has been sufficient as the disparity among the levels of network development of Members is ever expanding. At the request of the Secretary-General, the Administrative Council set up a Group of Experts among its members to study the changing nature of technical cooperation. The report has been the subject of debate at two different sessions of the Council by the Secretary-General and relevant conclusions have been further elaborated in a document submitted for your attention.

Thus, as far as technical cooperation and the related field activities are concerned, the ITU has a dual role:

- a) as the specialized agency of the United Nations for telecommunication matters. This institutional responsibility seeks:
 - to promote the development of telecommunication networks and services, particularly in developing countries; and
 - to encourage and expand the development of technical cooperation.
- b) as an executing agency for technical cooperation projects.

These functions do have an inter-relationship.

Information exchange through the Secretariat

A related question is that of the reciprocal exchange of information among the Members of the Union. Since the inception of the Union's secretariat in 1869 such information exchange, through the ITU Permanent Secretariat, has constituted an important element of the Union's work. In today's rapidly changing environment this

function has become of much more significance to the telecommunications community. The Union needs to be responsive, in the most effective and efficient manner, to the emerging needs of all users, be it those from the more advanced industrialized countries, or those in remote areas, or with limited resources.

A fundamental question to resolve is the need for the assignment of costs in the collection treatment and processing of information for distribution. This is a basic function of the Union's daily operational activities. Solutions should be found to enable adequate provision for availability of information in both printed and electronic media, without an adverse impact on those not using the new information technologies. There is no doubt that, in some cases, there are significant economic gains to a number of Administrations to receive information electronically, thereby reducing their local costs in treatment of data and information coordinated through the ITU organs.

It is imperative that an appropriate publication policy be agreed upon by the present Conference. In addition, relevant WATTC-88 conclusions have been presented to you in the Conference documentation.

Information systems and services are increasingly essential to the accomplishment of ITU responsibilities and modern office technology was introduced extensively. Indeed, we have been successful in applying modern office automation technology oriented around PC's and a local area network. Indeed, almost 600 personal computer workstations have been gradually installed and the majority of the staff has been trained in the use of these tools. The entire headquarters has been wired with a Local Area Network - TELnet - making it possible to develop working methods which rely on the exchange of work-in-progress and the reference information in machine readable form. This international model for our size was used for the CCITT Plenary Assembly and the WATTC in Melbourne last year, as well as for this Plenipotentiary Conference.

We extended our TELnet into a Wide Area Network linking the Conference sites to Headquarters in Geneva. Combined with high-speed, high-resolution facsimile links, these computer and communication methods make for more effective use of staff during conferences and improve Headquarters support of the conference. This has led to significant decentralization of activity away from the main frame computers. This policy complemented by sharing of resources - information, work in progress, software, specialized hardware - through the network, has brought steady increases in productivity with the related decline in production costs.

Work is proceeding for the extension of the advantages of computer communication systems for the exchange of information with ITU to all participants in the Union's activities. The ITU's Telecom Information Exchange Services - or TIES as it is known - will provide electronic messaging among participants and between members and Headquarters, regular information on a variety of aspects of the Union's work, access to certain ITU data bases.

Future services will include delivery of ITU documents, publications, and data by many new and traditional means. I thank those expert participants in the CCITT activity and the operating entities for their helpful advice and support in the identification of needs and system support. The quality of the TELnet and Wide Area Network developed within the purview of Computer Department and at relatively low cost has been highly commended by many specialists and executives.

Major issues

Now let me come to the three fundamental issues which I raised at the beginning of this statement.

The development and application of digital devices and techniques on a grand scale are driving and revolutionizing the telecommunication industry today. Indeed, all branches telecommunications are now affected and they include the associated information systems and applications that are entwined with and support the entire global economy. In every country, basic telecommunication networks are pre-requisites for industry, for innovation, and for building the national economy.

However, there are growing and valid fears that given the rapidity of change of technology and services, the stage is being set for a 'greater divide' in the coming years among countries and users - contrary to the Independent Commission's modest vision of 'telephones within easy reach of all humanity'.

Furthermore, the Missing Link Report and the follow-up activities thereon point to the need for concerted action on several fronts for achieving a balanced totality of telecommunication development. Consistent with its mandate, the Union is now required to play a more active promotional role in areas where so far its involvement has only been minor.

One of the WATTC Resolutions on the 'changing telecommunications environment' invites the Plenipotentiary Conference 'to consider the implications and opportunities which the integration of new technologies, the development of new types of services and the diversity of arrangements may entail for the harmonious and efficient development, operation and use of telecommunications world-wide; and to consider the impact that various issues may have on the work of the Union and the cooperation between members'.

Some Members have asked for the Advisory Group 'Report on the Changing Telecommunications Environment - Policy Considerations for the Members of the ITU', to be considered at this Conference. The Group was commissioned in response to requests which I had received for advice from prominent officials of a number of countries. The Report has been well received and I thank those leaders who have informed me accordingly.

The general trends of development in the telecommunications sector are thoroughly reviewed and the report makes a series of recommendations at national, regional and international levels. With regard to the ITU, the members of the Group have said that: 'It is important, however, to undertake an in-depth review of the Secretariat structure so that it can be fully responsive to the demands of the new global telecommunication environment, while at the same time being cost-effective in terms of ITU's resources'. If the ITU is to continue to serve as the prime international focal point of the information communication technology it should adapt itself to the ever changing environment in order to respond to the call of the times.

The dramatic changes occurring around the world are not driven just by technological advances but also by user demands and in some countries market forces. Furthermore, the proliferation of personal computers and their interconnectability via traditional telecommunications is now leading to the evolution of a wide variety of message and other information exchange services. There is also the rapid and progressive integration of different service distinctions such as the fixed and mobile, as well as the growing interaction between public and private networks. There is also the growing requirement for portability in the use of personal computers or mobile radiocommunication, including hand-pocket telephones of the future.

The implications of these developments are enormous. The familiar boundaries of earlier days are not only blurred but even disappearing. The transmission distinctions between different media such as satellites and optical fibre, cable and radiocommunications are rapidly losing their relevance.

The Union must respond to the need for a dynamic and effective global standardization process for the necessary interconnection and application of new technologies into the global network. The Plenipotentiary Conference should thus give consideration to modifying the International Telecommunication Convention to provide the Union with the necessary structure, processes and resources. This should include consideration of better use of resources of countries, as well as resources available for the ITU - an issue of major importance in the present period of great financial constraints. From a global interconnectivity perspective, then, it is crucial that the Conference take those policy actions necessary to assure the primacy of the Union. A consequence would be not only a more responsive ITU but also one that would be more lean and cost effective - a goal continually pressed by many governments and operating organizations today.

The telecommunications environment of the 1990's, and the role of the Union in preventing a breakdown of telecommunication equipment, services and trade into regional enclaves requires no less. These are not changes that can wait for years for further consideration. Most of the needs are ones that long have been patently evident, and the time to act is now at Nice. Perhaps a more dynamic global standardization approach could have diverted some of the regional groupings already appearing.

What is important for the Plenipotentiaries is to assess exactly what the telecommunications sector now represents, or should I say what the state of information communication technology is today, what it encompasses, where it is going and how best the Union can support and enhance the cooperative efforts of nations.

The telecommunications of 1989 are no longer those of 1982. With this same reasoning the ITU of the 1990's cannot be that of the 1980's. There have been so many basic and substantive changes in the nature of telecommunications that the structures established to handle an environment that existed decades ago cannot be expected to accommodate effectively the new requirements. There is a need for a proper restructuring of the Secretariat support tasks set-up, if the Union is to satisfy adequately the needs of the totality of its Membership.

I am mindful of the fact that the Administrative Council avoided drawing any conclusions on the report of the Panel of Experts on the Long Term Future of the IFRB. Was this reluctance related to the apparent divergence between the findings of the report and the dynamics of the situation in regard to spectrum utilization which the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference had indeed recognized seven years ago? It is important that the Conference consider the real needs for administering spectrum use in the 1990's.

The Conference has received a whole series of proposals on structural questions from a number of Member countries. Of course, any structural changes cannot be intended to diminish the importance of any function or medium of transmission be it radiocommunication or cable. All that I can do, as your outgoing Secretary-General, is to urge you earnestly to look at the structure with courage and vision for the future of our society which many call already the **Information Society**, and the way in which the Union will face and retain its primacy in this new environment of rapid change and convergence, so that it remains dynamic and benefits all Members and users.

New steps

After agreeing on the kind of telecommunications environment in which the Union must lead, and after setting up the appropriate Secretariat structural arrangements to assume the related responsibilities, the interconnected decisions must be taken to define the resource requirements.

I have to urge against any predetermined budgetary limitation as a basis to determine the functions and duties of the organization.

The organization is there to carry out agreed activities for which it requires resources. The overall reduction in budget limits imposed in 1982 was achieved partly by cutting back on services and partly through productivity gains due to improved mechanization of services such as office automation and reproduction. It is unlikely that the same kind of results would be obtained in the forthcoming period.

Our field of telecommunications is experiencing a revolution manifested by exponential growth of the technology and its application in new forms of services. This kind of growth cannot be supported by the ITU. We are far from reaching the point of the levelling of the growth curve without increase in budgetary resources. How great that increase should be is a matter for detailed analysis and consultation.

Finally, let me come to the constitution/convention issue. Many Plenipotentiary Conferences have expressed the wish for a more permanent type of instrument governing the ITU. The Nairobi Conference adopted a resolution on this matter and as a result you have in front of you, draft proposals for consideration.

As I have indicated, this Conference has to deal with many substantive issues that will require comprehensive debate in order to reach a good understanding and a wide consensus among the Members. Those issues include treatment proposals for structural changes, which in turn impact the proposals concerning the basic instrument and the implementation of the Conference's decisions thereof. Accordingly, it would be wise for the Plenary to give guidance to the various committees whether or not a more permanent instrument such as a constitution is being established, or to continue with the normal type of convention for another term. Such a decision will clear the air in terms of the positions to be taken by some administrations on other issues.

Closing

In the course of its history, the Union has demonstrated its ability to adapt itself to change, both technological and political: from telegraphy to space communications, photonic systems and intelligent networks; and from a nineteenth century group of 20 nations to a mid-twentieth century world of 166 nations. We have witnessed unprecedented changes in the telecommunications environment including the convergence of telecommunications (and now of all branches) and information technology and services. Dramatic changes have occurred in the telecommunications infrastructure of some countries characterized by terms such as deregulation, or degrees of liberalization and leading in some countries to new providers of telecommunication services accompanied by some of competition. The newcomers to the scene have demonstrated their ingenuity by introducing new applications and services allowed by digitalization. These applications have had a strong impact in some sectors of the economy, such as office automation, computerized design, information service providers, manufacturing and the like. We are also witnessing the convergence of another branch of telecommunications technology, i.e. electronic mass media with that of informatics, thereby bringing a wide spectrum of information services to the home of every citizen.

Thus the traditional approach of examining telecommunications from purely technological and operational standpoints is no longer adequate. Authorities are recognizing that telecommunication is now a critical component of many national sectors and the related policy issues must be considered at the highest levels of government. This is evident too, by the extent to which matters have been taken up in other fora

like GATT for certain economic issues of trade in services. In this regard, following the guidance from the Administrative Council, the secretariat has maintained contacts and given advise to the GATT secretariat. Recently, ITU was accepted as an observer to the Services Negotiations in regard to telecommunication matters. I am convinced that the decisions taken at WATTC-88 will facilitate the considerations.

The Plenipotentiaries of the Members of the Union now have the opportunity to assess the state of the organization, the challenges it faces and the opportunities it can offer to the totality of its Membership. Let us rise to this historical occasion and to tackle the issues with understanding, courage and appreciation of the needs and aspirations of everyone. The future of harmonious development of world-wide telecommunications is in your hands and let us find the innovative ways to strengthen the Union for the challenges of the Information Age that has already dawned.

For my part, these last six and a half years have been a privilege in holding a rare international public trust, and guiding international telecommunications at the ITU helm during a period witnessing more rapid evolution than the entire previous history of telecommunications.

Every day, I have devoted my energies toward making the ITU and its work the best that it can be.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served the global telecommunication community, and thank all of those who have assisted me in these endeavors and achievements."

2. Allocation of documents to Committees (Document DT/5(Rev.1))

The allocation of documents presented in Document DT/5(Rev.1) was approved subject to further adjustments as may be necessary.

3. Convening of the Conference (Document 85)

3.1 The Secretary-General, introducing Document 85, drew attention to section 4 concerning the attendance of representatives of Liberation Organizations as observers. Pursuant to resolution 43/177 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, the Delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization was in future to be referred to as the Delegation of Palestine in fora of the United Nations family; its status in those fora would in no way be changed. He invited the Conference to recognize the amended denomination of that Delegation and agree to the corresponding amendment to the text of Document 85.

3.2 The delegates of Israel and the United States of America requested that the Conference should note the reservations that they had expressed on the subject elsewhere within the United Nations.

3.3 The Chairman said that those reservations would be noted in the minutes of the meeting.

Subject to the proposed amendment, Document 85 was approved.

4. Date by which the Credentials Committee must submit its conclusions

4.1 The Secretary-General reminded participants that pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Convention and the procedure adopted at the previous Plenipotentiary Conference, it was for the Plenary to decide on the date for submission of the Credential Committee's report. Pending the decision on that report, delegations were

entitled to participate in the proceedings and to vote provided that they had not otherwise lost the right to do so. The Plenary was invited to agree on the date of 23 June 1989 for the submission of the Final Report.

It was so agreed.

5. Working hours of the meetings of the Conference

It was agreed that, following customary procedure, the daily meeting times would be from 0930 to 1230 hours and from 1430 to 1730 hours.

6. General policy statements

6.1 The Minister for Transport and Communications of Kenya made the following statement:

"First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Government and the people of Kenya, to deliver warm and friendly greetings to the ITU family present at this august assembly. We in the Kenyan Delegation feel extremely honoured to be part of this gathering because we believe that the ITU Plenipotentiaries provide one great opportunity for its Members to avail themselves for more meaningful partnership and friendship which is an exemplary demonstration of their commitment to international cooperation and solidarity.

A true spirit of cooperation has already been demonstrated to us here today by the excellent gesture of the Government of France, the host, in providing the ITU family with such a beautiful venue for this Conference. We are deeply touched by the friendliness of the French people, and their sense of hospitality which is reflected in the way we have been treated since our arrival in Nice a few days ago. We therefore have no doubt in our minds that given the excellent start that we have had, this Conference will be steered to a very successful conclusion.

You will recall that the last Plenipotentiary Conference was held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1982, and Kenya would be very privileged yet again to associate itself with this very historic event, this time participating at Nice as a Delegation.

The purpose of the Plenipotentiary Conference, the ITU's supreme organ, is to discuss policy issues at the highest level which will result in an international agreement defining the relations of Member States as concerns international telecommunications. In this regard, Mr. Chairman, allow me first to refer this assembly to certain features of the last Conference which took place in Nairobi from 28 September to 6 November 1982. This Conference, which was also an historic event in Africa and particularly Kenya, brought together over 1,000 delegates from Member countries, including observers from international organizations concerned with telecommunications development. My country was honoured to have been afforded the rare opportunity for collaboration with ITU Members by providing host facilities, and also having the privilege to provide the Conference with a Chairman. On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Kenya, and on my own behalf, I would like to state that we were particularly impressed with the outcome of that particular Conference and were equally grateful to the Members attending that Conference for having adopted an abbreviated title and presentation of the resulting ITU Convention which now bears the horizontal bands in the national colours of the Republic of Kenya, henceforth referred to as the Nairobi Convention.

I would like to draw the attention of the distinguished delegates at this assembly to the fact that the Nairobi Conference brought very instrumental elements to the current status and future of the ITU. The Conference, in the history of the ITU, did for the first time devote considerable attention to the important supporting role

played by telecommunications for socio-economic development and the need to mobilize all resources, human or financial, for the elaboration of technical cooperation and assistance activities, particularly to developing countries, in order to improve the capacity and efficiency of their telecommunications equipment and networks, and thereby narrow the gap between the developing and developed countries. Kenya, having provided a forum for the elaboration of Resolutions which were effected in 1982, has spared no efforts in its own right to also derive full benefits of the resultant opportunities which were open to it thereafter.

We are pleased to note that the ITU has undertaken special efforts by way of projects, research, seminars and case studies to describe general trends of development in the telecommunications sector and related areas, the issues and options for national policy and recommendations which might be elaborated at country, regional and international levels. We are aware that Member countries have also given favourable reciprocal response by pledging specialized support for these activities, which have since evolved in all proportions following the technological advances with unprecedented demand for resources for the improvement of technical and administrative services. In our region alone needs have arisen for the support of such projects as the Pan African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL), Regional Africa Satellite Communications Systems for the Development of Africa (RASCOSAT), Course Development in Telecommunications (CODEVTEL), African Regional Advanced Level Telecommunications Institute (AFRALTI) and for other bilateral operations requiring the support of donor organizations and institutions. A greater degree of responsiveness is still expected on the part of all concerned and, as has been concluded in the Missing Link Report, it has become increasingly necessary that sufficient financial resources, inclusive of the foreign-exchange content, were available to developing countries for investment in telecommunications. Therefore, whereas this matter mainly remains an outstanding one, I would urge the Conference to seek ways and means of strengthening the Union's work of technical cooperation and assistance, to enable it to receive regular funds which it can commit to these vital programmes.

In regard to regional activities, we believe that the ITU should do more in promoting its regional image and we would strongly support proposals that will strengthen the regional presence of the ITU in a manner that would facilitate closer interaction between the ITU and its Members than hitherto, not only at regional level, but also at country level. I would therefore urge this assembly to seek ways and means which would enable the ITU to provide greater financial and administrative support for implementing technical cooperation activities and programmes in the regions and examine further the modalities for the reallocation of resources and facilities for the effective management and running of regional offices.

May I also emphasize that there will be need for this assembly to pursue during this Conference the framework for setting up a long-term action plan for world-wide telecommunications development, including financing consideration and the methodology for making the Available Resource Centre, like the Centre for Telecommunications Development at ITU Headquarters, and other international and regional telecommunications institutions set up by Member countries more responsive to the needs of ITU membership and for purposes of implementing technical cooperation programmes.

Turning to other aspects of ITU activities during the intervening period, I am aware that the ITU has had to cope with sophisticated technical and policy issues which have received careful consideration and attention at national and regional levels. In diverse ways, matters have arisen in recent world administrative conferences and international consultative committees and from the reports that have been circulated to us beforehand by the Secretary-General, where it is evident that there is a need for a mechanism to be created to stimulate appropriate decisions on the basic objectives of the Union concerning the changing telecommunications environment.

The World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference gave birth to the first integrated telecommunications service regulations, providing also the framework for cooperation among Members, administrations and private entities. Questions of general regulations of telecommunications and resource allocation, particularly on the use of the frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite orbit, as well as operational and policy issues in relation to the activities of the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB), the International Consultative Committees (CCIs) and the General Secretariat will be of primary concern to all of us even at this Conference.

In this connection, I would like to reiterate that, even if new positions were to be adopted at this forum, we should still be concerned about decisions that have become the preoccupation of a majority of the ITU membership that, firstly, the fundamental conclusions concerning national sovereignty and respect for national law for establishing international telecommunications and global network from technological and operational viewpoints, and the regulatory primacy of the ITU to be reaffirmed; and secondly, that since the underlying policy issues for integrated telecommunication services will continue to have diverse elements, there will be great need to harmonize activities of nations to this end without necessarily imposing those elements which might be repugnant to the internal order of any Member State.

For the Union's future stability and viability, it is up to us to make it respond to the demands of a changing environment by carrying out a fresh appraisal of the objectives of the Union and its structure and, for that matter, developing the framework for the reorganization of the Union as may be desirable. For instance, it could be logically argued that since the Plenipotentiary Conferences convene after a fairly long period which is marked by rapid developments and technological changes, the Conference should provide a mechanism enabling the ITU, during the intervening period between Plenipotentiary Conferences, to address itself to all manner of issues which have not necessarily been mandated to the Administrative Council, Secretary-General of the other permanent organs of the Union. Within the framework of ITU activities, I would therefore propose that there should be a proviso of institutionalizing regional or world telecommunication development conferences or fora which would facilitate policy decisions, as the effectiveness of such an approach has already been tested, especially in Africa, where fora for telecommunications development have helped to pave the way for interactions at ministerial level, in the effort to enrich global understanding and in support of ITU's basic processes of standardization, regulation and development. Taking you through the experience of my own country as concerns our relation with the ITU, I am pleased to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Kenya has always availed itself for collaboration on issues concerning telecommunications development. I would recall that in 1986 Kenya hosted the African Broadcasting Conference and Africa Telecom 86, including several regional seminars all of which contributed immensely to the promotion of regional and global solidarity and cooperation. We have also continued to give the Union specialized support providing experts, for example, in the Voluntary Group of Experts on the Extended Use of the IFRB Computer, legal experts concerning implementation of Resolution No. 62 of the ITU Nairobi Convention and experts on the changing nature of technical cooperation. This list would not be complete if I did not mention our regular commitment to the challenges we have had to face every year in the Administrative Council, Kenya being one of the representatives of Region D, and those other specialized meetings and conferences of the ITU which we have found to be very rewarding in terms of harmonizing the actions of Members towards a common goal. While on this point, let me take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Plenipotentiary Conference for having accorded Kenya a chance to serve in the Administrative Council for the last seven years and assure you of our readiness to serve in the same capacity if so mandated through the electoral process of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

In reference to the work of the Group of Legal Experts on Resolution No. 62 already referred to, Kenya appreciated the good work concluded by the Group as contained in draft Documents A and B.

We believe that time is ripe for the ITU, like other specialized agencies of the United Nations, such as the Universal Postal Union (UPU), to have a Constitution and a supplementary or complementary instrument - by whatever name it may be called. We therefore reaffirm our willingness and readiness to participate along with other Plenipotentiaries at this Conference in deliberations geared towards achieving that purpose.

I would like to express, on behalf of the Government of Kenya, my satisfaction at the excellent relationship between the ITU and my country; and because it is our duty to strengthen these relations my Government considers that it is a long time since it received the ITU family in the magnitude similar to the Plenipotentiary Conference of 1982 or Africa Telecom 86, and would be most pleased to make a maiden invitation to the ITU to once again collaborate with us in hosting Africa Telecom 90. We have already intimated our request to the Secretary-General of the ITU in this regard through normal channels and would very much appreciate your support and participation.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, may I thank you all for your attention and wish you the best of luck as we look forward to very productive and constructive deliberations at Nice, hoping that we shall all jointly make firm and decisive steps which will accelerate the Union's global mission to satisfy the needs of the world we live in, and the requirements of mankind at large. Thank you."

6.2 The Minister for Tourism, Posts and Telecommunications of Indonesia made the following statement:

"First of all, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, I would like to thank the Government of the Republic of France, for hosting this most important ITU Conference. I would also like to congratulate you, the Chairman, Mr. Grenier, the Vice-Chairmen of the Conference as well as the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees for their election as officers of this important Conference.

In the years and months since the last Plenipotentiary Conference, in Nairobi in 1982, the ITU has masterminded successful meetings and created milestones in ITU history. The Independent Commission for World-wide Telecommunications Development (ICWTD) or The Maitland Commission with their Missing Link Report, WARC ORB-85 and WARC ORB-88 with their equitable access procedures, and WATTC-88 with its International Telecommunication Regulations, are just a few of the so many other successful achievements of the Union.

The ICWTD rephrased the goal of reaching a sufficiently high telephone density commensurate with demand as a 'telephone within easy reach of every member of the community'. At this time, notwithstanding an ever-increasing awareness about the importance of telecommunications for the development of a nation, we still witness the state of telecommunication provision in the developing countries at a continually poor level. However, before analysing further on this issue, I would like to draw your attention first to how we, as one of the developing countries, observe telecommunications development from our perspective.

In Indonesia, we view that the ultimate objective of national development is the complete development of every individual so as to facilitate the full realization of his/her potentialities and to free him/her from injustice, inequalities, diseases, illiteracy and poverty, towards the spiritual as well as material welfare, and to achieve a balanced and harmonious relation between these two objectives. It should not be concentrated in certain islands or regions, but should be well spread throughout

Indonesia. It should not only benefit certain strata within the society, but its benefits should be truly felt by the population as a whole, as a tangible improvement in their quality of life.

One of the basic concepts of the Indonesian national development is the 'Archipelago Concept'. This concept visualizes the establishment of Indonesia as a single country with unity in politics, unity in socio-cultural conditions, unity in economic life, and unity in defense and security. Within this concept, development of telecommunications is directed towards supporting and stimulating development in other sectors to bring the concept of unity into a reality; thus the effectiveness of telecommunications is emphasized. In addition, these services must be rendered with due regard for smooth operation of government administration, the convenience of socio-cultural life and the efficient transactions of economic activities; here the penetration of telecommunications is emphasized.

In playing this role, the introduction of satellite communication services, for example, has helped to change the slow pace of development into more rapid extension of the national telecommunication networks. The distance insensitivity of the satellite system has been proven as an appropriate solution to the Indonesian telecommunication problem for covering its archipelago, which consists of thousands of tropical islands separated by seas and characterized by dense forests, mountains, rough terrains and swamps, all of which pose obstacles to the extension of terrestrial transmission.

It can be underlined that the main role of telecommunications in the enhancement of the economic and socio-cultural life as elements of the national resilience is actually to provide the basic telephone, data or text communication services, as well as to disseminate television and radio programmes to all parts of the country. It is in this context of national telecommunication development that the vital role of the ITU as a development agent should be emphasized.

During the last WATTC-88 the successful cooperation among the ITU Member countries was demonstrated by agreeing to the new International Telecommunication Regulations. This outcome is really a pragmatic balance between national sovereignty and global needs with the establishment of basic rules for cooperation between the concerned parties, while still ensuring interconnectivity and interoperability of world-wide telecommunication services and world-wide harmonious telecommunication development.

Another success story of the ITU is the completion of the WARC ORB Conference, from which an acceptable compromise was reached to implement an equitable access method for allocating the GSO and the frequency bands as limited natural resources. The experiences, knowledge and information thus gained in the discussions and deliberations during these Conferences can again be extended to achieve a successful completion of this Plenipotentiary Conference.

With the increasing size of the ITU organization, it is advisable to improve also its efficiency of operation, so that the operational costs are still affordable by all Members. Our Administration can still see the possibility for rationalizing the current organizational structure of the Union, particularly the Permanent Organs, namely the IFRB, the CCIR and the CCITT, while still maintaining the achievement of the ITU organizational goals.

In standardizing matters, the Union is facing the challenge for more timely results, it wishes to maintain its role as the authority for world-wide telecommunication standardization. Lengthy procedures in issuing standards should be

shortened and simplified, so as to meet the demands of the industry. We believe that with the wisdom and cooperation of all Members of the Union, biased thoughts can be eliminated, so that an appropriate new ITU organization structure can be developed and agreed by all Members and can meet the future challenges.

All the above issues are just a few of the so many important issues that we are all facing. We would like to see them solved during the coming weeks as the successful outcomes of this Plenipotentiary Conference.

Before concluding, I would like to thank you for giving me and my Delegation the opportunity to express our opinion. I wish that, with your able chairmanship supported by the spirit of cooperation of all the delegates, and with the influence of the beautiful weather of Nice, the ITU will be able to achieve its objectives to the satisfaction of all its Members. I also hope that the endorsement of the new ITU Constitution and Convention will mark a new era in international telecommunication relations that will enhance harmonious development of world-wide telecommunications, which in turn will support world-wide economic growth and prosperity.

Thank you very much for your kind attention and cooperation."

6.3 The Minister of Communications of Colombia made the following statement:

"First of all I should like to congratulate both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen on their election, and also to thank delegates for their kindness in choosing me as one of the Vice-Chairmen of the Conference. I hope that I prove worthy of your trust.

At the outset of the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union, which is being attended by 166 countries, I should like to touch upon some telecommunication policy matters which Colombia considers should be taken into account during the Conference, which is meeting in the very country in which the Union came into being 124 years ago.

The constant changes which are taking place in telecommunications technology make it necessary for the Conference to review the Union's purposes and structure in order to streamline its regulatory processes, further the cause of universal standardization and thus ensure operational compatibility between the various services, with a view to enhancing international cooperation and securing adequate representation of the different countries in the various bodies of the Union.

New approaches are needed, above all to allow for the economic, social and cultural conditions which differentiate the developing from the industrialized countries, in order to secure appropriate infrastructures for all nations and to enable them to benefit from technological developments for the purpose of providing adequate communication services not only to the more prosperous urban areas but also, and especially, to poor rural areas which are today totally isolated.

With regard to international cooperation, my Delegation would emphasize the importance, for the developing countries, of technical training to meet the need for human resources, acquiring the information and knowledge that are essential for framing effective telecommunication policies through the establishment of regional research institutes.

We also propose that it should be part of the ITU's policy to draw up a programme in cooperation with different public and private international financial institutions for funding, on special favourable terms, projects aimed at extending telecommunication services to rural areas. It is only fair that what one hopes would be a substantial share of the international credits intended for telecommunications should

be used to end the isolation of huge areas inhabited by hundreds of millions of human beings who, as we move towards the 21st century, are still just as cut off from their fellow men as they were when the ITU was founded well over 100 years ago.

As part of the Government's policy to implement the plan to combat absolute poverty approved by the United Nations at the behest of our President, Dr. Virgilio Barco, Colombia is currently implementing one of the most ambitious rural telephony plans to have been devised in any developing country. The aim is to provide institutional and community telephone services to some 5,000 isolated rural localities and to improve existing installations in 521 others; since a locality is understood to mean any settlement of over 200 inhabitants, we will be providing the telephone service to 70% of them in the near future.

By means of this programme we aim to enhance national integration, providing easy access to an effective means of communication for those of our citizens who today have to travel long distances in order to find a telephone.

Along the same lines, the Colombian Government, acting through the Ministry of Communications, has set itself the following objectives:

- the provision of every citizen with some means of telephone communication not more than 20 kilometres away from home, which - given my country's size and population pattern - is a tremendous step forward in enabling Colombians to communicate with one another;
- the modernization and extension of the trunk network in order to provide adequate basic telephone links between all regions, and
- the installation of international communication centres in line with demand, to secure access to services for all citizens.

Furthermore, it should be borne in mind that progress in communication means not only benefiting from technological progress but also transmitting as much information as possible in a free and responsible manner. This calls for a climate of political tolerance and understanding which does not frustrate the human being's right to receive full and objective information about national and international events in all areas of activity, economic, scientific, sporting, cultural and political.

Privatization, competition and deregulation or liberalization are among the issues which have been raised in the versatile, competitive and changing world of telecommunications. Although these matters should be studied with all due objectivity and thoroughness, a regulatory authority will be needed to supervise the process and ensure that it is geared to meeting the general objectives of all countries.

To this end, Colombia considers it essential to adopt standards conducive to the production of a universal technology, since technological developments proceed to a greater or lesser degree from efforts by different nations and are made available to others. Such developments should take place within the framework of a world trend and should, as far as possible, be compatible, providing both the importing and the exporting countries with a market which is wider, to a certain extent freer, and consequently more fluid.

We know that there is a responsibility towards the emerging world market for telecommunication equipment and, as a major consumer of technology in implementing some of the most ambitious programmes to be carried out in a developing country, to which I have already referred in part, we believe that it is extremely important to lay down standards for adapting technology with a view to moving gradually towards a universal market. In taking up offers from the exporting countries, the importing countries need

to be sure that equipments and systems are fully compatible with those with which they will interface, without too great a cost to the world communications network. The exporting nations, for their part, need markets on which they are able to offer their products without encountering any connection difficulties. If this objective can be achieved, we shall have made substantial progress towards reducing the yawning communications gap separating the developed and the developing countries.

The developing countries should be fully represented on the Administrative Council, which has important tasks to perform and takes decisions with significant repercussions not only for technology but also for the economy of those nations which are endeavouring with all their might to make good a quantitative and qualitative shortfall in the field of communications.

Colombia has regularly taken an active part in ITU conferences and its views have coincided with those expressed by countries with similar social and economic conditions. The course it has followed within the ITU has thus been to interpret the needs of the developing countries in the light of its own experiences so as to reconcile them with major technological advances in the industrialized countries.

For the reasons I mentioned earlier, which in part reflect our country's telecommunication policy, Colombia is standing for re-election as a Member of the Union's Administrative Council, having regard to the statutory distribution of seats in the geographical area to which it belongs. I sincerely believe that our presence in the Council enables us better to share the considerable experience we have acquired over recent years in the financing and establishment of rural telephone networks. I am making this comment because Colombia's name does not appear in the documents concerning candidacies which have been issued so far, despite the fact that our intentions were made known to Member nations through the appropriate channels.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing our gratitude for the work performed by Mr. Richard E. Butler, Secretary-General of the Union. We have been able to count on his support and understanding at all times and, thanks to his considerable intellectual abilities, the decisions taken by the ITU during all these years have invariably been carefully weighed and designed to further the Union's main objectives.

My country also wishes to pay a tribute to all those who have worked alongside Mr. Butler to such beneficial effect.

Our special thanks, of course, go to France and the city of Nice for their generous hospitality.

Finally, it is our hope that the discussions, outcome and decisions of this Conference will promote the Union's objectives and principles and bring us closer to the day when scientific and technological progress may be used by all the nations of the world for the benefit of mankind as a whole and for world peace and security."

6.4 The Minister of Communications of India made the following statement:

"It is my privilege and honour, as the Minister in charge of Telecommunications in the Government of India to address this august assembly. The deliberations in the next few weeks are going to handle complex issues and momentous decisions on matters connected with the development of world telecommunications are expected to emerge from this assembly.

The International Telecommunication Union represents a remarkable example of consistent and continuous cooperation amongst all the Member countries, for more than a century, dating back from 1865. India had the honour of participating in this global

endeavour since 1868 when it became a Member of the Union. However, the real contribution by India in this regard began after her independence in 1947.

I am happy to recall in this context that the Union was born in Paris, France in 1865. This august assembly is also being held in this beautiful city of Nice in France. I have no hesitation to add that the French ways of excellent and spontaneous communication will prevail in the Conference, not only in official meetings but in informal discussions and consultations, as well.

The development of world-wide telecommunications and, in turn, the successful role of the Union has been based on the corner-stone of the spirit of 'international cooperation'. It is with the help of international cooperation that all countries are striving to reduce inequalities that exist amongst many of them in the area of telecommunications. The Government of India has given recognition to telecommunication as an essential infrastructure and catalyst for nation building and development. In a country like ours, it provides a unique means to unite our culturally diverse people, to enhance mutual goodwill and to promote proximity with people located in remote and inaccessible places.

The report of the International Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development, popularly known as 'The Missing Link' Report, was an important development as a result of the decisions taken at the 1982 Plenipotentiary Conference. I am happy to recall that India made significant contributions to the work of this Commission. This Report has proposed that the Union should take the lead to ensure that virtually the whole of mankind should be within the easy reach of a telephone by the early part of the next century. This is a challenging task not only to the Union but to the developing countries. The Government of India has plans to develop telecommunication networks in line with this objective. My Government has taken many important policy decisions for the telecommunications sector in order to promote and accelerate indigenous manufacture and research and for according functional autonomy to the concerned agencies.

At this juncture, it is my duty to recall that the foundation for an excellent telecommunication network in my country was laid by our first Prime Minister and a great visionary, Mr. Jawahar Lal Nehru, by establishing the Indian Telephone Industries in Bangalore in 1948, as the first public sector undertaking. We have adopted an approach of self-reliance in the development of an efficient national telecommunication network. Under the direction of our dynamic Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, telecommunication is included as one of the six national technology missions. In order to develop modern switching technology, taking into account special problems in the Indian environment, the Government has followed a novel approach by establishing an autonomous Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) in 1984. The results from this innovative approach have started demonstrating the indigenous capability in design and development of state-of-art digital electronic switching systems for the country. Research and development activities are being strengthened in other areas of telecommunications with the objective of achieving self-reliance.

Since Independence, the country has made great strides in the development of telecommunication networks and services. Starting with only about 80,000 telephone connections way back in 1947 when we gained Independence, we today have more than 4 million telephone connections. The unsatisfied demand for new telephones is of the order of 3 million. As a developing country, we are facing the challenge of having to find investable resources for the network as the demands for telecommunication services are rapidly rising. We are, therefore, working on a perspective plan for the year 2000 A.D. We anticipate that we will be able to provide about 20 million telephone connections by that time. As distinguished delegates are aware, 75% of the people in my country live in about 575,000 villages. We have to go very far for providing a

telephone in each of these villages and we look forward for most effective technologies to do so in the shortest time. In parallel with the expansion of conventional terrestrial telecommunication systems, we have been effectively using our domestic satellite system for providing nationwide coverage of television programmes as well as bringing the remote localities, island communities and hill areas into the national mainstream.

I am conscious that in our national endeavour in the development of telecommunications, we have benefitted immensely and in a variety of ways by the active cooperation of the Union and its Organs. A fine example of this cooperation is the establishment of an Experimental Satellite Earth Station of the Department of Space in Ahmedabad about three decades back. During the mid-seventies the Advanced Level Telecommunication Training Centre was set up at Ghaziabad. We are proud to offer the facilities of this Centre to trainees from developing countries. I would like to reiterate that we are ever willing to cooperate with our brother countries to share our experience and expertise in telecommunications.

This Conference is meeting at a very crucial juncture in the history of telecommunications. The telecommunication technologies have advanced dramatically in the recent years and the Union has to find ways and means to be able to respond to them effectively and quickly. Like many individual countries, the Union is also constrained by limitations of financial resources in charting out its activities. Nevertheless, I firmly believe that the spirit of international cooperation and goodwill which has sustained the Union since its inception, will prevail. The successful deliberations and near unanimous decisions of the recent World Administrative Conference of the Union, provide optimism in this regard. My country is convinced that there is no alternative to international cooperation and goodwill as the essential basis for furthering the purposes and objectives of the Union. It would also be necessary to establish the structure of the Union in such a manner as would take care of the changing environment in the field of telecommunications. It will be our endeavour to promote and support all measures and proposals which would strengthen this unique basis of the Union. I am sure that this Conference will take decisions which will provide firm guiding principles for ushering the Union into the last decade of this century.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, and all others for the patient hearing given to me."

6.5 The Minister of Communications of Algeria made the following statement:

"Allow me first of all to congratulate you on your election as Chairman at this session of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which is being held against a background of profound change, entailing major technological, economic, social and cultural challenges for the international community, and more particularly for the developing countries.

Your personal qualities and your country's positive attitude in efforts to establish a more just international economic order augur well for the success of our work.

You will undoubtedly be assisted in your work, Mr. Chairman, as will delegations in theirs, by the excellent preparations made for this Conference. For that we have to thank the devoted staff of the ITU. Our Conference has to elect a new Secretary-General, but I could not fail to say once again to Mr. Butler how much we appreciate everything he has achieved at the head of our organization. For his untiring efforts to alert governments to the importance of telecommunications in the development process, for the perseverance and ingenuity he has shown in promoting different forms of international cooperation within the Union's sphere of competence, for all his eminent qualities, we owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Butler.

Mr. Chairman,

Since the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, the international economic situation has continued under the shadow of the crisis. The developing countries in particular are suffering the negative fall-out from an unfavourable international environment which seriously handicaps their development efforts.

The telecommunication sector strikingly illustrates the way the gap between developing and developed countries has deepened. The Report of the Independent Commission for Telecommunications Development, very appropriately entitled 'The Missing Link', shows that clearly. To take just the example of the African continent, at a time when it has to face a considerable burden of debt servicing, when its commodity export receipts are steadily declining, is it not significant that the Conference on Telecommunications Development in Africa (Tunis, January 1987) should have estimated that an investment of no less than US \$ 60 billion was necessary to ensure a density of no more than two telephones per 100 inhabitants in Africa by the year 2000?

At a time when telecommunications are undergoing a veritable transformation, when spectacular progress is being made in information technology, digitization and integration of services, the overwhelming majority of people still do not have access to the minimum services which are today a feature of prosperity and progress and an essential factor in the process of economic and social development.

This indicates the importance of the challenges for the decade of the 1990's, which will underlie the work of this Plenipotentiary Conference. It also indicates the volume of resources the ITU will have to help mobilize in order to ensure that the telecommunication sector participates to the extent of its ability in the process of reviving development and establishing a genuinely world-wide telecommunication network to serve international cooperation and understanding between peoples. Greater and more consistent support for efforts to develop the telecommunication infrastructure, the promotion of genuine transfer of technology, and interconnection of networks - those are the three aspects that need to be tackled in a spirit of cooperation if we are to achieve the objective which is the very essence of the Union's task.

Mr. Chairman,

The rapid evolution of the telecommunication environment, the different approaches to regulation, constitute a new challenge. In this context, the Union's work in the field of regulation and coordination should conform to established world technical standards which are accepted by all Member countries and which protect the interests of all countries. In our opinion, the present set-up in the International Radio Consultative Committee, a permanent organ of the Union, offers an appropriate forum for this purpose one which meets the expectations of most Member countries.

In a different but equally important area, Algeria considers that despite the dialogue and collaboration there has been in the Union in recent years, particularly in the field of access to the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite orbit, much still remains to be done in order to arrive at a fair distribution of the orbit-spectrum resource, and our Conference is the appropriate forum for the adoption of provisions that will meet these hopes. We can say here that the International Frequency Registration Board, another permanent organ of the Union, has always given full satisfaction. The Group of Experts' study on the Board's long-term future has clearly indicated that the present structure is the most appropriate one. We fully share this conclusion.

Among the other decisions expected from this Conference, Algeria hopes to see included in the calendar of future conferences and meetings of the Union a world administrative conference to plan the HF broadcasting service.

The relaxation in the world's political climate and the frequently expressed willingness of Member countries to reach equitable solutions give us every confidence that the difficulties that have so far prevented the planning of this service have been overcome.

Mr. Chairman,

It is our collective task, at this Conference, to give new impetus to the Union's role in the field of technical cooperation. A reinvigoration of that role, accompanied by the mobilization of additional resources to support the efforts of developing countries would enable them, at a time when they have to face a difficult economic situation, to give due priority to the development of their telecommunications, which cannot fail, in their turn, to induce growth in other spheres of economic activity.

The Union should, in this context, endeavour to give special attention to strengthening South-South cooperation, and in particular to promoting regional and subregional cooperation, basing itself, as far as possible, on strengthened capacity of its own in the conduct of its technical cooperation activities.

Mr. Chairman,

At the time when our Conference is being held, our deep sympathy goes to all the oppressed peoples who have no access to telecommunication services and the benefits they bring. To all such peoples, whose lands have been usurped and who thus do not have sovereign use of the resources that would enable them to obtain telecommunication services, we express our solidarity and our support in their freedom struggle. We particularly welcome the Intifadha waged by the youth of Palestine, who, at the cost of considerable sacrifice, are doing more every day to realize the Palestinian people's aspirations to freedom and independence.

Mr. Chairman,

A strengthening of the United Nations system is more than ever on the agenda at a time when a new international development strategy is being prepared for the decade that begins in a few months' time. The results of this session should foreshadow a renewal of international cooperation. They could be the signal for the improvement in the international political climate in recent years to spread to the sphere of cooperation. It is up to all of us to help bring that about. In this field, Algeria will spare no effort to achieve the praiseworthy ends the Union has set itself for the benefit of present and future generations.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I do not want to end my statement without wishing the Conference every success in its work and assuring you of the Algerian Delegation's full cooperation.

Once again, my congratulations, Mr. Chairman, and my best wishes for success in guiding the work of the Conference. Thank you."

6.6 The Minister of Communications of Kuwait made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Mr. Secretary-General, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to extend to you, Mr. Chairman, warm congratulations upon your election to chair this important event. This Conference does not only connect countries of the world in the subject of telecommunications, but also in the spirit of

international cooperation which aims towards the benefit of humanity. Additionally, I wish to extend to the Vice-Chairmen, Chairmen of the Committees and their deputies, my heartiest congratulations for attaining these important posts. I am quite certain that the confidence accorded by this forum to all the officers of the Conference shall provide us with the anticipated results in the coming years.

Mr. Chairman, I feel bound at this stage to praise the most constructive and leading role that Mr. Butler has undertaken since his appointment as Secretary-General of the Union. Through his efforts many achievements, which will have a positive impact upon the future of the Union, have been realized. Naturally, we have assumed that Mr. Butler will be renominated for a further term, but we regret to hear that for personal reasons, he has declined renomination to the post of Secretary-General. I wish him well and continued success in his future life.

Mr. Chairman, if we review these past years, since the last Plenipotentiary Conference, we will surely note a number of accomplishments which must be pointed out in this Conference, as the new foundations to the future of our Union.

As an example of such accomplishments:

- the end results of the Assemblies of the CCITT and CCIR and what they have produced as standards for telecommunications;
- the World Administrative Radio Conference on the Use of the Geostationary-Satellite Orbit and the Planning of Space Services Utilizing It. The objective of this Conference was to ensure allocations, in relation to geostationary orbits, to all countries of the world on equal bases, as well as in relation to the utilization of the frequency spectrum used for space telecommunication; and
- the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference which produced important international Regulations that will serve us through the next decade of this century.

Mr. Chairman, the economic process through which the world has passed since the Nairobi Conference in 1982, in particular the fall and rise of the various commercial markets, has significantly highlighted the importance of telecommunication. We all know when an economy is negatively affected; it would place a drain on funds, and such lost funds could have been used for the development of telecommunications. To confront such economic shortages the world has looked towards a new breed of telecommunication generation, from which resulted new policies different to those of the past.

Countries began to look towards new horizons in telecommunication; the developed world was first to be affected by such new trends which have consequently clearly affected the developing countries. Therefore in this Conference we should try to take account of the position of the developing countries towards this most recent evolution of telecommunication, so that it does not cause any undue problems to them. It is felt that developed countries would need to contribute as much as possible in resolving some of the problems faced by the developing countries, in order that an international telecommunication community of equal dimensions is established.

Looking forward towards a new future is an issue closely related to the document; the Secretary-General has prepared for future policies, through the work of a Group of Experts, under the title of 'The Changing Telecommunication Environment'. This work contains considerations and positions of relevance to the future of developed and developing countries. However, in this document we are confronted with some new concepts, that we may not have seen in the past. We believe that certain problems may ensue from such concepts due to a number of reasons; the most important of which is the

traditional way in which the telecommunication industry has been run. What we need to look into, in this document however, is in a basic manner, the future position of the Union on how to prepare a developed structure of telecommunication, bearing in mind the needs of its Members.

When we talk of the future, we are always met with the new trend of giving independence to telecommunication activities. This is a topical subject of our time, but let me assure you that if such independence means dedication towards improvement of services, development of technologies, provision of service to almost every individual in the community with reasonable costs and an objective of developing the infrastructure for proper management systems, we believe that this is the independence we require, not a system developed purely for capital gains without any benefit to the world community in general.

Mr. Chairman, one of the important functions of this Plenipotentiary Conference is to elect members of the International Frequency Registration Board. In our opinion, this is one of the most important organs of the Union and provides the essence of telecommunication operations. We recommend that full support is given to this Board and that it maintains its individual independence as an international entity undertaking work in accordance with objectives provided by our Conference. Additionally, we believe that full cooperation should exist between the Board and the Union Secretariat, in order to realize its objectives.

The subject of technical cooperation, which the Union undertakes to execute, is another vital issue which needs to be further enhanced. In this regard it should obtain a bigger share of the Union funds, agreed upon in this Conference. Developed countries and telecommunication manufacturing countries should endeavour to contribute towards an advanced international atmosphere in technical cooperation programmes for telecommunications.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I wish to inform you that the State of Kuwait has submitted a paper containing proposals for the work of the Conference which includes amendments that we see necessary on the two main documents under consideration, namely the 'Constitution' and the 'Convention'.

Furthermore, I hope that all distinguished delegates will work amongst themselves in a manner which will produce the results expected of this Conference and which will support the advancement of the Union.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

6.7 The Minister of Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones of the Islamic Republic of Iran made the following statement:

"IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE COMPASSIONATE, THE MERCIFUL

There is little doubt that the multitude of highly important and sensitive topics demanding the immediate attention of the international telecommunication community, coupled with the wide spectrum of viewpoints on these topics by Member States, combine to make this Plenipotentiary Conference one of the most demanding and potentially historic gatherings in the long history of the Union.

At the same time, the successful outcome of the tumultuous WATTC-88 meeting in Melbourne raises the hope that with appropriate attention to international telecommunication prerequisites, the need to reduce the telecommunication gap between the industrial and developing nations, and the necessity of taking into consideration the interests of all members of the telecommunication community, this Conference, too,

will rise to the occasion and guide us out of our present difficulties. We for our part are of the belief that with due exercise of cooperation, compromise and forward-looking policies, the distinguished delegates in this Conference will accept their share of responsibility in the attainment of international goals and the successful implementation of Union policies.

Mr. Chairman,

The convening of the Conference in France, a country which has always played an important role in the progress of the Union, truly reinforces our hope in the successful outcome of this Conference.

We nurture the hope that France's continuing assistance to the international telecommunication community will reflect its national slogan of Liberté, Egalité and Fraternité, bringing about a more balanced distribution of international telecommunication capabilities.

Let me also congratulate you, Mr. Grenier, on your appointment to the Chairmanship of this historic gathering. I have no doubt that your considerable diplomatic skills and organizational talents, coupled with the utilization of the substantial pool of knowledge and experience available at the Conference will result in a successful Conference in which world telecommunication problems will be seriously addressed, internationally acceptable solutions found and the foundations of the Union strengthened.

Mr. Chairman,

There are undoubtedly many urgent topics awaiting the attention of this gathering, each with its own relative importance and urgency. However, I am sure we are all in agreement on the fact that the most important subject to which the Conference must address itself is the role of the Union itself and the ways and means by which it can be supported and strengthened.

We believe that in this Conference, the Union must be so empowered as to enable it to properly undertake its historic mission, that being the maintenance and extension of international cooperation in telecommunications, and the promotion of the development of technical facilities for the utilization of technological advances. Only in this way will the Union be able to render the sincere assistance expected of it by its Members, in particular those of the developing nations whose need for assistance in the better utilization of their limited resources is greatest, and whose expectations for the return on their contributions is clearly justified.

I should add however that the task of the strengthening the Union and paying due attention to technological progress and international competition, should in no way serve as an excuse for negation or nullification of the all-important basis for international cooperation, that being respect for the sovereign right of the Member States in drawing up their telecommunication policies. It is imperative that the Union adequately familiarizes itself with the facts and realities of the status of telecommunications throughout the world. Failure to take into account such realities will quickly result in the dissipation of the Union's effectiveness and credibility.

Mr. Chairman,

We are well aware of the difficulty of drawing up general and governing principles that will maintain their effectiveness over a period of several years, especially at a time when, almost daily, innovations and new operational techniques create new possibilities. We should all be aware of such difficulties and should adjust our expectations accordingly. It is quite rational to expect that we shall not resolve

all of the problems confronting us in this Conference, and no doubt future gatherings shall supplement and finalize many of the decisions made here. However, what is of the utmost importance is that in this Conference overall agreement must be reached as to the general principles that shall govern the activities of the Union for the next several years, in particular those related to the closing of the widening gap between telecommunications of the developing and industrial nations.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

We should bear in mind that the majority of the developing nations, who incidentally constitute the majority at this Conference, are searching for economically optimum solutions for the establishment of their telecommunication services. These countries are hopeful that international competition will eventually benefit those who meet their telecommunication needs in international markets.

We believe that the Union must play a more active and effective role in response to the needs of this majority in this regard. As an example of such undertakings, the CCIs Recommendations may be cited. The vital role of these Recommendations, though proven in matters related to interconnectivity and interoperability of networks, is not so readily apparent when viewed in the context of moderating the cost of the establishment of such facilities.

Mr. Chairman,

While confirming the effectiveness of the Union's activities in recent years in respect of the establishment of the importance of telecommunications in development plans, we feel an increase of such activities is very much in place, particularly in two domains. The first is the development of formulae by means of which developing nations could, either independently or with the cooperation of ITU experts, better evaluate their telecommunication sectors and the impact of this sector on their other national affairs. Second is the development of the fundamentals of several hypothetical strategic models for telecommunication development, both for national and international networks, for use by developing countries in their studies and policies related to such networks.

We, for our part, are willing to cooperate in these tasks, for we believe that such activities not only assist the realization of Union goals, but also constitute meaningful assistance to developing nations.

In the same vein, we consider an increase in the activities of the Union in bringing about increased motivation for greater contributions for use in the development of telecommunication networks in some developing countries, to be effective and beneficial, and as such should be forcefully pursued.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

Let me take this opportunity to say a few words on the 'African Broadcasting Plan'. The progress of this Plan has been somewhat hindered by the unique circumstances existing in the neighbouring countries, which have in effect made planning for this area almost impossible.

With a view to Iran's sincere interest in the successful completion of this Plan and our wish to remove all existing obstacles to its implementation, concurrent with efforts rendered by the Secretary-General and the Board, we have proposed a programme of action which is presently under the review of the neighbouring countries. The merit of this programme is that, irrespective of the progress of the planning in the neighbouring countries, planning for the main body can move ahead and be finalized.

We believe that agreement on such a programme by all concerned, and concurrence by the Plenipotentiaries, will result in a solution acceptable to all interested parties.

On the subject of the efficiency of the Union, we consider that the strengthening of the staff and management of the Union, and a review of its organizational structure warrants further attention. We believe that only through utilization of qualified experts, fully familiar with the latest technologies, and through the application of modern management techniques, will the Union be able to further improve the efficiency of its activities.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

Recently, we in Iran celebrated the 120th anniversary of our membership in the Union. During all these years we have always tried to make a positive and meaningful contribution to the activities of the Union. In more recent years we have strived to meet our international responsibilities through active participation in Union gatherings. Our experts have chaired several Study Groups and their recommendations have been mostly accepted and incorporated into the Union's Study Programmes.

For the future, we plan to increase our participation in the activities of the Union. We hope that the distinguished delegates from other Member States will grant us the honour of having the opportunity to participate more fully in the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Union.

In closing, I wish you, Mr. Chairman, the greatest success in your guidance of this historic Conference, and I sincerely hope that the spirit of cooperation amongst the distinguished delegates will overcome any obstacles that may appear on the road to achieving an acceptable and efficient world order in international telecommunications.

INSHALLAH"

6.8 The Minister of Communications of Malta made the following statement:

"First of all, on behalf of the Government of Malta I should like to convey to you, Mr. Chairman, my congratulations on your election to the Chairmanship. My sincere wish, and I feel sure that I speak for all the delegates present, is that you will guide us round the unavoidable difficulties, which are bound to arise before this Conference is over and to help us reach a consensus on what should, after all, be a common aim - that of providing speedy and efficient telecommunications world-wide.

Next, I feel I must, very briefly, put Malta on the world map for you - an archipelago of six islands, the largest of which measures some 250 square kilometers and sitting in the very centre of the Mediterranean basin. The population is of approximately 350,000 and we are blessed with an equitable climate.

We have now, thanks to the ITU, reached the stage of being able to provide a telephone set for every two persons by the year 2000; which means that the telephone network, by the same year, is expected to reach the 200,000 mark.

Malta this year celebrates her 25th anniversary as a sovereign State in a politically stable climate. My Administration is currently following a policy which, through the enactment of appropriate legislation and, more importantly, by upgrading Malta's infrastructure, will establish our island as a centre for offshore and service industries.

With a policy which contemplates only serious long-term plans as the backbone of economic recovery, Malta has begun to implement a Master Plan jointly prepared by ITU Experts and their Maltese counterparts. This is well within schedule and should update Malta's infrastructure to satisfy the rigorous standards set by larger industrialized countries. This Plan was completed in one year within the scope of the UNDP/ITU Technical Cooperation project and with the complementary Voluntary Programme support from the Governments of Brazil and Italy and from the ITU's Group of Engineers.

By September of this year, a firm of international repute will have set up an international exchange with a capacity of 2,000 ports. By the year 1990, the same firm would have also completed work on ten local exchanges with a total of 74,000 new digital lines, laid 100 km of fibre optic cable between existing exchanges, installed a network of radio links for transmission between exchanges and set up a centralized control and maintenance system for the whole network. Telemalta personnel will also be trained locally and abroad, and supervision of the functioning equipment will be provided by the firm for a period of two years.

Malta, however, is not a passive seeker of benefits and is determined to make valid contributions, at least in kind. We have established this by acting out the lead role of coordinating regional matters, on the economic and financial aspects of telecommunications, within the framework of the European Telecommunications Development Project.

During the past few years we have been closely associated with the Technical Cooperation Department of the ITU and have also, more recently, derived benefit from technical expertise provided by the Centre for Telecommunications Development, to which in reciprocation and within our limitations we have pledged in kind contributions.

From where we stand we cannot but give whole-hearted support to Mr. Butler's continued efforts at pursuing relentlessly the necessary reforms which will make the ITU a more effective tool in achieving universality in the field of telecommunications.

We are fully aware of the increasing financial strain under which the CTD and the TCD, for different reasons, are operating, and, as we understand it, one of the objectives of this Conference, as proposed by the Maitland Commission, is the consideration of the merger option concerning these two bodies.

Now that my Government has decided to go all out to update telecommunications to internationally-accepted standards and that the ITU/UNDP tandem has so concerned itself with our affairs in this respect by helping us in achieving our aims, our preoccupation today lies not so much with the source of the aid required if we are to overcome our particular problems but focuses rather on the time factor in relation to the development of telecommunications on a global scale, particularly in achieving universality and interconnectivity. It is of the essence for each Member country to recognize where its responsibilities lie and, having done so, to take the necessary action with as little delay as possible if the ITU is to find continued financial support to fulfill its obligations - it appears, however, that whilst there is consensus on certain issues, the necessary finances have not been forthcoming. And here, please allow me to refer to the Secretary-General's clearly enunciated appraisal of industry in failing to provide the proffered annual working capital for a more viable Centre for Telecommunications Development.

Some here have expressed their preference for evolution in contrast with revolution and perhaps the Centre has not been allowed enough time to evolve. For this reason we feel that we should propose that the Conference direct the Administrative Council to take a decision with regard to the merger issue, a year from now.

Having said this, however, we feel that it would be indeed a waste of time to wait out the full year if the financial status quo of the Centre is maintained.

As I pointed out earlier on, equal in importance with the financial aspect is the time consideration in the race for early interconnectivity. There is no doubt that there exists bodies within the ITU where Member representation is not always adequately equipped to take the necessary decisions within an effective time-scale. For this reason, we propose that between each Plenipotentiary Conference preparatory meetings, made up of the necessary political muscle, are held perhaps every three years. While ensuring more direct first-hand political participation and involvement in the overall development of world telecommunications, this could mean universality today instead of tomorrow or the day after!

Last December, in Melbourne, Australia, delegates from 113 Member nations of the International Telecommunication Union came together for the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference. This historic event gave birth to the first integrated global administrative instrument for telecommunications. The primary objective was to provide a framework for Administrative Regulations appropriate for the technological, operational and diverse national regulatory environments which are so rapidly evolving today. The challenge, therefore, was of finding unity in diversity. WATTC-88 was a personal feather in Mr. Butler's cap.

In conclusion, on behalf of my Government, I cannot but pay tribute to the one man who has put at the disposal of my country the resources of the ITU which have mattered most.

Mr. Richard Butler, during his seven years as Secretary-General of the ITU, plotted the safest course which global telecommunications were to follow. He steered, almost single-handedly, Member countries on the course, sometimes through calm waters, more often than not through the very eye of the storm.

Being voted Number 1 in Communications Week International's list of the 25 most influential people in the communications community shows just how much power Richard Butler could wield globally during his term of office. That he has done so with a singular aim in mind - to successfully bring the information age within our grasp - will assure him of a place of honour in the annals of the history of world communications - by no means a mean feat for any man! He certainly holds this place in Malta's heart! Richard Butler is retiring this year and, by his own admission will not seek re-election. He has also made it clear that he will not be put to pasture!

Much remains to be done in a field which, we all agree, cannot admit to a limit. For how can one limit man's inventive genius? We only have to glance over our shoulder at our past to gain an insight into what may lie ahead.

Knowledge, experience and diplomacy are an invaluable mix in helping us to reach out ever further in the exploration of our universe in search of wisdom which is, after all, the end product of all information. While we shall continue to strive for its attainment with the help of the man who is to succeed Mr. Butler, we must at the same time recognize the limitations imposed on our genius by our very humanity and ask God's help to give us the strength and humility to recognize that before we reach out for the stars we must accept to reach out towards each other as equal, indispensable members of the same human race."

6.9 The Secretary of State for Communications of Mexico made the following statement:

"I am very pleased to have this opportunity to address this distinguished gathering, where the great majority of the countries of the international community are represented, to face the arduous task of considering the many questions on the agenda of this Conference, whose deliberations it is hoped will produce decisions which will both strengthen the organization and serve to promote telecommunication services in all regions of the world in an ordered and equitable way, for the benefit of our nations and of mankind in general.

In this connection, I would like to recall that 124 years ago on French territory a smaller number of States adopted the first Convention and the first Telegraph Regulations, and founded the International Telegraph Union, an organization which in the course of time became our own International Telecommunication Union, which itself has had to evolve in order to adapt to a changing environment and not fall behind in the field of telecommunications.

As the specialized agency of the United Nations for telecommunications, the ITU is the governing organ world-wide for the standardization, regulation and planning of telecommunications and for the management of the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite orbit. The purpose of the debates over the next five weeks should be to strengthen this governing role of the Union and the decisions taken in this respect should be reflected appropriately in the Constitution and in the new Convention, which most probably will be adopted at this Conference.

In this respect, it is worth remembering that in this era of Telematics, when the combination of telecommunications and computing has produced a powerful impact on public telecommunication services, the traditional concepts of telegraphy and telephony have to be modified to take account of the new services and the value-added services which have appeared as a result of technological advances and user demand. Another factor which has been affecting the field of telecommunications is related to the negotiations of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which are being completed in Uruguay on the marketing of services. In this context, the ITU should be in a position to produce the necessary technical standards when required and to adapt the international regulatory framework to the present situation, without disregarding the sovereignty and national laws of its Members. In this respect, a first step was taken at the last CCITT Plenary Assembly and at the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference, which were held in Melbourne at the end of 1988.

This Conference, after considering the structure and working methods of the Union, should establish policies enabling the ITU to reaffirm its role. It is advisable, however, to proceed with caution in order to initiate changes within a longer-term prospect in an environment of greater competitiveness, while taking advantage of the faster pace of technological advances. A change of structures will be needed together with a reasonable assurance of greater efficiency and equity in the development of telecommunication systems.

I have no doubt that in the days ahead the debates will be difficult and lengthy in view of the diversity and importance of the subjects to be considered and the differences in points of view. Nevertheless, all those taking part in the debates should, as on earlier occasions, demonstrate their sense of cooperation and good faith, and should work with imagination and with a cooperative spirit to find solutions which are equitable and satisfactory for all.

One aspect which we consider to be extremely important for developing countries is the need at one and the same time to face two kinds of telecommunication services. On the one hand, there are the higher quality and technologically more sophisticated

services, which can enable our economies to be competitive both internally and externally, with respect to industry, trade, tourism and the productive and distributive system in general, which will be increasingly orientated towards foreign markets.

On the other hand there is the need substantially to extend the coverage of services to the whole population in rural areas and to the more deprived sectors in towns, with a view to moving more rapidly towards a universal service, an area in which the differences between industrialized and developing countries are dramatic. The levels of service coverage are above 90% in the industrialized countries compared with less than 20% in the majority of developing countries.

Technology and technical cooperation should contribute significantly towards helping the developing countries achieve balanced progress towards a more efficient and modern world telecommunications system, as well as greater coverage and equity to favour socio-economic development.

Mr. Chairman, Secretary-General, Delegates,

I would like to express the wish that harmony and sound judgement will govern your deliberations and that success will reward your efforts, in the interest both of the Union and of mankind, bearing in mind that telecommunications are a factor of progress contributing to the economic, social, cultural and political development of peoples."

6.10 The Secretary of State for Posts and Telecommunications of the German Democratic Republic made the following statement:

"Permit me, Mr. Chairman, to start with the expression of my sincere congratulations on your election and of my best wishes for successful work. Also I want to congratulate all elected officials of the Conference.

In particular, I would like to express my high appreciation of our praiseworthy hosts. In the year of the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution, the Members of the International Telecommunication Union, the authoritative agency of the United Nations, devotedly serving the peaceful development of international telecommunications, have met here in Nice.

As the Plenipotentiary Conference is convened in France in such a significant year of the history of this country, let me take this for a good omen.

The Plenipotentiary Conference, being held in Nice in 1989, is facing the target to discuss the development of telecommunication up to the end of this century as well as possible developments with regard to a longer period, and is to take appropriate decisions. Each of the attending Members will in any way have to deal with that task in its own country too, and will have to contribute to meeting the challenge of the target.

Therefore, the stimulations to be provided by this Conference will have effects world-wide indeed.

For my country, I can say that the German Democratic Republic has been prepared since the first day of its membership of the Union, not only to give verbal contributions, but to play an active role in meeting the challenge of the target. As a Member of the Administrative Council, the German Democratic Republic saw its very part in making active contributions to a full performance of the Nairobi decisions.

International telecommunications have undergone a successful time since the previous Plenipotentiary Conference, since the latter brought out numerous features for the activities of the ITU. In this connection, let me point out the more consequent consideration of economic questions and observance of the available resources.

The duties and questions which the ITU has to deal with are being considered more and more from an economic point of view. Not only the determination of the annual ITU budget within the limits set out by the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference is proving this. Members of the Administrative Council have been endeavouring to fulfill the binding tasks, adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nairobi, 1982) in the interest and with the mandate of all Members of the Union. As the Members of the Union during the previous years were guided by their efforts to comply with the jointly elaborated and finally, jointly adopted provisions, they have to become aware now of the often quite difficult actual tasks to be tackled.

The ITU is now facing a qualitative change in its activities. The Delegation of the German Democratic Republic holds the view that ITU activities should be directed even more at taking account of the rapid developments of science and technology, for instance in micro-electronics computer technology and telecommunication equipment, because the development of telecommunications has reached a speed never before seen in its history. Therefore, the ITU is facing new tasks, which require a flexible and suitable reaction adapted to scientific-technological progress. If the ITU wishes to further keep up with its leading and universal role as the competent specialized agency of the United Nations for telecommunications, it must, recognizing the actual requirements, inter alia, speed up its standardization work and the adoption of its recommendations and decisions. Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me to invite your attention to the fact that it is time for the Union, the General Secretariat, the CCIs and the IFRB to take further appropriate measures to organize their work in a more effective and hence efficient manner.

For this reason, the Delegation of the German Democratic Republic holds the view that such future tasks in their character and substance should be considered by the Plenipotentiary Conference. However, the maintenance of the proved organizational structures of the Union should not be disregarded, when considering future tasks.

The previous activities of the International Telecommunication Union and the joint actions of its Members have led to a world-wide recognized progress in promoting telecommunications. Hence, the Union should continuously maintain its good and successful manner, among others even the proved organizational structures. However, at the same time, it should be prepared to apply new working methods and, if necessary, to revise its current organization of work and seek its possible enhancement.

In this context, continuity and innovation should be combined and practical steps should be taken.

As Head of the Delegation of the German Democratic Republic, I assure you, Ladies and Gentlemen, that we will continue to act in this sense and contribute to the continuously successful development of the ITU."

6.11 Professor Stojanović of Yugoslavia made the following statement:

"Please allow me, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you on your election and to express my Delegation's strong conviction that the Conference under your guiding hand will meet the expectations of all participants.

It is a privilege for me, on behalf of the Yugoslav Government, to extend our greetings to all the delegates and senior officials of the ITU and our best wishes for the productive work and success of the Conference.

My Delegation would also like to express its gratitude to the French Administration for agreeing to organize the Plenipotentiary Conference in France, a country which has constantly contributed to the global progress of mankind, where telecommunications are among the most developed in the world and which these days is celebrating the bicentenary of the French Revolution, which was such an important event in the history of mankind.

I believe that the motto of the French Revolution could currently be applied to our Union, considering that liberty is reflected in the free circulation of information and goods, that equality is expressed in the guarantee of equal rights for all Members to use telecommunication facilities and natural resources and that fraternity for the Members of the Union represents a bond of solidarity and friendship in common activities for the benefit of all.

My country was among the first Members of the Union. Since then it has taken part in all its activities and has unreservedly supported the idea of international cooperation among all nations and all countries for a rational use of telecommunications of all kinds, for the continual development of technical possibilities and their most effective application for the benefit of developing countries as well as developed countries, to ensure the progress of mankind.

We consider indeed that telecommunications constitute a key factor of economic, commercial, social and cultural activity in the industrialized countries and a driving force of positive growth in most developing countries.

Our wish is that the disparity which exists between these two groups of countries may diminish as soon as possible, not only from the point of view of the role of telecommunications, but from the point of view of mankind itself.

This is why my Administration, in the light of this problem and others, considers the role of the ITU to be irreplaceable.

On the other hand, the environment in which telecommunications exist is changing from day to day, giving rise to new challenges for the community as a whole and for the ITU in particular.

Mr. Chairman,

It is true that organizations which are long-lasting possess a rich tradition and valid experience. It is also true, however, that from time to time they reach a decisive point at which their working methods and their structures are no longer adequately adapted to the requirements imposed by real life. We now wonder whether the ITU has not reached this point at present.

If so, my Delegation is fully confident that this Conference, on the basis of the proposals made during the preparatory period by the administrations and by the permanent organs of the Union and Groups of Experts, will be able to restructure the Union and to map out new paths so that the Union and its working methods may adapt as well as possible to the challenges of the new telecommunications environment.

If the Union was able to keep pace with innovations in telecommunications in general, there would be no problem.

In order not to remain too much in the realm of theory, I would like to refer to certain queries or dilemmas experienced by my Delegation.

We would, for instance, like to see greater efficiency in some of the fields of activity of the CCITT, CCIR, IFRB and the General Secretariat in the area of technical cooperation. Now and again we have the feeling that some of these organs, rather than being a driving force, are actually slowing down the natural development and application of advances which have been made. Take, for instance, the four-year period required for the approval of new and revised Recommendations between two Plenary Assemblies. Of course, it is not the people involved who are to blame; it is the system itself. There again, are all the costly documents published by the CCITT and CCIR really indispensable and useful? How many of the administrations of developing countries or even others can use these documents? In the same category, I might add the Radio Regulations, which are very or even excessively complex, or the International Frequency Register, which is not very accurate and only moderately useful.

I sometimes have the impression, Mr. Chairman, that this expensive mass of written documents, which is a common phenomenon, is a way for people nowadays to prove merely that they know how to read and write.

Moving on to a different field, I wonder what could be said about the efficiency of the lengthy and beloved World Administrative Radio Conferences, with the inadequate preparation that proceeds them. Take as an example the software prepared for the planning conferences: instead of having several options which may be usable and acceptable, the choice is reduced to a single possibility. Supposedly the means are insufficient.

As far as efficiency in the work of the specialized Secretariat of the IFRB is concerned, there are quite a few administrations that believe that it is unsatisfactory. If this is due to the method of management by a collegiate body, this again is the fault of the system.

For all these reasons and many more, we feel it is essential that decisive steps should be taken towards greater efficiency, dynamism, modernity and transparency and towards greater homogeneity among the permanent organs of the Union.

In connection with the permanent organs of the Union, we feel that a reply is needed to the question of whether these components of the Union constitute a general staff or a federal structure or a confederation. I am sure that a clear answer could contribute to improving the Union.

Among many other questions, I would also like to mention one to which my Administration attaches particular importance, namely applying the principle of rotation to the election of officials.

We do not see any clear or specific reason why this principle should be applied to the election of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General, which is the case at present, and not to the other eligible posts. A glance at the Conference documents shows clearly that many administrations are of the same opinion.

To the above comments, I would like to add that my Administration is very conscious of the contributions made by the Groups of Experts and holds them in high esteem. In that respect, it supports the proposals concerning the Constitution and the Convention. Whatever decision the Conference takes in this matter, however, we feel convinced that it should not prevent a constant reconsideration of the reform of the structure of the Union, the principles of which will be laid down by this Conference.

Before concluding, I would like on behalf of my Administration to extend our thanks to the Senior Officials of the Union who were elected in Nairobi for the efforts they have made and the results they have achieved. More in particular, my

Administration is grateful to the Secretary-General, Mr. Richard E. Butler, for his excellent services to the Union, where he has worked for 20 years, days and nights, and which he has guided like a visionary ensuring successes of inestimable value.

Mr. Chairman,

In concluding my address, I would like to assure you on behalf of my Delegation that you will always have our support in the very delicate business before you.

Thank you."

7. Election of Chairmen of Committees

7.1 The Secretary-General said that he had been informed that the Chairman of Committee 10 (Editorial) would be Mr. M. Thue (France).

The meeting rose at 1250 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 124-E
12 June 1989
Original: English

COMMITTEE 6

India

Replace proposal IND/124/6 by the following text.

IND/124/6
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION

**Apportionment of Revenues in Providing
International Telecommunication Services**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union,
(Nice, 1989),

considering

- a) the importance of telecommunications for the social and economic development of all countries;
- b) that the International Telecommunication Union has an important role to play in promoting the universal development of telecommunications;
- c) that the Independent Commission for world-wide Telecommunications Development, in its report "The Missing Link", recommended, inter alia, that Members States of the ITU consider setting aside a small portion of revenues from calls between developing and industrialized countries to be devoted to telecommunications in developing countries;
- d) that CCITT Recommendation D.150, which provides for the apportionment of accounting revenues on international traffic between terminal countries, in principle on a 50/50 basis, was amended at the VIIIth CCITT Plenary Assembly, as confirmed at the IXth Plenary Assembly, to provide for sharing in a different proportion in some cases where there are differences in the costs of providing and operating telecommunication services;
- e) that the ITU, to assist administrations and as a follow-up of the Recommendation in "The Missing Link" carried out a study of the costs of providing and operating telecommunications services between developing and industrialized countries;
- f) that in accordance with instructions contained in Resolution No. PL/3 of the World Administrative Telephone and Telegraph Conference, Melbourne, 1988, the Secretary-General has taken action to continue the said study;
- g) that as indicated in his report (Document 106), the study is being progressed in accordance with the conclusions reached at a meeting of administrations specially convened by him to facilitate exchange of views on the matter;
- h) that the study is programmed to be completed before the middle of 1990,

resolves

that, should such studies lead to the application in particular cases of accounting rates other than on a 50/50 basis, the developing countries concerned should be able to utilize the resulting additional revenues towards improvement of their telecommunications, including, if necessary, and insofar as possible, assistance to the Centre for Telecommunications Development;

invites administrations

a) to extend full cooperation to the Secretary-General in carrying out and completing the study;

b) to consider, in the light of the findings of the study, taking such action as may be deemed appropriate and, if necessary, to request the Secretary-General for any assistance in this regard;

instructs the Secretary-General

a) to circulate the report of the study, on completion, to all Member administrations;

b) to extend any further assistance to administrations, if so requested.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 124-E

24 May 1989

Original: English

COMMITTEES 7, 8

Republic of India

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

Introduction

The Plenipotentiary Conference, Nice (1989) will be playing an important role in setting the course of the future activities of the Union against the backdrop of rapid developments in telecommunication technology, in recent years. The Conference will have to give detailed consideration to the increasing need for technical cooperation in the field of telecommunications and assistance to developing countries to help them to build up the essential infrastructure of telecommunications for their national development. Since the last Plenipotentiary Conference held in 1982, the Union held a series of WARC/RARC. The decisions of these Conferences, the deliberations in the Administrative Council on various issues and the pains-taking work carried out by the Groups of Experts on the "Basic Instrument of the Union" and on the "Long-term future of the IFRB" will have to be considered by the Conference for completing its task within the limited time available at the disposal of the Conference. The Union, as in the past, should continue to fulfil its objectives and discharge its role and functions in the spirit of international goodwill and cooperation.

In making the following proposals, the Indian Administration had the benefit of examining the proposals of some administrations as well as the preparatory work done by the Groups of Experts. An effort is therefore being made, in general, not to restate the proposals already submitted by other administrations which the Indian Administration considers desirable. The Indian Administration however, maintains its right to make other proposals at appropriate stages during the Conference.

The specific proposals of the Indian Administration are accordingly, detailed in subsequent paragraphs.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 4

Purposes of the Union

IND/124/1

ADD

18

- aa) effect registration of positions of satellites in geostationary-satellite orbit.

Reasons: To take into account the important role being played by the Union in promoting coordinated use of geostationary-satellite orbit.

APPROVAL OF NEW AND REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS BETWEEN
PLENARY ASSEMBLIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES OF THE ITU

The Plenary Assemblies of the Consultative Committees of the Union meet once in four years. As a result, adoption and recognition of new or revised Recommendations by a Consultative Committee in between two Plenary Assemblies, is not feasible. An accelerated procedure for the approval of new and revised Recommendations in between two Plenary Assemblies is therefore necessary in order to make the rapid changes in telecommunication technologies and services.

The IXth CCITT Plenary Assembly held in 1988 adopted Resolution No. 2 to overcome this difficulty. The broad procedures outlined in this Resolution should be followed not only by CCITT but also by CCIR to enable them to adopt Recommendations on Questions of urgent nature.

The Indian Administration, therefore, considers that the Convention should have appropriate provisions to meet such requirements.

Accordingly, amendments to Articles 20 and 21 of the Draft Convention are proposed as below:

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DRAFT CONVENTION

ARTICLE 20 [72]

Study Groups

IND/124/2
MOD [421] 218

The Plenary Assembly shall set up and maintain as necessary Study Groups to deal with Questions to be studied. On the basis of studies completed the Study Groups shall prepare reports and Recommendations. The administrations, recognized private operating agencies, international organizations and regional telecommunication organizations admitted in accordance with the Nos. 195 [398] and 196 [399] of this Convention which desire to take part in the work of the Study Groups shall give in their names either at the meeting of the Plenary Assembly or, at a later date, to the Director of the Consultative Committee concerned.

Reasons: To state the main objective of the studies carried out by Study Groups.

ARTICLE 21 [73]

Conduct of Business of Study Groups

IND/124/3
ADD 224A

If a Study Group meeting unanimously adopts a Recommendation and agrees that the same may be approved by correspondence, that Recommendation may be circulated to Members. For approval, such a Recommendation should receive the support of a majority of the Members of the Union.

IND/124/4
ADD - 224B

A Recommendation approved according to 224A, shall have the same status as the one approved by the Plenary Assembly.

Reasons: To adopt a procedure for approval of a Recommendation, in between two Plenary Assemblies in line with the Resolution adopted by CCITT Plenary Assembly, 1988.

The Indian Proposals for the future Conferences of the Union are as per the draft Resolution, below:

IND/124/5
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Future Conferences of the Union

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Nice, 1989),

having considered

- a) paragraph 3.4 of the Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference relating to planned administrative conferences and the general agreement reached on this matter at the 44th session of the Administrative Council (Document 41);
- b) the proposals submitted by several Members of the Union;
- c) the necessary preparatory work to be carried out both by the permanent organs of the Union and by the administrations before each session of a Conference;

decides

1. that the schedule of future administrative conferences shall be as follows:
 - 1.1 second session of the Regional Administrative Conference for the planning of VHF/UHF Television broadcasting in the African Broadcasting Area and Neighbouring Countries (Geneva, 13 November-8 December, 1989);
 - 1.2 Regional Administrative Conference of the Members of the Union in the African Broadcasting Area to Abrogate the Regional Agreement for the African Broadcasting Area (Geneva, 1963) Geneva, (4-5 December, 1989);
 - 1.3 World Administrative Radio Conference for dealing with matters connected with High Frequency Broadcasting Service (September-November, 1992, four weeks);

- 1.4 World Administrative Radio Conference for dealing with Frequency Allocations for High Definition Television (HDTV) and Broadcasting Satellite Service (Sound) and for limited review of BSS-77 Plan for Regions 1 and 3 (latter half of 1993, five weeks);
 - 1.5 Regional Administrative Conference for evolving an Assignment Plan for the Broadcasting Service in VHF and UHF bands allocated to the Broadcasting Service in the Region 3, either on exclusive or shared basis (end 1994, four weeks);
 - 1.6 Plenipotentiary Conference (September-November 1994, five weeks);
2. regarding the agendas of the conferences, that:
- 2.1 the agendas for the conferences mentioned on 1.1 and 1.2 already established by the Administrative Council, shall remain unchanged;
 - 2.2 the agenda for the WARC on HFBC shall be established by the Council taking into account the Resolutions and Recommendations of WARC HFBC-87 with due regard to the need for adoption of HFBC Planning System and procedures;
 - 2.3 the agenda for the Broadcasting Conference dealing with specific questions indicated in paragraph 1.4 earlier shall be finalized by the Administrative Council with due regard to the Resolutions/Recommendations on these subjects of WARC ORB-88;
3. that the conferences shall be held within the period indicated in paragraph 1 above, the precise dates being set by the Administrative Council after consulting the Members of the Union, and leaving sufficient time between the various conferences. However, in cases where precise dates are indicated for the session of conferences, they shall not be changed. The durations indicated in paragraph 1 above for conferences for which the agendas have already been established shall not be changed; the precise duration of the other Conferences shall be decided by the Administrative Council after their agendas have been established, within the duration limits indicated in paragraph 1.

CONSIDERATION OF WATTC-88 RESOLUTION No. PL/3

Document 21 of the Plenipotentiary Conference relates to the Resolution No. PL/3 of WATTC-88 on the subject of "Apportionment of Revenues in Providing International Telecommunication Services".

This Resolution calls for continuation of detailed study of the costs of providing and operating telecommunication services between developing and developed countries. Should these studies lead to the application of accounting rates other than a 50/50 basis, the developing countries should be able to utilize the resulting additional revenues towards improvement of their telecommunications, including if possible, assistance to the Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD).

The Indian Administration is of the view that the global agreement reached at the WATTC-88, on this important matter, should be endorsed by the Plenipotentiary Conference with an appropriate Resolution.

The Indian Administration, therefore, presents a draft Resolution, for the consideration of the Conference.

IND/124/6
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION

**Apportionment of Revenues in Providing
International Telecommunication Services**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union,
(Nice, 1989),

considering

- a) the importance of telecommunications for the social and economic development of all countries;
- b) that the International Telecommunication Union has an important role to play in promoting the universal development of telecommunications;
- c) that the Independent Commission for world-wide Telecommunications Development, in its report "The Missing Link", recommended, inter alia, that Members States of the ITU consider setting aside a small portion of revenues from calls between developing and industrialized countries to be devoted to telecommunications in developing countries;
- d) that CCITT Recommendation D.150, which provides for the apportionment of accounting revenues on international traffic between terminal countries, in principle on a 50/50 basis, was amended at the VIIIth CCITT Plenary Assembly, as confirmed at the IXth Plenary Assembly, to provide for sharing in a different proportion in some cases where there are differences in the costs of providing and operating telecommunication services;
- e) that the ITU, to assist administrations and as a follow-up of the Recommendation in "The Missing Link" carried out a study of the costs of providing and operating telecommunications services between developing and developed countries;
- f) that further study in this regard is being undertaken in pursuance of the Resolution No. PL/3 of the World Administrative Telephone and Telegraph Conference of the ITU held in 1988; which had not reached a conclusive stage for a final decision, at this Conference;

resolves

that, should such studies lead to the application in particular cases of accounting rates other than on a 50/50 basis, the developing countries concerned should be able to utilize the resulting additional revenues towards improvement of their telecommunications, including, if necessary, and insofar as possible, assistance to the Centre for Telecommunications Development;

invites administrations

to extend full cooperation to the Secretary-General in carrying out the study and in the consideration of further action on the basis of the study;

instructs the Secretary-General

to take necessary steps for the implementation of the results of the study with a view to fixing appropriate accounting rates.

DEFINITION IN ANNEX 2 OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION
AND ANNEX 1 OF THE DRAFT CONVENTION

As a result of "Definitions" incorporated in the Final Acts of WATTC-88, some of the present "Definitions" appearing in the draft Constitution and Convention would need revision. Attention is also invited to Document 38, in this context.

The Indian Administration, therefore, proposes the following changes in the "Definitions":

ANNEX 2 OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION

IND/124/7
MOD [2013]

International Telecommunication Service: The offering of a A telecommunication service capability between telecommunication offices or stations of any nature ~~which~~ that are in or belong to different countries.

Reasons: To incorporate WATTC-88 Definition.

IND/124/8
MOD [2018]

Government Telegrams-and-Governments-Telephone Telecommunication Calls: A telecommunication Telegrams-or telephone-calls originating with any ~~of-the-authorities-specified~~ below:

- ~~the~~ Head of a State;
- the Head of a government ~~and~~ or Members of a Government;
- Commanders-in-Chief of military forces, land, sea or air;
- diplomatic or consular agents;
- the Secretary-General of the United Nations Heads of the Principal organs of the United Nations;
- the International Court of Justice.

or replies to government telegrams ~~as-defined-herein-shall-also-be regarded-as-government-telegrams.~~

Reasons: To incorporate WATTC-88 Definition.

ANNEX 1 OF THE DRAFT CONVENTION

IND/124/9
MOD [2017]

Service Telegrams Telecommunication: Telegrams exchange between. A telecommunication that relates to public international telecommunications and that is exchanged among the following:

- a) - administrations[†],
- b) - recognized private operating agencies[†],
- c) ~~administrations and recognized private operating agencies[†],~~
- d) ~~administrations and recognized private operating agencies on the one hand, and the Secretary-General of the Union, on the other,~~

~~and relating to public international telecommunication:~~

- and the Chairman of the Administrative Council, the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Directors of the International Consultative Committee, the members of the International Frequency Registration Board, other representatives or authorized officials of the Union, including those working on official matters outside the seat of the Union.

Reasons: Consequential to WATTC-88 Definition.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 125(Rev.1)-E
25 May 1989

CONFERENCE CHAIRMANSHIPS

(as approved at the First Plenary Meeting)

- Chairman of the Conference : Mr. J. GRENIER (France)
- Vice-Chairmen of the Conference : H.E. Mr. T. MARSHALL (United States)
Mr. A. ITUASSU (Brazil)
H.E. Mr. C. LEMOS SIMMONDS (Colombia)
Mr. H. VENHAUS (Federal Republic of Germany)
H.E. Mr. P. MUSCAT (Malta)
Mr. Y.B. ZOUBAREV (USSR)
H.E. Mr. A. POPOV (Bulgaria)
Mr. J. TOMASZEWSKI (Poland)
H.E. Mr. R. SAGNA (Senegal)
H.E. Mr. A. WOLDE AMANUEL (Ethiopia)
H.E. Mr. D.A. MARK (Nigeria)
Mr. SON ZHIYUAN (China)
Dr. Faisal A. ZAIDAN (Saudi Arabia)
H.E. Mr. Sayed M. GHARAZI (Islamic Republic of Iran)
- Committee 1 : (composed of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the
(Steering) Conference and of the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the other Committees)
- Committee 2 : Chairman : Mr. J. SZEKELY (Hungary)
(Credentials) : Vice-Chairman : Mr. O. SANDA (Cameroon)
- Committee 3 : Chairman : Dr. M.K. RAO (India)
(Budget Control) : Vice-Chairman : Mr. M. WAKRIM (Morocco)
- Committee 4 : Chairman : Mr. M. GHAZAL (Lebanon)
(Finances of the Union) : Vice-Chairman : Mr. P. GAGNE (Canada)
- Committee 5 : Chairman : Mr. F. MOLINA NEGRO (Spain)
(Staff matters) : Vice-Chairman : Dr. K.D. MEIER (German Democratic Republic)

- Committee 6
(Technical Cooperation) : Chairman : Mr. H. VIGNON (Benin)
: Vice-Chairman : Mr. M.A. YUSOFF (Malaysia)
- Committee 7
(Structure of the Union) : Chairman : Mr. A. VARGAS ARAYA (Costa Rica)
: Vice-Chairman : Mr. OTAKI (Japan)
- Committee 8
(Purposes, rights
and obligations) : Chairman : Mr. M.F. DANDATO (Zimbabwe)
: Vice-Chairman : Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece)
- Committee 9
(Basic Instrument of
the Union) : Chairman : Mr. H.H. SIBLESZ (Netherlands)
: Vice-Chairman : Mr. M. BANGUE-TANDET (Central African
Republic)
- Committee 10
(Editorial) : Chairman : Mr. M. THUE (France)
: Vice-Chairmen : Mr. R.J. PRIDDLE (United Kingdom)
Mr. V. RUBIO CARRETON (Spain)
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PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 125-E

24 May 1989

CONFERENCE CHAIRMANSHIPS

(as approved at the First Plenary Meeting)

- Chairman of the Conference : Mr. J. GRENIER (France)
- Vice-Chairmen of the Conference : H.E. Mr. T. MARSHALL (United States)
Mr. A. ITUASSU (Brazil)
H.E. Mr. C. LEMOS SIMMONDS (Colombia)
Mr. H. VENHAUS (Federal Republic of Germany)
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Committee 6
(Technical Cooperation)

: Chairman : Mr. H. VIGNON (Benin)
: Vice-Chairman : Mr. M.A. YUSOFF (Malaysia)

Committee 7
(Structure of the Union)

: Chairman : Mr. A. VARGAS ARAYA (Costa Rica)
: Vice-Chairman : Mr. OTAKI (Japan)

Committee 8
(Purposes, rights
and obligations)

: Chairman : Mr. M.F. DANDATO (Zimbabwe)
: Vice-Chairman : Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOV (Greece)

Committee 9
(Basic Instrument of
the Union)

: Chairman : Mr. H.H. SIBLESZ (Netherlands)
: Vice-Chairman : Mr. M. BANGUE-TANDET (Central African
Republic)

Committee 10
(Editorial)

: Chairman : Mr. M. THUE (France)
: Vice-Chairmen : Mr. R.J. PRIDDLE (United Kingdom)
Mr. V. RUBIO CARRETON (Spain)

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 126-E
24 May 1989
Original: French

COMMITTEES 4, 7, 8, 9

Kingdom of Morocco

PROPOSALS

A. Constitution

ARTICLE 4

Purposes of the Union

MRC/126/1
ADD

18A

abis) to coordinate the use of the geostationary-satellite orbit, ensure that this use is efficient and economical and guarantee equitable access for the various countries or group of countries.

Reasons: The use of the geostationary-satellite orbit for telecommunication purposes is primarily the responsibility of the ITU. Through numerous administrative conferences held since 1959, the Union deals with space telecommunications and the orbit.

ARTICLE 8

Administrative Council

MRC/126/2
MOD

57

1. (1) The Administrative Council shall be composed of ~~forty-one~~ ~~one~~ Members of the Union elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference ...

Reasons: The Constitution should be, so far as possible, a firm legal instrument. The number of Members of the Council should be specified in the Convention.

ARTICLE 10

International Frequency Registration Board

MRC/126/3
MOD

73

1. The International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) shall consist of ~~five~~ independent members, elected by ...

Reasons: The same as for MRC/126/2.

MRC/126/4

ADD [78] 79A

bbis) to interpret the provisions of the Radio Regulations.

Reasons: The Radio Regulations are becoming increasingly complex. In the performance of its duties, the Board is required to interpret the provisions of the Regulations and draw up rules which are then published.

ARTICLE 15

Finances of the Union

MRC/126/5

MOD [111] 113

2. The expenses of the Union shall be met from:

- a) The contributions of its Members, each Member paying a sum proportional to the number of units in the class of contribution it has chosen, ~~from the scale figuring in Article 27 [79] of the Convention.~~ The classes of contribution shall be established in the Convention.
- b) donations, bequests and any other revenue connected with its activities.

Reasons: a) If the Constitution is to be a stable instrument, it should not refer to provisions of the Convention.

b) Members' contributions are not the only revenue used to meet Union expenditure.

ARTICLE 16

Languages

MCR/126/6

MOD [120] 125

1. (1) The working languages of the Union shall be Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

Reasons: Arabic is at present the national language of twenty-one countries Members of the Union. Its adoption as a working language would facilitate these countries' relations with each other and with the Union.

MRC/126/7

MOD [126] 131

(3) All other documents ... shall be drawn up in the ~~three~~ four working languages.

ARTICLE 43

Provisions for amending this Constitution

MRC/126/8
MOD

- 189 4. To be adopted, any proposed modification to a proposed amendment as well as the proposal as a whole, whether or not modified, shall be approved, at a Plenary Meeting, by at least ~~{two-thirds of the Members of the Union}. {two-thirds of the Delegations accredited to the Plenipotentiary Conference and having the right to vote}.~~

Reasons: To ensure that a large number of Members support the amendment adopted, which would facilitate its ratification and implementation.

ARTICLE 46

Entry into Force and Related Matters

MRC/126/9
MOD [193] 198

1. (1) This Constitution and the Convention shall enter into force between Parties thereto on the thirtieth day after deposit of: ~~{instruments of ratification or accession by more than a {quarter} {third} of the Members of the Union.}~~

~~{the 25th instrument of ratification or accession.}~~
~~{the {41st} {55th} instrument of ratification or accession.}~~

Reasons: The deposit of the instruments of ratification by more than one-third of the Members appears to us to be reasonable for purposes of the rapid entry into force of the Constitution and the Convention. This represents a proportion commonly applied in other organizations.

B. Convention

ARTICLE 2 [54]

Administrative Conferences

MRC/126/10
MOD [209]

9. (3) A ~~world~~ administrative conference dealing with radiocommunication may also include in its agenda an item concerning instructions to the International Frequency Registration Board regarding its activities and a review of those activities. A ~~world~~ administrative conference may include in its decisions instructions or requests, as appropriate, to the permanent organs.

Reasons: The Board's responsibility should extend also to regional administrative conferences.

ARTICLE 3 [55]

Administrative Council

MRC/126/11

MOD [231] 31

1. (1) The Administrative Council is composed of ~~four~~ Members ...

Reasons: To conform to proposal MRC/126/3 concerning the Constitution.

ARTICLE 5 [57]

International Frequency Registration Board

MRC/126/12

MOD [310] 110

1. (1) ~~†~~The International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) shall consist of five independent members, elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference~~†~~. The members of the ...

Reasons: To conform to proposal MRC/126/3 concerning the Constitution.

**PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE**

NICE, 1989

Document 127-E
25 May 1989
Original: French

COMMITTEE 7

Kingdom of Morocco

REMOTE ACCESS TO ITU DATA BASES

The period 1982-1988 was particularly distinguished by the increased use of informatic techniques, for both the storage and processing of information. The extended capacity of the Union computer, the introduction of the computerized frequency management system and the data bases and softwares produced for the administrative conferences demonstrate the growing importance of the computer within the ITU, in keeping with Resolution No. 69 of the Convention.

Furthermore, most of the Members of the Union now possess data-processing facilities. Thus the resources available on both sides should help to render relations between the Union and its Members both more efficient and more economical.

To take the case of the IFRB alone, it possesses the FMS and has established in the course of the world and regional conferences a number of data bases, together with very advanced softwares. These resources may assist administrations, particularly those of the developing countries, in assessing interference more precisely before submitting notices and even in planning their national radiocommunication services.

The Moroccan Administration would therefore put forward the following proposals:

MRC/127/1 Remote access should make it possible to consult the Union data bases, either already in existence or to be established, capable of being used by the Members.

Reasons: Remote consultation of data bases would provide administrations with rapid access to updated information. This would reduce Union expenditure, for example on publications.

MRC/127/2 Remote access would enable administrations to dispatch data.

Reasons: Several administrations wish to send data to the Union over the telecommunication network, particularly in connection with the notification of tentative HF broadcasting schedules or the preparation of conferences.

This new mode of communication between Members and the Union should lead both to a saving of time and lower costs.

MRC/127/3

Remote access should facilitate engineering calculations.

Reasons: As has been pointed out above, the International Frequency Registration Board possesses a considerable cumulative computing capacity developed for the frequency spectrum planning conferences. Administrations, particularly those of the developing countries, encounter enormous difficulties in accessing interference when they plan to modify parameters or add assignments to a frequency assignment plan, since they do not have available all the data required to evaluate the interference. This substantially delays the coordination process and gives rise to a voluminous exchange of correspondence between the administrations themselves and with the IFRB.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

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24 May 1989
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COMMITTEE 6

Kingdom of Morocco

TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Technical cooperation is one of the fundamental objectives of the Union. The world-wide telecommunication network, which is the medium of trade and cultural exchange, cannot play its part without active cooperation among the various nations through the intermediary of the Union.

Recognizing this role, the United Nations designated the ITU as executing agency of the cooperation projects financed by UNDP (Resolution No. 16 of the Nairobi Convention, 1982).

At present, technical cooperation falls short of the expectations of the beneficiary countries, particularly since the support costs borne by the Union for the implementation of UNDP projects show a chronic deficit which increases year by year. A reduction in the technical cooperation effort was also recorded between 1982 and 1988, precisely at a time when an increase might have been expected in view of the growing stock of telecommunication equipment throughout the world.

MRC/128/1

Profoundly disquieted by this situation, the Moroccan Administration submits the following proposals to the Conference:

Stable funding must be sought for technical cooperation. For this purpose, the coverage of the relevant expenditure by the ordinary budget of the Union would constitute one of the solutions.

Reasons: Reliance on uncertain sources of financing prevents the Union from fulfilling its cooperation mission.

The deficits which have built up since 1982 have only partly been covered from ITU resources (publications, supplies and reprography, reserve account, etc.) and external contributions. The Union cannot continue such practices without restricting the activities for which these accounts are intended.

MRC/128/2

Greater efficiency must be sought in the management of technical cooperation.

Reasons: Cooperation projects which are inadequately prepared, both by administrations and by the Union, require longer trips on the part of experts, hence greater recurrent expenditure.

Therefore, before an expert is sent out, the Union must collect all the relevant project data and the problems raised by the administrations must be clearly identified. The Union must, so far as possible, ensure that the bulk of the work is completed before the expert is sent on mission.

MRC/128/3

The regional representation must be increased and provided with greater human and logistic resources.

Reasons: The existing number of regional offices is considered to be insufficient. To promote greater efficiency in the management of technical cooperation programmes, the number of regional offices should be increased, thereby reducing the number of countries covered by each regional office. This would certainly help the offices to gain a more accurate idea of the countries' cooperation requirements and organize their activity on this basis. It would also enable the countries to maintain continuous and useful relations with their regional offices and with the Union.

MRC/128/4

Greater importance should be given to training.

Reasons: We consider that training remains one of the priorities of technical cooperation. In the previous period, the Union made great efforts in this field through CODEVTEL. We would hope that these efforts would be pursued and that resources would be made available to enable the administrations concerned to derive the utmost advantage from them.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

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24 May 1989

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COMMITTEE 7

Kingdom of Morocco

FUTURE CONFERENCES OF THE UNION

The world and regional administrative conferences are privileged instruments of the Union in the performance of its regulatory duties. The increasingly intensive use of the frequency spectrum, coupled with the increasing development of communication techniques, calls for the regular holding of such conferences.

The Moroccan Administration considers that the period following the Nairobi Conference (1982) was distinguished by a great plethora of conferences and subjects discussed. Mobile, space, telegraph and telephone communications, as well as broadcasting, are only some of the examples which may be mentioned.

Despite this, the Moroccan Administration nevertheless feels that the world telecommunication community is still confronted with the problem of the rearrangement of the radio spectrum allocated to HF broadcasting and mobile telecommunications.

With regard, therefore, to the future conferences of the Union, our Administration would put forward the following proposals:

MRC/129/1 A WARC for the planning of HF broadcasting should be convened by about 1992.

Reasons: The previous conferences on this subject failed to produce satisfactory solutions to the problem of HF broadcasting. At the HFBC(2) of 1987, substantial resources were deployed to refine the planning software, which would facilitate the work of the future conference.

MRC/129/2 A WARC concerning mobile and mobile-satellite telecommunications should be held.

Reasons: Mobile and mobile-satellite telecommunications are steadily expanding. They permit a greater interconnection of telecommunication networks and a better coverage of rural, oceanic and desert areas. They are capable of securing intercommunication between different users of whatever type: vehicles, aircraft, ships, fixed subscribers, etc.

An attempt should be made at such a conference to rearrange the radio spectrum allocated to the mobile and mobile-satellite services in the light of technological developments in these two fields.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

Document 130-E
25 May 1989

NICE, 1989

FOR INFORMATION

Address by Mr. J. GRENIER

CHAIRMAN OF THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

(NICE, 1989)

Mr. Secretary-General,
Ministers,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I should like first of all to thank you most warmly for the confidence you have shown in me by electing me Chairman of this important Conference.

As you know, I am personally very attached to the International Telecommunication Union, having been able to appreciate its decisive role in world telecommunications for the 25 years and more that I have been taking part in its work. I have in fact already attended two previous plenipotentiary conferences, first in Malaga-Torremolinos and then in Nairobi.

You may thus rest assured that I shall do my best to discharge the heavy responsibility you have entrusted to me. I join with you in expressing the hope that the work of the Conference will be brought to a successful conclusion through the collaboration of all delegations here present.

This Conference comes seven years after the one held in Nairobi. In their opening addresses, our Minister, Mr. Quilès, and Mr. Butler both referred to the major changes which have occurred in the telecommunication sector since Nairobi:

- Being an engineer myself, I would like to mention first of all technical developments, such as the appearance of high-capacity transmission systems, progressive network digitization and the remarkable development of what is known in France as telematics, based on the interaction of telecommunications and data-processing techniques. I might also stress the importance of introducing the first transoceanic optical fibre links, the first telecommunication satellites to use on-board switching, and increasingly intelligent networks.
- Changes in the field of regulation may be said to a large extent to follow from technological changes, but also from users' changing needs, which we must satisfy, the issues involved having been debated at length at the WATTC in Melbourne.

Clearly these changes affect our different countries to a greater or lesser extent depending on the degree of development of their networks, their social and economic development, their cultures and traditions. Without having compared notes with Mr. Butler, I too would like to say they represent a challenge for the ITU, whose primary role is to encourage at the international level the harmonious development of technical resources and telecommunication services and to improve their operation so as to make them generally available to the public.

In other words, this challenge consists in mapping out new paths for international cooperation which will accommodate both the diversity of national telecommunication policies and the objectives of harmonization and universality, to which we are all attached.

The implementation of these new forms of cooperation may entail a number of changes in the basic texts of the Union. As you know, you will have to decide an important question, namely, the splitting of the International Convention into two instruments, a Constitution and a Convention, which together would form the basic instrument of the Union.

Beyond these institutional modifications, we may also be faced with the problem of changes in the structure of the Union. Should the existing organs be adapted or merged, or should new organs be established? These questions are now before us.

I should like to pay particular attention to technical cooperation and assistance activities, in which the developing countries rightly perceive the possibility of benefiting from a transfer of technology and acquiring the know-how needed to update and operate their telecommunication networks. I personally attach great importance to these cooperation activities, for which I have been responsible in FRANCE TELECOM for many years. I am not sure whether this is why Mr. Quilès chose to propose me to chair this meeting. You will have understood that for our Minister in France these cooperation matters rank high on the list of priorities.

The Conference will also have to deal with the question of the limits on Union expenditure for the period extending up to the next plenipotentiary conference.

Without wishing to cover all the ground, I have simply tried to draw attention to a number of important problems, which appear on the agenda of the Conference and to which suitable solutions will have to be sought in a spirit of cooperation.

I trust that your meeting will be guided by the sunny spirit of the Côte d'Azur, without, of course, forgetting - though here again I did not compare notes with Mr. Butler - my country's motto, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, which I hope will serve as inspiration to us all.

I am certain that, despite the complexity of the issues to be debated and the diversity of views regarding the solutions to be adopted, this Conference will produce positive results, which will enable the Union to continue to affirm its leading position and its effectiveness as an international telecommunication organization responsible for coordinating general policy matters and ensuring the worldwide development of networks and services.

Mr. Secretary-General,
Ministers,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The task with which you have entrusted me is of course very difficult, though at the same time very stimulating. On your behalf, I accept the responsibility and thank you once again for the honour you have shown me. At the same time, I would add that I am concerned at the magnitude of the task ahead and I would personally crave your kind assistance. It goes without saying that I am entirely at the disposal of this assembly and of each delegation, for it is upon you, first and foremost, that the success of the Conference will depend; my one aim will be to interpret your wishes faithfully. It is

my sincere hope that, in this year 1989, when we are celebrating the bicentenary of a Revolution which left its mark on history, the International Telecommunication Union will be fully able to meet the challenge of the new revolution affecting all our peoples. As our Minister said a short while ago, history does not repeat itself. He does not wish you to repeat the French Revolution, but rather to take account of the technological revolution and I trust that the Union will once again demonstrate its clear-sightedness and adaptability.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 131-E

29 May 1989

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English

COMMITTEE 5

Note by the Secretary-General

REPORT OF THE ITU STAFF PENSION COMMITTEE TO THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE (NICE, 1989)

During the final Plenary meeting of the 44th session of the Administrative Council in Nice on Wednesday, 24 May 1989, the above-mentioned report was considered and it was decided to forward it to the Plenipotentiary Conference together with the record of the Council deliberations on the subject.

The report and the relevant extract of the Summary Record of the Council are annexed (Annexes 1 and 2).

R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

Annexes: 2

ANNEX 1

REPORT OF THE ITU STAFF PENSION COMMITTEE
TO THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE (NICE, 1989)

1. Of the various items routinely discussed by the ITU Staff Pension Committee, in recent years particular attention has been given to the problem of pension levels. As a result of monetary fluctuations and the measures adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, pension levels have been a matter of constant concern for the staff.
2. For the third time in succession (Malaga-Torremolinos 1973, Nairobi 1982 and Nice 1989), the problem of ITU staff pensions is to be brought before a Plenipotentiary Conference.
3. In response to Resolution No. 61 adopted by the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference (1982), the present Conference will be considering the Pension Purchasing Power Protection Insurance scheme (PPPPI) described in Document 30.
4. The basic aim of the planned insurance scheme is to secure more stability and equity in pensions by guaranteeing for retired staff a purchasing power linked to their situation as serving officials.
5. The current system does not offer any such guarantee; pension purchasing power varies considerably according to the pensioner's country of residence in spite of a number of partial measures implemented in order to offset the impact of monetary fluctuations and of different inflation rates prevailing in different countries.
6. In this connection, it should also be recalled that in recent years the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, to which the ITU staff is affiliated, has been confronted with numerous problems stemming from the Fund's precarious actuarial situation. The root causes are inflation and its financial implications for the pension adjustment system, monetary fluctuations, in particular the depreciation of the United States dollar, reductions in pensionable remuneration, restrictions on recruitment in the United Nations and most specialized agencies and early retirement.
7. It emerged from the biennial actuarial valuations at 31 December 1982, 1984 and 1986 that if appropriate measures were not taken rapidly, the Fund would not be in a position to meet its obligations in the long term.
8. Several economy measures involving reductions in benefits were therefore introduced as from 1983, the brunt of which (80%) has been borne by the participants. In addition, two successive reductions were made, on 1 January 1985 and 1 April 1987, in the scale of pensionable remuneration of staff in the professional and higher categories.

9. The ITU Staff Pension Committee has closely monitored the situation brought about by the economy measures and regularly reported to the Administrative Council on the resulting developments in terms of pension levels.

10. The Malaga-Torremolinos (1973) and Nairobi (1982) Plenipotentiary Conferences gave attention to pension problems, and Recommendation No. 3 and Resolution No. 61, respectively, were referred to the United Nations General Assembly. Furthermore, since then many Administrative Council resolutions on pensions have been forwarded to the General Assembly and to the other competent United Nations organs.

11. Despite all those efforts, the ITU Staff Pension Committee observes that the level of pensions has not been maintained and many uncertainties continue to weigh on the future as regards pensions for Union staff.

12. At the moment, the level of pensions paid in countries affected by the fall in the dollar is protected, at least partially, by the application of a floor conversion rate. However, this is only a provisional measure authorized by the General Assembly until the end of 1990, without any guarantee for the future. The General Assembly has called for a comprehensive review of pensionable remuneration. This study, the findings of which should be published in 1990, will no doubt determine pension levels for many years to come.

13. It is against this background of uncertainty and in order to give effect to Resolution No. 61 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nairobi, 1982) that, by its Resolution No. 963 (CA 42-1987), the Administrative Council instructed the Secretary-General to put forward solutions to restore pension levels. The studies undertaken resulted in the planned Pension Purchasing Power Protection Insurance which is submitted for consideration by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nice, 1989) in Document 30.

14. The principle underlying the insurance scheme is extremely simple: considering the objective stated in paragraph 4 above, to guarantee equality of treatment for all retired staff, i.e. their purchasing power would be equivalent and guaranteed irrespective of their place of residence. In order not to depart from the decisions of the United Nations General Assembly with respect to the level of benefits, in no case would the insurance offer compensation beyond the purchasing power level of a pensioner living in New York (the town at the base of the system). Such a scheme would fulfil its purpose perfectly, as it would only come into play in cases where a pensioner's purchasing power fell below that measured at the base of the system.

15. The Pension Committee considers that Resolution No. 61 adopted by the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference (1982) and the subsequent Resolutions adopted by the Administrative Council confirm that the Member States of the Union wish to find a solution to the pension problem. The planned PPPPI scheme meets the expectations of the staff and may be considered as a possible solution to the problem within the framework of a healthy staff management policy.

16. In line with Administrative Council Resolution No. 985, the planned insurance scheme has been transmitted to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund. The Fund's Joint Board, which is to meet next July, will examine the solution and submit its comments in its report to the United Nations General Assembly.

17. The ITU Staff Pension Committee is convinced that the solution put forward in Document 30 of the present Plenipotentiary Conference constitutes a response to the wishes concerning pensions expressed by the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference (1982) in Resolution No. 61.

18. Resolution 61 will thus have to be amended in the light of the discussions and the Conference's decision in this regard.

ANNEX 2

EXTRACT FROM
THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
(Wednesday, 24 May 1989)

7. Report of the ITU Staff Pension Committee (Document 6902)

7.1 The Deputy Secretary-General, introducing document 6902, noted that it contained the report of the ITU Staff Pension Committee to the Plenipotentiary Conference. That report outlined the problems that were faced and might in future be faced by retired staff and noted that it was the third successive time that the problem of ITU staff pensions was to be brought before a Plenipotentiary Conference.

7.2 The representative of the United States of America said that, as for many other matters before the Administrative Council, there had been limited time to study the document, but it appeared that many of the statements in the Report, while containing an element of truth, could be misleading to those not familiar with the context. In particular, claims that the Fund in no way guaranteed purchasing power, was in a precarious actuarial situation and was not in a position to meet its long-term obligations gave an erroneous impression. In addition, the Plenipotentiary Conference should have before it the comments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund on the planned insurance scheme.

7.3 The Secretary-General did not think that would be practical at that stage. Firstly, the Joint Staff Pension Board was not due to meet until July, a point he had made at the session in January, and secondly, since each of the specialized agencies made its own decisions he saw no connection with what was being done elsewhere. When the matter had first been raised during the 43rd Council Session, the Secretary-General had been asked to report on practices in other agencies and it was found that some of them had in fact made special arrangements. He thought that comments of the type suggested would only confuse the issue.

7.4 The Deputy Secretary-General recalled that the report from the Pension Committee had been drawn up in the presence of representatives of the Administrative Council and approved by the Committee and there had been no change to the facts therein so far as he knew. The text referring to the possibility of setting up an insurance scheme had been sent to the Pension Board for comment and been acknowledged: comments were expected shortly. As the Secretary-General had said, practices in other organizations were not the ITU's concern. The successive Resolutions on pension matters had to be answered within the context of the ITU and within the Common System, or at least in accordance with the Agreement linking the ITU and the United Nations. He asked if the United States delegation wished to make any specific proposals.

7.5 The Vice-Chairman recalled that the debate had been going on for years and it was only fair to ensure that all issues affecting the Union and its staff were aired so that the Union's supreme organ was fully aware of the situation. If details and figures were to be submitted, then the Staff Council should also be given the opportunity to express its views. He knew that all Councillors were aware of the events at the January session and that the problems to be solved

were serious ones. If the current session had comments to make, then they should be included but otherwise the report should be forwarded to the Plenipotentiary Conference as requested.

7.6 The representative of Switzerland pointed out that the report was associated with a proposal which the Council was asked to forward to the Plenipotentiary Conference. While it did not, of course, set out the entire problem, it should be read in conjunction with the document on the proposed insurance scheme. He could certify, having taken part in the drafting, that the text had been discussed at length and represented a consensus of the views of the staff representatives, the Secretary-General and the two Members representing the Administrative Council.

7.7 The representative of Australia said it was obvious that the issue was a very sensitive one and that the Plenipotentiary Conference needed the fullest possible information. His delegation shared some of the concerns expressed by the United States representative, particularly that the proposed scheme should be considered in terms of its consistency with the practices of the United Nations Pension Fund and the Common System of salaries, allowances and conditions of service. He had been interested to learn of correspondence between the ITU Secretariat and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board and asked if it would be possible, in the interests of informing the Plenipotentiaries, to transmit with the report the sense of the current meeting's discussions. He also asked if there had been any significant response or reaction on the part of the Board.

7.8 The Secretary-General repeated that the Joint Staff Pension Board would not meet until July.

7.9 The representative of Lebanon said that all those present realized the delicate nature of the problem and would remember the events at the January Council Session. In his view, something had to be done for the staff who were doing excellent work. He was convinced after discussions with the United States delegation that everyone was in good faith. The report should be transmitted to the Conference and completed with all the annexes that might be necessary. The Chairman of the Staff Council could also be present to explain to the Conference the gravity of the problems facing the staff. The matter would be dealt with in Committee 5 and its possible repercussions in Committee 4.

7.10 The representative of the United Kingdom said he hoped that two points would be conveyed in transmitting the report to the appropriate Committees: firstly, that all Councillors appreciated the concerns expressed by the staff in January and secondly, that a number of Council Members had expressed their opinion that any action should remain within the framework of the Common System. On that point, he associated himself with the speakers from the United States and Australia with regard to the need to ensure that the Plenipotentiaries had full information on which to base its conclusions and decisions.

He acknowledged the Secretary-General's point about the timing of the meeting of the Joint Staff Pension Board but said it was essential for the Plenipotentiary Conference to know whether the Secretary-General had received any informal indications since January to enable it to gauge the likely reaction.

He also noted that paragraph 17 of the report, as worded in English, was misleading and needed clarification on the part of the Pension Committee. In his view, it should be made clear that the proposed scheme was only one possible solution.

Finally, with respect to the Secretary-General's references to studies of practices in other organizations, he wondered whether such special arrangements elsewhere were themselves in line with the Common System.

7.11 The Secretary-General drew attention to Corrigendum 1 to Document 6902 but agreed that the paragraph in question could be interpreted in different ways and said that the intention of the Committee should be brought out clearly.

7.12 The representative of Spain (Chairman of Committee 2), pointed out that the report in question came from the Pension Committee not from the Council itself. Under Resolution No. 985 the Council had to transmit the report to the Plenipotentiary Conference because it was not the Secretary-General's function to do so. That did not mean that the Council necessarily approved it. In other words Document CA44/6092 should simply be forwarded and delegations would have every opportunity of commenting when it was discussed in the appropriate Committee. It would of course be logical also to forward all useful information on the Common System and from the Pension Board. As it had been said that representatives of that Board might soon be in Nice, perhaps they, or a representative of the United Nations sufficiently acquainted with the subject, might be asked for further comment.

7.13 The Secretary-General said that he was not aware of any such possibility.

7.14 The representative of Canada associated himself with the interventions made by the representatives of Spain, Switzerland and Lebanon. The report originated from the Pension Committee which was a tripartite body made up of representatives of the Administrative Council, the staff and the administration and added that if he had still been a member of that Committee he would be rather shocked at the Administrative Council's reaction.

7.15 The Chairman noted in conclusion that the report would be passed to the Plenipotentiary Conference along with all relevant information including a summary of the discussion in Council.

Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

CTI/132/1
MOD

1

While fully recognizing the sovereign right of each State to regulate its telecommunication and having regard to the growing importance of telecommunication for the preservation of peace and the social and economic development of all States, the Plenipotentiaries of the ~~Contracting~~ Member States, with the object of facilitating peaceful relations, international cooperation and economic and social development among peoples by means of efficient telecommunication services, have agreed to establish, as the basic instrument of the International Telecommunication Union, ~~this~~ the Constitution, to which is annexed the Convention ~~of the International Telecommunication Union~~ (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"), ~~which complements this Constitution.~~

Reasons: The term "parties to the negotiations" causes confusion between the situation of a Member and that of a "party" to the negotiations for the framing of the Constitution.

ARTICLE 1

Composition of the Union

NOC

2

1. The International Telecommunication Union shall comprise Members which, having regard to the principle of universality and the desirability of universal participation in the Union, shall be:

CTI/132/2
MOD

3

a) any Member listed in Annex 1 to ~~this~~ the Constitution, which signs and ratifies, for purposes of accession, ~~this~~ the Constitution and the Convention annexed thereto;

CTI/132/3
MOD

- 4 b) any State not listed in Annex 1, which becomes a Member of the United Nations and which accedes to ~~this~~ the Constitution and the Convention annexed thereto in accordance with Article 39 [46] ~~of this Constitution~~;

CTI/132/4
MOD

- 5 c) any State not listed in Annex 1 and not a Member of the United Nations, which applies for membership of the Union and which, after having secured approval of such application by at least two-thirds of the Members of the Union, accedes to ~~this~~ the Constitution and to the Convention annexed thereto in accordance with Article 39 ~~[46] of this Constitution~~.

Reasons: 1. Deletion of the word "this" ("présente" in the French text) throughout.

2. The phrase "for purposes of accession" is added to make it clear that the signing and ratification of the two instruments are intended solely for that purpose.

CTI/132/5
MOD

- 6 2. For the purpose of number 5 of ~~this~~ the Constitution, if an application for membership of the Union is made, ~~by diplomatic channel and through the intermediary of the country of the seat of the Union~~, the Secretary-General shall consult the Members of the Union; a Member shall be deemed to have abstained if it has not replied within four months after the date on which its opinion has been requested.

Reasons: The deletion of the phrase "through the intermediary of the country of the seat of the Union" enables the four-month time limit to be observed by reducing the routing time.

ARTICLE 2

Rights and Obligations of Members

CTI/132/6
MOD

- 7 1. Members of the Union shall have ~~the~~ rights and ~~shall be~~ ~~subject to the~~ obligations provided for in ~~this~~ the Constitution and the Convention.

Reasons: To simplify the sentence.

ARTICLE 3

Seat of the Union

CTI/132/7
MOD

- 12 The seat of the Union shall be at Geneva (Switzerland).

Reasons: The headquarters' country should be specified.

ARTICLE 4

Purposes of the Union

- NOC 13 1. The purposes of the Union are:
- CTI/132/8
MOD 14 a) to maintain and extend international cooperation between all Members of the Union for the improvement and ~~rational~~ efficient use of telecommunications of all kinds, as well as to promote and to offer technical assistance to developing ~~countries~~ Members in the field of telecommunications;

Reasons: Given its present operation, the Union cannot define criteria for the rationality of the use of the telecommunication network of a Member, but rather efficiency criteria.

- CTI/132/9
MOD 18 a) effect allocation of the radio frequency spectrum bands and registration of radio frequency assignments in order to avoid, for the radio services, harmful interference between radio stations of ~~different countries~~ the Members;

Reasons: 1. To ensure conformity with the terms of the Radio Regulations.

2. The term "Members" should be used, since the Union's authority can be exercised only over the Members.

ARTICLE 6

Plenipotentiary Conference

- CTI/132/10
MOD 34 1. The Plenipotentiary Conference shall be composed of delegations representing Members. It shall normally be convened every five years and, in any case, the interval between successive Plenipotentiary Conferences shall not exceed ~~six~~ seven years.

Reasons: Geneva, 1959
Montreux, 1965 (six years after)
Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973 (eight years after)
Nairobi, 1982 (nine years after)
Nice, 1989 (seven years after)

In order to reflect the real situation, it would be preferable to fix a seven-year maximum.

ARTICLE 7

Administrative Conferences

CTI/132/11
MOD

- 51 2. Administrative conferences shall normally be convened to consider specific telecommunication matters. Only items included in their agenda ~~may~~ shall be discussed by such conferences. The decisions of such conferences must in all circumstances be in conformity with the provisions of ~~this~~ the Constitution and the Convention. When adopting resolutions and decisions, administrative conferences should take into account the foreseeable financial implications for the Union and shall try to avoid adopting resolutions and decisions which might give rise to expenditure in excess of the upper limits on credits laid down by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

Reasons: To avoid any misunderstanding, this phrase makes it clear that the financial implications concerned would not affect each Member, but the Union itself.

ARTICLE 8

Administrative Council

CTI/132/12
MOD

- 57 1. (1) The Administrative Council shall be composed of ~~41~~ 25% of the total membership Members of the Union elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference with due regard to the need for equitable distribution of the seats on the Council among all regions of the world, the regional distribution being calculated as follows: number of seats per region = (number of Members from one and the same region) x 25%. Except in the case of vacancies arising as provided for in the Convention, the Members of the Union elected to the Administrative Council shall hold office until the date on which a new Administrative Council is elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference. They shall be eligible for re-election.

Reasons: The present situation corresponds in fact to 25%, with 41 seats and 166 Members.

Given the importance of the Constitution, a definite figure should be given in order to maintain the same proportion, which is an objective criterion for establishing the number of Members of the Administrative Council.

The equation suggested provides an efficient and definitive response to the equitable distribution criterion.

Since the number of Councillors resulting from the application of this formula would vary, it should be included in the Convention, which is a more flexible instrument subject to revision.

Ivory Coast therefore proposes that the number of seats should be allocated as follows:

Consequences: The following distribution of seats would be obtained:

<u>Region</u>	<u>Number of Members</u>	<u>Number of Seats</u>
A (Americas)	32	8
B (Western Europe)	25	(6) 7*
C (Eastern Europe and Northern Asia)	12	(3) 4*
D (Africa)	51	13
E (Asia and Australia)	46	12
	Total	44 Members

* To be maintained.

CTI/132/13
MOD

- 64 (4) It shall promote international cooperation for the provision of technical cooperation to the developing ~~countries~~ Members by every means at its disposal, especially through the participation of the Union in the appropriate programmes of the United Nations, in accordance with the purposes of the Union, ~~one of which is to promote by all possible means the development of telecommunications.~~

Reasons: The last phrase should be deleted, since it does not match any paragraph of Article 4, and the Constitution should contain only principles.

ARTICLE 10

International Frequency Registration Board

CTI/132/14
MOD [79] 80

- c) to furnish advice to Members with a view to the operation of the maximum practicable number of radio channels in those portions of the spectrum where harmful interference may occur, and with a view to the equitable, effective and economical use of the geostationary-satellite orbit, taking into account the needs of Members requiring assistance, the specific needs of developing ~~countries~~ Members, as well as the special geographical situation of particular ~~countries~~ Members;

Reasons: To ensure conformity with the terms employed in the Preamble and in Article 1.

ARTICLE 15

Finances of the Union

CTI/132/15
MOD [110] 112

- c) technical cooperation and assistance provided to the developing ~~countries~~ Members.

Reasons: To ensure conformity with the terms employed in the Preamble and Article 1.

ARTICLE 26

CTI/132/16

Priority of Government ~~Telegrams and Telephone Calls~~ Communications

CTI/132/17
MOD [144] 149

Subject to the provisions of Articles 25 and 31 [36] of ~~this the~~ Constitution, government ~~telegrams~~ communications shall enjoy priority over other ~~telegrams~~ communications when priority is requested for them by the ~~sender~~ author. ~~Government telephone calls may also be given priority, upon specific request and to the extent practicable, over other telephone calls.~~

Reasons: In view of the development of telecommunication services, to avoid any restriction in their use, the Constitution should employ the term "communications", which covers telecommunications as a whole. The sentence relating to telephone calls is therefore deleted.

ARTICLE 28 [32]

CTI/132/18

Regional Conferences, Arrangements and Organizations and Multilateral Meetings

CTI/132/19
MOD [152] 151

Members reserve the right to convene regional conferences, to make regional arrangements and to form regional organizations, for the purpose of settling telecommunication questions which are susceptible of being treated on a regional or multilateral basis. Such regional or multilateral arrangements shall not be in conflict with either ~~this the~~ Constitution or the Convention.

Reasons: Since multilateral planning meetings (MPM) for the use of the geostationary-satellite orbit were decided by WARC ORB-88, provision should be made for them in the Constitution.

ARTICLE 29 [33]

Rational Use of the Radio Frequency Spectrum
and of the Geostationary-Satellite Orbit

CTI/132/20
MOD [154] 153

2. In using frequency bands for space radio services, Members shall bear in mind that radio frequencies and the geostationary-satellite orbit are limited natural resources and that they must be used efficiently and economically, in conformity with the provisions of the Radio Regulations, so that ~~countries~~ Members or groups of ~~countries~~ Members may have equitable access to both, taking into account the special needs of the developing ~~countries~~ Members and the geographical situation of particular ~~countries~~ Members.

Reasons: To ensure conformity with the terms previously used.

ARTICLE 38 [45]

Ratification

CTI/132/21
MOD [177] 173

1. ~~This~~ The Constitution and the Convention shall be ratified simultaneously by any signatory in accordance with its constitutional rules in force and in one single instrument. Each instrument of ratification shall be deposited, in as short a time as possible, with the Secretary-General, ~~by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the Government of the country of the seat of the Union~~. The Secretary-General shall notify the Members of each deposit of such instrument of ratification.

Reasons: The deletion of the phrase "through the intermediary of the Government of the country of the seat of the Union" would reduce the transmission time.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

Document 133-E
25 May 1989

NICE, 1989

For information

PLENARY MEETING

Address by the Secretary-General

Mr. Chairman,

This 1989 Plenipotentiary Conference will indelibly leave its mark on our Union as we are at a critical phase of launch into the Information Age. The issues before this Conference and the manner in which they are resolved will have a profound influence on the future of the ITU and the entire world of telecommunications which it supports.

I believe that the Plenary sessions in the early stages need to focus intensely on three major issues in order for the concerned committees to come up with practical and manageable suggestions for implementation.

These issues are:

- 1) the impact on the Members and the ITU of the changing telecommunication environment in terms of globalization of telecommunications and information networks; the need for their balanced, universal development, and the related institutional restructuring;
- 2) the functioning of the Union and resources and;
- 3) the timeliness for the setting up of a more or less permanent legal instrument of the ITU.

But, before I come to speak on these issues, let me recall briefly the highlights of the major events that have taken place since 1982 which will serve as a background to project and propose future action.

Past Conferences and Meetings

No-one can deny that the programme of conferences and meetings of the Union established by the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, 1982, was unusually heavy. It is therefore gratifying that we are able to report to the Conference that, except for a Region 3 Conference, for which the Members of that Region had not expressed sufficient interest nor an urgent need, the programme established at Nairobi has been implemented. This was achieved, notwithstanding the complexities associated in seeking to accommodate the needs of all Members of the Union in regard to both:

- the equitable access to, and the related planning and use of the radio frequency spectrum for diverse service developments in various world and regional administrative conferences which provided innovative legislative concepts and significant opportunities for the application and integration of many new technological and service applications; and

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- the consequences of the changing telecommunication environment, including the necessity for replacement of the Telegraph and Telephone Regulations, 1973, by the International Telecommunication Regulations adopted at the Melbourne WATTC Conference, 1988.

In addition, there has also been a tremendous upsurge in the ITU's Consultative Committees activity brought about by the convergence of information technologies with branches of telecommunications, resulting from the rapid spread of digitalization with all of its consequences on the various means of transmission and switching. This process of convergence can only accelerate among all branches of telecommunications as the revolutionary impact of digitalization proceeds.

Indeed, whilst at first sight there may seem to be a less intensive programme of world administrative conferences unfolding for the next period, financial estimates for the expected growth for servicing and documentation of meetings are likely to offset economies in a reduced conference programme, i.e. unless we have some reform of present methods, organization and work processes, particularly for the working arrangements and decision making processes within the organs of the Union.

The World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference (WATT-88, Melbourne), produced the world's first treaty for integrated international telecommunication networks and services in the new environment. The outcome of WATTC-88 is an elegant yet pragmatic balance between the specific recognitions of national sovereignty and global needs, with the establishment of basic rules for cooperation between the concerned parties. WATTC laid great stress on interconnectivity between networks and systems - be they public or private and gave advice and information to this Conference in the calls for revision of our Convention, and as to working methods and definitions as well as the decision making in standardization and other matters.

The World Administrative Radio Conference (1984-1987) for the improved planning of the HF bands exclusively allocated to the broadcasting service adopted certain partial solutions. In so doing, it recommended that consideration should be given to an enlargement of the bands concerned. In addition, the Conference gave necessary directives for further improvement and adaptation of the computer software developed by the IFRB for the planning process. The latter is to be taken up in a forthcoming WARC, and I would like to emphasize the need to give special attention to the way in which Members prepare for this new Conference given the complexity of the issues concerned. You are well aware that they are not technical in character.

These are matters which the present Plenipotentiary Conference would need to consider in the context of a new administrative radio conference(s) suggested for 1992 or so. A related question is that of some limited spectrum re-allocation required for mobile-satellite services as well as satellite HDTV and sound broadcasting.

Finances

As regards the Union's finances, a number of points are worth mentioning:

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- For every financial year since the last Plenipotentiary Conference, expenditure has been kept within the authorized limits, with income invariably in excess of the estimates. Furthermore, over the period from 1982 to 1989 the Administrative Council was able to approve budgets within the limits set by the Nairobi Conference in Additional Protocol I. The expenditure limits for twelve specific functional activities set by the Nairobi Conference have thus been fully complied with. Nevertheless, across-the-board cuts decided by the Nairobi Conference at a late stage presented innumerable problems in the financial management of the Union, given the ever-increasing demands made on it by a sector known for its dynamic growth. It is difficult to measure the true impact of these cuts, but it is clear that without them, the Union's activities would have produced more satisfactory results and better service. In any event, the establishment of the base for the new Protocol ceilings will necessitate adjustment between certain functional limits.

- The situation as regards the Union's cash resources was not very satisfactory in the years 1984 to 1986. The ITU has no working capital fund and thus depends entirely on Members' contributions. During these years, the Union was unable to meet its commitments without recourse to advances from the Government of the Swiss Confederation. Advances of up to 9 million Swiss francs were required for brief periods in 1986. In all cases, the advances were refunded before the end of the financial year. This shortfall in cash resources was largely due to arrears, because arrears for contributions and publications now total over 32 million Swiss francs, including 8.5 million for 1988, and 23.5 million for 1987 and previous years. For purposes of comparison, the corresponding amounts were 18.5 million Swiss francs at the end of 1981, including 8.5 million for 1981 and 10 million for previous years. Thus, the arrears have thus more than doubled in the interval between the two Plenipotentiary Conferences.

Difficulties have also been encountered by the Union in balancing the budget of administrative and operational costs for technical cooperation projects in spite of the economy measures enforced since the last Plenipotentiary Conference in 1982. This problem arises from the political consensus reached in 1980 by the UNDP Governing Council and the UN General Assembly concerning agency support costs. It also relates to the consequences of currency fluctuations to be shared by the Agencies and to the fact that no corresponding recognition was made in the ceiling provisions of the Financial Protocol. The relationship between the UNDP and the Specialized Agencies was changed from a simple executing agency role to a full partnership one and, as such, the ITU is required to share the actual administrative and operational costs incurred for the overall management of technical cooperation projects. The Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference resolved that the ITU observe the relevant UNDP decisions in this matter.

The Administrative Council has taken certain measures to find additional resources in conformity with four Finance Plans put forward by the Secretary-General. It will now be up for this Plenipotentiary Conference to take the necessary steps to solve the root causes of these shortfalls.

Apart from these items, which have given both the Administrative Council and myself some cause for concern, the Union's finances may be considered to be in a healthy state.

Staff

The performance of the staff of the Union was undoubtedly affected by certain decisions made by the 1982 Plenipotentiary Conference and subsequently by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The financial cuts decided by the last Plenipotentiary Conference, with no corresponding reduction in the extensive work programme adopted, fell most heavily upon the staff of the Union. To meet budgetary restrictions, it was necessary to freeze an appreciable number of posts. The reduced staff of the Union responded in a magnificent manner to the call to undertake more work, and the need for increased efficiency. There are, however, limits to this situation. I must invite attention to the negative impact on quality of services and staff morale in facing continued growth of requirements for Administrations, RPOA's and SIO's whose requirements are being serviced.

Decisions of the General Assembly of the United Nations leading to the freezing of professional salaries, the general deterioration of conditions of employment in the Common System with a major impact in Geneva, and the reduction and uncertainty in pension benefits have been strongly resented by the staff. These deteriorations have led to recent unrest.

The efforts of the Administrative Council to obtain corrective action at the level of the Common System have had little effect. In response to Resolution No. 61 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, studies have been made with a view to maintaining the level of pensions and a planned Pension Purchasing Power Protection Insurance scheme has been developed for consideration by the Conference. Detailed supporting draft regulations are provided together with comments relating to legal aspects of the insurance plan. The adoption of this scheme would provide an acceptable degree of protection for pensions against further deterioration and would serve to alleviate present staff anxieties.

It is evident that action is necessary to improve the conditions of employment offered to the staff of the Union and to make these conditions more competitive if the Organization is to attract and retain staff of the calibre necessary to achieve the aims of its Members.

Then there is the question of how the Union is to tackle another function which has been formally recognized by the Nairobi Plenipotentiary. I am referring here to the perennial problem of technical cooperation and assistance issues which are of paramount importance to the great majority of the Members.

Technical Cooperation Activities

Preceding Plenipotentiary Conferences have adopted different initiatives to tackle the root causes of the gaps in the development and expansion of the telecommunication networks worldwide. The Malaga-Torremolinos Conference initiated the Special Funds to augment resources for technical cooperation. The Nairobi Conference launched the Voluntary Programme, and created an Independent Commission to study the matter, in addition to recognizing explicitly in the Convention that cooperation for development as one of the basic purposes of the Union.

Although progress was made as a result of the above actions, we cannot say that it has been sufficient as the disparity among the levels of network development of Members is ever expanding. At the request of the Secretary-General, the Administrative Council set up a group of experts among its members to study the **Changing Nature of Technical Cooperation**. The report has been the subject of debate at two different sessions of the Council by the Secretary-General and relevant conclusions have been further elaborated in a Document submitted for your attention.

- Thus, as far as technical cooperation and the related field activities are concerned, the ITU has a dual role:

(a) as the specialized agency of the United Nations for telecommunication matters. This institutional responsibility seeks:

- to promote the development of telecommunication networks and services, particularly in developing countries; and
- to encourage and expand the development of technical cooperation.

(b) as an executing agency for technical cooperation projects.

These functions do have an inter-relationship.

Information exchange through the Secretariat

A related question is that of the reciprocal exchange of information among the Members of the Union. Since the inception of the Union's secretariat in 1869 such information exchange, through the ITU Permanent Secretariat, has constituted an important element of the Union's work. In today's rapidly changing environment this function has become of much more significance to the telecommunications community. The Union needs to be responsive, in the most effective and efficient manner, to the emerging needs of all users, be it those from the more advanced industrialized countries, or those in remote areas, or with limited resources.

A fundamental question to resolve is the need for the assignment of costs in the collection treatment and processing of information for distribution. This is a basic function of the Union's daily operational activities. Solutions should be found to enable adequate provision for availability of information in both printed and electronic media, without an adverse impact on those not using the new information technologies. There is no doubt that, in some cases, there are significant economic gains to a number of Administrations to receive information electronically, thereby reducing their local costs in treatment of data and information coordinated through the ITU organs.

It is imperative that an appropriate publication policy be agreed upon by the present Conference. In addition, relevant WATTC-88 conclusions have been presented to you in the Conference documentation.

Information systems and services are increasingly essential to the accomplishment of ITU responsibilities and modern office technology was introduced extensively. Indeed, we have been successful in applying modern office automation technology oriented around PC's and a local area network. Indeed, almost 600 personal computer workstations have been gradually installed

and the majority of the staff has been trained in the use of these tools. The entire headquarters has been wired with a Local Area Network - TELnet - making it possible to develop working methods which rely on the exchange of work-in-progress and the reference information in machine readable form. This international model for our size was used for the CCITT Plenary Assembly and the WATTIC in Melbourne last year, as well as for this Plenipotentiary Conference.

We extended our TELnet into a Wide Area Network linking the Conference sites to Headquarters in Geneva. Combined with high-speed, high-resolution facsimile links, these computer and communication methods make for more effective use of staff during conferences and improve Headquarters support of the conference. This has led to significant decentralization of activity away from the main frame computers. This policy complemented by sharing of resources - information, work in progress, software, specialized hardware - through the network, has brought steady increases in productivity with the related decline in production costs.

Work is proceeding for the extension of the advantages of computer communication systems for the exchange of information with ITU to all participants in the Union's activities. The ITU's Telecom Information Exchange Services - or TIES as it is known - will provide electronic messaging among participants and between members and Headquarters, regular information on a variety of aspects of the Union's work, access to certain ITU databases.

Future services will include delivery of ITU documents, publications, and data by many new and traditional means. I thank those expert participants in the CCITT activity and the operating entities for their helpful advice and support in the identification of needs and system support. The quality of the TELnet and Wide Area Network developed within the purview of Computer Department and at relatively low cost has been highly commended by many specialists and executives.

Major Issues

Now let me come to the three fundamental issues which I raised at the beginning of this statement.

The development and application of digital devices and techniques on a grand scale are driving and revolutionizing the telecommunication industry today. Indeed, all branches telecommunications are now affected and they include the associated information systems and applications that are entwined with and support the entire global economy. In every country, basic telecommunication networks are pre-requisites for industry, for innovation, and for building the national economy.

However, there are growing and valid fears that given the rapidity of change of technology and services, the stage is being set for a "greater divide" in the coming years among countries and users - contrary to the Independent Commission's modest vision of "telephones within easy reach of all humanity".

Furthermore, the Missing Link Report and the follow-up activities thereon point to the need for concerted action on several fronts for achieving a balanced totality of telecommunication development. Consistent with its mandate, the Union is now required to play a more active promotional role in areas where so far its involvement has only been minor.

One of the WATTC resolutions on "the changing telecommunications environment" invites the Plenipotentiary Conference "to consider the implications and opportunities which the integration of new technologies, the development of new types of services and the diversity of arrangements may entail for the harmonious and efficient development, operation and use of telecommunications worldwide; and to consider the impact that various issues may have on the work of the Union and the cooperation between members".

Some Members have asked for the Advisory Group "Report on the Changing Telecommunications Environment - Policy Considerations for the Members of the ITU", to be considered at this Conference. The Group was commissioned in response to requests which I had received for advice from prominent officials of a number of countries. The Report has been well received and I thank those leaders who have informed me accordingly.

The general trends of development in the telecommunications sector are thoroughly reviewed and the report makes a series of recommendations at national, regional and international levels. With regard to the ITU, the members of the Group have said that : "It is important, however, to undertake an in-depth review of the Secretariat structure so that it can be fully responsive to the demands of the new global telecommunication environment, while at the same time being cost-effective in terms of ITU's resources." If the ITU is to continue to serve as the prime international focal point of the information communication technology it should adapt itself to the ever changing environment in order to respond to the call of the times.

The dramatic changes occurring around the world are not driven just by technological advances but also by user demands and in some countries market forces. Furthermore, the proliferation of personal computers and their interconnectability via traditional telecommunications is now leading to the evolution of a wide variety of message and other information exchange services. There is also the rapid and progressive integration of different service distinctions such as the fixed and mobile, as well as the growing interaction between public and private networks. There is also the growing requirement for portability in the use of personal computers or mobile radiocommunication, including hand-pocket telephones of the future.

The implications of these developments are enormous. The familiar boundaries of earlier days are not only blurred but even disappearing. The transmission distinctions between different media such as satellites and optical fibre, cable and radiocommunications are rapidly losing their relevance.

The Union must respond to the need for a dynamic and effective global standardization process for the necessary interconnection and application of new technologies into the global network. The Plenipotentiary Conference should thus give consideration to modifying the International Telecommunication Convention to provide the Union with the necessary structure, processes and resources. This should include consideration of better use of resources of countries, as well as resources available for the ITU - an issue of major importance in the present period of great financial constraints. From a global interconnectivity perspective, then, it is crucial that the Conference take those policy actions necessary to assure the primacy of the Union. A consequence would be not only a more responsive ITU but also one that would be more lean and cost effective - a goal continually pressed by many governments and operating organizations today.

The telecommunications environment of the 90s, and the role of the Union in preventing a breakdown of telecommunication equipment, services and trade into regional enclaves requires no less. These are not changes that can wait for years for further consideration. Most of the needs are ones that long have been patently evident, and the time to act is now at Nice. Perhaps a more dynamic global standardization approach could have diverted some of the regional groupings already appearing.

What is important for the Plenipotentiaries is to assess exactly what the telecommunications sector now represents, or should I say what the state of information communication technology is today, what it encompasses, where it is going and how best the Union can support and enhance the cooperative efforts of nations.

The telecommunications of 1989 are no longer those of 1982. With this same reasoning the ITU of the 1990s cannot be that of the 80s. There have been so many basic and substantive changes in the nature of telecommunications that the structures established to handle an environment that existed decades ago cannot be expected to accommodate effectively the new requirements. There is a need for a proper restructuring of the Secretariat support tasks set-up, if the Union is to satisfy adequately the needs of the totality of its Membership.

I am mindful of the fact that the Administrative Council avoided drawing any conclusions on the report of the Panel of Experts on the Long Term Future of the IFRB. Was this reluctance related to the apparent divergence between the findings of the report and the dynamics of the situation in regard to spectrum utilization which the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference had indeed recognized seven years ago?. It is important that the Conference consider the real needs for administering spectrum use in the 1990's.

The Conference has received a whole series of proposals on structural questions from a number of Member countries. Of course, any structural changes cannot be intended to diminish the importance of any function or medium of transmission be it radiocommunication or cable. All that I can do, as your outgoing Secretary-General, is to urge you earnestly to look at the structure with courage and vision for the future of our society which many call already the Information Society, and the way in which the Union will face and retain its primacy in this new environment of rapid change and convergence, so that it remains dynamic and benefits all Members and users.

New Steps

After agreeing on the kind of telecommunications environment in which the Union must lead, and after setting up the appropriate Secretariat structural arrangements to assume the related responsibilities, the interconnected decisions must be taken to define the resource requirements.

I have to urge against any predetermined budgetary limitation as a basis to determine the functions and duties of the organization.

The organization is there to carry out agreed activities for which it requires resources. The overall reduction in budget limits imposed in 1982 was achieved partly by cutting back on services and partly through productivity gains due to improved mechanization of services such as office automation and reproduction. It is unlikely that the same kind of results would be obtained in the forthcoming period.

Our field of telecommunications is experiencing a revolution manifested by exponential growth of the technology and its application in new forms of services. This kind of growth cannot be supported by the ITU. We are far from reaching the point of the levelling of the growth curve without increase in budgetary resources. How great that increase should be is a matter for detailed analysis and consultation.

Finally, let me come to the constitution/convention issue. Many Plenipotentiary Conferences have expressed the wish for a more permanent type of instrument governing the ITU. The Nairobi Conference adopted a resolution on this matter and as a result you have in front of you, draft proposals for consideration.

As I have indicated, this Conference has to deal with many substantive issues that will require comprehensive debate in order to reach a good understanding and a wide consensus among the Members. Those issues include treatment proposals for structural changes, which in turn impact the proposals concerning the basic instrument and the implementation of the Conference's decisions thereof. Accordingly, it would be wise for the Plenary to give guidance to the various committees whether or not a more permanent instrument such as a constitution is being established, or to continue with the normal type of convention for another term. Such a decision will clear the air in terms of the positions to be taken by some administrations on other issues.

Closing

In the course of its history, the Union has demonstrated its ability to adapt itself to change, both technological and political: from telegraphy to space communications, photonic systems and intelligent networks; and from a nineteenth century group of 20 nations to a mid-twentieth century world of 166 nations. We have witnessed unprecedented changes in the telecommunications environment including the convergence of telecommunications (and now of all branches) and information technology and services. Dramatic changes have occurred in the telecommunications infrastructure of some countries characterized by terms such as deregulation, or degrees of liberalization and leading in some countries to new providers of telecommunication services accompanied by some of competition. The newcomers to the scene have demonstrated their ingenuity by introducing new applications and services allowed by digitalization. These applications have had a strong impact in some sectors of the economy, such as office automation, computerized design, information service providers, manufacturing and the like. We are also witnessing the convergence of another branch of telecommunications technology, i.e. electronic mass media with that of informatics, thereby bringing a wide spectrum of information services to the home of every citizen.

Thus the traditional approach of examining telecommunications from purely technological and operational standpoints is no longer adequate. Authorities are recognizing that telecommunication is now a critical component of many national sectors and the related policy issues must be considered at the highest levels of government. This is evident too, by the extent to which matters have been taken up in other fora like GATT for certain economic issues of trade in services. In this regard, following the guidance from the Administrative Council, the secretariat has maintained contacts and given advice to the GATT secretariat. Recently, ITU was accepted as an observer to the Services Negotiations in regard to telecommunication matters. I am convinced that the decisions taken at WATTC-88 will facilitate the considerations.

The Plenipotentiaries of the Members of the Union now have the opportunity to assess the state of the organization, the challenges it faces and the opportunities it can offer to the totality of its Membership. Let us rise to this historical occasion and to tackle the issues with understanding, courage and appreciation of the needs and aspirations of everyone. The future of harmonious development of worldwide telecommunications is in your hands and let us find the innovative ways to strengthen the Union for the challenges of the Information Age that has already dawned.

For my part, these last six and a half years have been a privilege in holding a rare international public trust, and guiding international telecommunications at the ITU helm during a period witnessing more rapid evolution than the entire previous history of telecommunications.

Every day, I have devoted my energies toward making the ITU and its work the best that it can be.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served the global telecommunication community, and thank all of those who have assisted me in these endeavors and achievements.

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PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 134-E
19 June 1989
Original: English

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRD PLENARY MEETING

1. On the cover-page and in the heading to paragraph 1.15, replace "Statement by the Minister of Works and Telecommunications, The Gambia" by "Statement on behalf of the Minister of Works and Communications of Gambia".
2. In paragraph 1.12, replace the fourth sub-paragraph from the end by the following:

"As regards the staff of the ITU's permanent organs, we are concerned in particular with the fact that the Administrative Council has not given enough attention to these matters, which has led to an unjustified increase in the staff of the General Secretariat.

While noting the great achievements of the ITU in successfully holding a large number of international and regional administrative conferences between the Nairobi and Nice Plenipotentiary Conferences, we cannot fail to note at the same time that the results achieved at some of them did not match with the intellectual effort and financial resources that went into the preparatory work and the holding of the conferences themselves. So it is not surprising that countries have not been active enough in ratifying the results of conferences, particularly regional ones."

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

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PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRD PLENARY MEETING

Thursday, 25 May 1989, at 0945 hrs

Chairman: Mr. J. GRENIER (France)

Subjects Discussed:

1. General policy statements (continued)
 - 1.1 Statement by the Minister of Communications, Republic of Korea
 - 1.2 Statement by the Minister of Communications, Nepal
 - 1.3 Statement by the Minister of Communications, Syrian Arab Republic
 - 1.4 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Paraguay
 - 1.5 Statement by the Minister of Communications, Brunei Darussalam
 - 1.6 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Ghana
 - 1.7 Statement by the Minister of Communications, Afghanistan
 - 1.8 Statement by the Minister of Communications and Tourism, Bhutan
 - 1.9 Statement by the Director-General of the Ministry of Communications, Israel
 - 1.10 Statement by the Minister of Communications, Nigeria
 - 1.11 Statement by the Minister for Information, Post and Telecommunications, Gabon
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 - 1.13 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Spain
 - 1.14 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Togo
 - 1.15 Statement by the Minister of Works and Telecommunications, The Gambia

1. General policy statements (continued)

1.1 The Minister of Communications, Republic of Korea made the following statement:

"It is my personal honour and pleasure to address this august meeting with my hearty congratulations on Mr. Grenier's chairmanship of the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union. On behalf of the Delegation of the Republic of Korea, I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Government of France and its Telecommunication Administration for the thorough preparations and cordial hospitality shown to the participants of this Conference being held in this beautiful city of Nice. I hope and believe that this Conference will mark a momentum for further development of telecommunications in the world, and for enhancement of international cooperation among the Members of the Union for that purpose.

Allow me to take this opportunity to report very briefly to this meeting on the development of telecommunications in Korea, and the international cooperation we enjoyed for the successful staging of the Olympic Games of 1988 in Seoul, Korea. At the beginning of the decade of the 1980s, with genuine awareness by all parties concerned in Korea that improved telecommunication infrastructure was a fundamental and essential element for overall socio-economic development of the nation, we launched an ambitious long-term national telecommunication development plan, which included, among others, a project for expanding the nationwide telephone switching network by over one million lines per year, employing the most advanced technologies needed for the expansion. As a result of the successful implementation of the project plan to date, we can witness that the single integrated national telephone network now has fully automatic direct dialling with sufficient capacity to accommodate all outstanding telephone demands. In the course of development, we have introduced into the network such new technologies as optical fibres, very large scale integrated circuits (VLSI) and fully digitalized switching systems.

The success of the development plan was distinctively demonstrated at the Seoul Olympiad last year. The 24th Summer Olympics was held in Seoul from 17 September 1988 for a period of 16 days. It was one of the greatest world sports events - a true festival of harmony, peace and progress for all mankind. During the Games, more than 36,000 athletes and officials of 160 countries from all over the world participated, which brought in a large scale of diversified telecommunication demands. We could amply supply the most suitable facilities with high quality, satisfying the various service requirements of all participants. During the Games, a total of 21,000 channels of all types of telecommunication services were provided for the Games proceedings and for supporting administrative functions, 14,000 channels for news reporters and broadcasters, and an additional 5,000 for other general public uses. Twenty-seven simultaneous international satellite TV programme channels were employed for world-wide live broadcasting to all peoples to view the spectacle of the Games in real time. One of the most noticeable features of the communication services was the interworking of computer networks and the telecommunication networks. We had developed, manufactured and established three sub-systems for a computer network specifically designed to suit the requirements of the Games: the Games Information On-Line System (GIONS); the Wide Information Network System (WINS) and the Support and Management System (SMS). These sub-systems were interlinked to form the computer network for the Games, and then interconnected to the existing public telecommunication networks through the sub-system WINS. By this interworking of the computer and the telecommunications networks, all subscribers of the telecommunication network, as well as other special users, could retrieve the information related to the Games from anywhere, at any time, by single connection of a compatible computer terminal. It has been proved that successful operation of the modern Olympic Games, or any other large scale function, depends

entirely on reliable telecommunications combined with compatible computer systems. At the conclusion of the Games, the telecommunications of Korea were highly praised by all who participated in this universal event.

Since the Government of the Republic of Korea acceded to the Convention of International Telecommunication in 1952, Korea has been a very loyal Member of the ITU in promoting international cooperation through ITU with its Member countries. In January 1988, we hosted a meeting of Study Group 18, on ISDN, of the CCITT. Currently we are contributing substantial inputs in kind and cash to support the regional cooperation project of ITU/UNDP on Networking of Test Development Centres in Asia, as a part of the programme Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC). Ever since 1984, Korea has been offering a technical training programme for young engineers from the Member countries of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT). Encouraged by the success of the training programme, it is to be expanded to accommodate more trainees from other countries than APT members beginning this year. We are fully aware that technical cooperation performed by the ITU and other regional organizations, such as the APT, have made a material contribution toward the preservation of peace and narrowing the development gaps between the developing and the developed countries.

To keep pace with the efforts of the ITU in promoting the international telecommunication cooperation, the Korean Government has determined to take more responsibility and to share our development experiences with other developing countries of the Union. To reflect our determination, we are now considering increasing our current contribution unit for the expenses of ITU in consultation with the officials of the Union and other delegates during this Conference. Also, we are prepared to donate a certain amount of development funds to assist the establishment and operation of the Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) during next year. In addition to these increased contributions to the ITU by the Government, all other branches of the telecommunication industry in Korea will join the Government in strengthening their ties with the ITU by various kinds of contributions toward the work of the ITU. I welcome this increased participation, in the belief that the future work of the ITU should accelerate the development of telecommunications in the developing countries of the world.

I attach special importance to this Conference, as it is to restructure the basic instruments of the ITU, and also to re-elect all officials of the permanent organs of the Union as well as the Members of the Administrative Council and the International Frequency Registration Board. In participating in these very important tasks, I would assure you, Mr. Chairman, that my Delegation will act considering solely the benefits and efficiency of the Union in collaboration with other delegations.

I should like to extend my highest respect and compliments to Mr. Richard Butler, who has expressed his wish to retire from the Union, for his most brilliant and invaluable contribution to the ITU and to all of its Member countries over a very long period of time ever since his joining the ITU as early as the 1960s.

Finally, I wish every success to this Plenipotentiary Conference to attain this intended objectives under your able and professional leadership."

1.2 The State Minister of Communications, Nepal made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Delegation from His Majesty's Government of Nepal and on my own behalf, I would like to express sincere congratulations to you, Mr. Grenier, on your election as Chairman of this important Conference and would also like to wish you a grand success in steering the work of the Conference. It is indeed a matter of immense pleasure for my Delegation and for me to be here in the beautiful city of Nice as participants in this Conference of ITU Plenipotentiaries. On behalf of His Majesty's

Government I wish to thank the Government of France, our host, for the kind invitation extended to us and for all that the organizers have done to make our stay in this beautiful country comfortable. I would also like to avail of this opportunity to extend our deep appreciation to Mr. R.E. Butler, Secretary-General and his staff for their highly commendable and excellent contributions to the development of telecommunications, especially in the developing countries of the world. I would also like to express our cordial welcome to the nine new Members who have joined our Union since the last Plenipotentiary Conference held in Nairobi. The increasing Membership of the Union is undoubtedly recognition of the fact that this body has been doing an excellent job in the development of telecommunications in Member States by rendering all possible help and cooperation in the application of the latest technology.

Our contemporary world has witnessed unprecedented development in telecommunication systems, services and technologies, particularly during this decade. The telecommunication sector is attaining tremendous importance in business and the political arena, particularly in the developed world. Transformation in the structural and regulatory framework of the telecommunication sector is sweeping through the industrially developed countries. The benefits of competition and privatization is enhancing the competitiveness of enterprises and generating economic benefits for the entrepreneurs of the developed countries, whereas at the other end of the scale are small developing countries where telecommunication development is at a relatively low level. These countries are facing multidimensional problems like low levels of investment, relatively high costs of telecommunication equipment, all of which have to be imported, lack of human resources and a proper institutional set-up to formulate policies and regulate the telecommunication sector in an appropriate manner in the light of impending changes in the telecommunication environment. While we can commend ITU's services in recognizing the above imbalances and reducing them gradually, we hope that the Conference will find ways and means to redress these imbalances and to implement the Arusha Declaration in its true spirit.

The assistance rendered by the International Telecommunication Union to the Administration of Telecommunications of Nepal in staff training, planning and installation and operation of telecommunication services has been very useful indeed. As a result, remarkable progress has been achieved in the expansion of telecommunication facilities in the country. Realizing the important role that telecommunications can play in speeding the pace of socio-economic development and modernization, His Majesty's Government, under the new national communication policy has planned to offer one telephone per 100 people by the end of the century as against the present telephone density of three telephones to 1,000 people. In connection with the development of the rural telecommunication network, accessibility to a public telephone booth will be reduced from the present walking distance of eight or nine days to four or five hours by the year 2000. With the introduction of digital switching systems, subscribers from 49 out of 75 districts have been enabled to use subscriber trunk dialling, both domestic and international.

With the introduction and advancement of new communication technologies the Union's roles and responsibilities are becoming enormous. In this context, the role played by the Union has become more reassuring towards safeguarding the communication interests of many developing countries like Nepal. I believe that the Union will focus its efforts on the objectives which are designed to bring about a genuine solution to the problem of bridging the wide gap between the industrialized countries on the one hand, and the Third World countries on the other. This can only be achieved by consistent and effective cooperation and the assistance of the Union and other international agencies, and by transfer of technology for the benefit of these countries. My Delegation is in general agreement with the Report of the Advisory Group on Telecommunication Policy. As mentioned earlier most of the developing countries like ours have high expectations from the ITU, and the role played by the Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) towards meeting the requirements of the developing

nations cannot be over-emphasized. We hope that CTD will be able to meet the objectives as defined by the Report of the Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development, while considering for adoption the new basic instrument to have a Constitution and Convention separately, it is my Delegation's view that the spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding will prevail and come to a conclusion acceptable to all of us in view of the changes brought by technological innovation.

I would like to conclude my speech by expressing through you, Mr. Chairman, my Delegation's gratitude for a splendid welcome in this highly enchanting historical city of the French Riviera and for the excellent organization of the work of the Conference, thank you all."

1.3 The Minister of Communications, Syrian Arab Republic, made the following statement:

"Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Grenier, Chairman of the Conference, Mr. Butler, Secretary-General of ITU, your Excellencies the Ministers, Heads and Members of Delegations, Ladies and Gentlemen, at the outset I wish to extend to you, Mr. Grenier, our warmest congratulations on your election to preside over our deliberations.

I also wish to congratulate the Chairmen and members of the Bureau of the Committees and I hope under your wise guidance our deliberations will be crowned by success and that we will arrive at the best results and decisions which will serve the international community as a whole and open new horizons and increase international cooperation in the field of telecommunications, a field which has now become decisive in affecting all other socio-economic and scientific and political spheres.

Allow me also to mention that Mr. Grenier was one of the pioneers of international cooperation and expanding and developing telecommunications and in transferring and exchanging technology. I say this with great confidence that the cooperation agreement between our two countries, especially in the field of telecommunications, this agreement was a landmark in the field of international cooperation and bilateral conventions.

I also wish to extend my thanks to the French Government for kindly hosting the deliberations and for the excellent working arrangements. And I wish for the French people who are celebrating this year the 200th anniversary of the 1789 revolution all progress and success. I also wish to extend my profound thanks to Mr. Butler, the Secretary-General of ITU, for the great efforts he is deploying throughout his term of office, efforts which have led to a qualitative improvement in the work of ITU and this is reflected in all the results, especially in the field of international cooperation and the increased effectiveness of the role of the Union. All these achievements will remain an excellent example for us to follow in the future. It is our hope that ITU will pursue this march forward in the future thanks to the efforts of all its Members realizing more cooperation between Member countries and establishing an integrated telecommunications network which would meet the aspirations and requirements of all the peoples of the world. We greatly appreciate the great role played by ITU as well as the other roles of greater effectiveness, roles which will evolve from the decisions of our Conference. It is incumbent upon us to lend our support to the work of this important Conference and that we continue positive cooperation so as to keep pace with the developments in the field of telecommunications and we should support the activities and work of the Union so as to upgrade cooperation between the various administrations and development of telecommunications networks so as to consolidate bonds of friendship and understanding between peoples so as to enhance a just peace and serve the progress of and prosperity of all peoples.

Mr. Chairman, in dealing with the joint objectives of building an advanced, liberated human society which possesses the best and most successful means of telecommunications we must refer to the uprising of the Arab people of Palestine in the West Bank and Ghaza as well as the demonstrations of our Syrian people in occupied Golan. The continuing Palestinian uprising for the past year and a half, its heroes are children and women, the weapons are human bodies, blood and stones which confront the occupying Israeli army. On many occasions the occupier severed all telecommunications and isolated the occupied areas, preventing the arrival of news from these areas to world public opinion. On many occasions, the occupier destroyed all the telecommunications facilities. As we all call for the freedom and sovereignty of peoples on their homelands, as we all call for an integrated and advanced international telecommunications network, how can we avoid condemning these activities which run counter to the United Nations Charter and the rules of ITU. How can we not support this intifada which calls for independence and freedom of the Arab people of Palestine. We are looking forward to the day when Palestine will join our ranks and participate in the work of ITU as a full Member. We had submitted a working paper to this Conference which includes subjects emanating from the objectives of the Union and from legitimate demands with a view to establishing greater cooperation in the field of telecommunications and condemning all actions which run counter to Article 35, especially paragraphs 420 and 421, of the Convention of ITU and taking all necessary measures in this regard. We hope that from our august Conference that it will study in due course these proposals.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and express my hope that we will arrive at decisions which will consolidate ITU and increase its effectiveness in the international sphere and allow it to develop telecommunications and supporting developing countries and attaining progress. Thank you, Sir."

1.4 The Head of the Delegation of Paraguay made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On 16 October 1864, the year before the International Telegraph Union was set up, Paraguay established its first national telegraph service. At that time, in the light also on the extraordinary progress achieved in other fields, it was known as one of the most advanced countries, in material, social and cultural terms, of South America. It was thus able to assume a significant role as a free and effectively independent sovereign country. It is worth noting, moreover, that those events occurred in circumstances which were completely different to those which presided over the foundation of the ITU, within a few years of the invention of the telegraph by the famous North American, Samuel Finley Morse.

At that time, Paraguay had only been independent from its mother country, Spain, for a little over 50 years. Paraguay's sovereignty disturbed certain outside interests, which set off an international conflict that left Paraguay territorially reduced and oppressively land-locked.

The Paraguayan spirit emerged unbowed, however, and the country recovered completely within a short space of time, so that today it looks to the future with the same will to succeed as when it inaugurated that first national telegraph service in South America.

We mention these facts because every event leaves a mark in the lives of peoples which can if identified serve as a guide. In this sense, the future cannot be built without reference to the past.

Paraguay has always shared every concern with the improvement of human living conditions and it is fully aware that in this respect telecommunications play an extremely important role. It is also of the opinion that the best way of improving the human condition is constantly to search for better opportunities.

Paraguay is fortunate enough to have hard-working neighbours, with which it can join its efforts to implement some very large-scale projects, such as the construction on the largest hydroelectric plant in the world, the now famous Itaipu, undertaken jointly with Brazil. The same occurred with Argentina, whose President, with the Paraguayan President, only a few days ago put the finishing touches to the forthcoming inauguration on the hydroelectric plant of Yacyreta, which is similar in scope and scale to Itaipu. With both these countries, Paraguay enjoys a bond of fraternal union, monumental bridges which express the understanding and cooperation between the three countries. A super highway is also being built across Paraguay over more than 800 km, which will serve before long as a link with the sister Republic of Bolivia.

Clearly these projects cannot go ahead with deficient communications, and at the same time it has to be recognized that their implementation is bound to foster telecommunications, since their contribution to progress extends into all fields and more than any other to telecommunications.

Paraguay's situation at present rests precisely on this cooperative effort, internally as well as regionally and internationally. We hope the Plenipotentiaries here present will have an idea of what Paraguay can offer in all spheres and especially in the field of telecommunications, in which there is full awareness of the pressures produced by the increasing complexity of the technology involved, where the combination of computing and communication will give rise to new telecommunication products and services available to an ever-growing world population.

Paraguay's wish is that before long it may join with the other Members of the ITU into a single world of telecommunications, united by networks offering an exchange of messages for the improvement of human living conditions.

Paraguay itself is equipped with a modern satellite communication system, with a microwave network which covers practically the whole country and interconnects with neighbouring countries, and with the most up-to-date digital electronic switching technology to link up with the outside world.

Paraguay recognizes that the telecommunication development programme has been extended, that there are new participants in the market, that this market is being divided into commercial customers and special requirements and private subscribers who want a universal telephone service; at the same time it recognizes that there are many questions that must be given top priority in order to attend to the aforementioned requirements.

With regard to the future of our organization, the ITU, Paraguay considers that while in general terms there is no doubt that it has been effective in contributing to the development of world telecommunications, we remain firmly convinced that any structure can be improved, although at the same time, before radical changes are introduced into the present structures, an effort should be made to improve the efficiency of the organization, by reviewing working methods and introducing whatever measures of reorganization may be necessary.

Lastly, Paraguay expresses the hope that the Plenipotentiaries here present as always will be inspired to plan the new organic structure of the ITU, which now more than ever in its history faces its greatest challenge, which is that of meeting the requirements of mankind in the 21st century."

1.5 The Minister of Communications, Brunei Darussalam made the following statement:

"Let me first of all, on behalf of my Delegation, congratulate you, Mr. Grenier, on your election as Chairman of this meeting of the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union - the supreme organ of the ITU. With your wide and vast experience in telecommunications, I am confident that you will be able to guide this Conference to a successful conclusion.

This is Brunei Darussalam's first participation at a Plenipotentiary Conference as a full Member of the ITU. Brunei Darussalam is a small developing country and a relative newcomer to the new telecommunication technology. Like most developing countries, we are struggling to catch up with the new up-to-date equipment. Because of the demands of our customers and the need to move abreast with time, we are rapidly moving into the age of digital networks. We are expanding our facilities to meet the needs of our community and indeed we hope to be able to make the Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) - the telecommunication network of the future - available to those who want it. We realize that it is important to keep improving and upgrading our facilities, and to introduce new ones whenever necessary, if we want to continue with our economic and social development. In our efforts to develop our economy, and hence our country, we place a great deal of importance on the development of our telecommunication facilities.

This is an important Conference not only for us but also for the whole of the telecommunication community. Telecommunication services, driven by ever-changing customers' demands and facilitated by rapidly evolving technologies, have become a vital requirement in our everyday lives - in government, in industry, in commerce and even in our leisure. Present-day telecommunication technology offers almost unlimited possibilities, but at the same time it poses a new and increasing challenge to telecommunication authorities and providers. This was brought out quite clearly at WATTC-88, held last year in Melbourne. The Conference, attended by 113 Member countries, adopted the world's first treaty for integrated international telecommunication networks and services. This treaty, the International Telecommunication Regulations, will provide the basic foundation of norms and administrative mechanisms for the harmonious development of telecommunication services and applications world-wide. This is indeed an important treaty as it also lays a firm framework for international telecommunications of the future. The role of telecommunications has become very important in the global economy; its link with international trade and commerce make it vital that telecommunication authorities take practical steps to meet the challenge of the future. Telecommunications has indeed acquired a strategic importance - reaching all fields of economic and social endeavours. The Treaty adopted in Melbourne will give the ITU the authority not only to coordinate the development of new technology but also to harmonize plans of actions by telecommunication authorities and providers. The Treaty lays down the basic rules and framework for cooperation between all concerned parties, thus ensuring a pragmatic balance between national sovereignty and global needs for efficient and viable communication.

It is indeed fitting that this Conference is held here, in France, for it was in France over 100 years ago, that the ITU's history began. The role of the ITU then was not as complex and demanding as it is today but, nevertheless, it was no less important. In this day and age, when telecommunication technologies have advanced tremendously and change is so rapid, coupled with an insatiable demand for fast and reliable telecommunications all over the world, some order must be imposed. We have seen rapid changes in the structure of telecommunication authorities all over the world; the introduction of regulations, deregulation, liberalization and privatization, are all aimed at meeting the specific needs of different countries and different environments. The introduction of digitization and of integrated voice and data services, fixed and mobile services, fibre optic cables and satellites, all need

special attention by telecommunication administrations in order to adapt and respond to the challenge. This is where the ITU should focus its attention. This Plenipotentiary Conference is held at a crucial and appropriate time - a time of challenge and changes.

The ITU we have today, in its present form and structure, may not be well equipped to cope with the challenges of the 1990s. The impact of digitization, the birth and rapid growth of the information age and the rapid development of the telecommunication industry may well need a body that can respond positively and rapidly to enable it to deal with matters more expeditiously. The ITU may therefore need not only restructuring and strengthening, it may also need a new mandate. The Secretary-General in his address before this Plenary yesterday, spoke at length on this important subject. He appropriately urged this Conference to give serious consideration with a view to recommend suitable steps to be taken to respond to these challenges. My Delegation shares the view that there is a need to make some structural changes in the ITU, to make it more responsive and able to function more effectively and able to address itself to dealing with pressing issues - especially in the intervening period between Plenipotentiary Conferences.

I do not wish to take up too much time in this short address but I do wish to say a few more words on some specific topics which my Delegation feel are important issues for this Conference. I wish to refer to the opinion that the Governing Body of the Centre for Telecommunication Development (CTD) and the Technical Cooperation Department (TCD) be merged. My Delegation feels that the CTD is performing a useful function. We also feel that it may be better to let it continue in its useful work and to prove its worth.

The other issue concerns the two CCIs - the CCIR and the CCITT. We share the view of other delegations who spoke before us that there is a need to re-examine this issue with a view to streamlining and harmonizing the functions of these two important organs.

Mr. Chairman, before I conclude, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you and through you the Government of France for hosting this Conference and for making our stay here in Nice so comfortable and pleasant. I also wish to extend my profound gratitude and congratulations to the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, and his able staff for the smooth and efficient way this meeting is being run. We understand Mr. Butler is leaving us soon, but his past services to the Union will long be remembered. I wish Mr. Butler a happy retirement and a well-earned rest."

1.6 The Head of the Delegation of Ghana made the following statement:

"On behalf of my Delegation and on my own behalf, permit me, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you and your colleagues on your election to steer the affairs of this important Conference of our dynamic Union. I can assure you of the full support and cooperation of my Delegation at this Conference. I wish also to convey, through you, to the Government and the Telecommunication Administration of France, the heartfelt appreciation of my Delegation for the warm reception and hospitality accorded us since our arrival in this historic city of Nice. This gesture of fraternity is a clear manifestation of the ever-growing cordial relationship that has existed for many years between the Governments and peoples of Ghana and France. Furthermore, I wish to convey, through you, our congratulations to the ITU and France Telecom for the able manner in which this Conference has been organized.

Ghana became a Member of this Union in 1957, that is to say, in the same year that she attained her independence. It is gratifying to mention that Ghana has, since her association with the Union 32 years ago, benefited tremendously from its services, particularly in the area of technical assistance for training and manpower development,

projects planning and implementation, network operations and maintenance. Indeed, the Government of Ghana is highly conscious of the key role telecommunications play in every sphere of development activity. That is why my country has accorded the telecommunication sector due priority in her Economic Recovery Programme. Within this Programme, Ghana has embarked upon quite an ambitious programme to rehabilitate, modernize and expand the telecommunication networks, including broadcasting.

It is important to stress that Ghana is conscious of the fact that the success of her telecommunications development plans and programmes depends to a very great extent, on the goodwill and cooperation of all Member States here assembled. Ghana therefore counts on the collective as well as the individual support and understanding of all Member States of the Union for the attainment of her set development objectives, which is in this case are essentially geared towards the overall improvement in international telecommunication services and facilities.

We have no doubt assembled here to review the activities of the Union, and to prepare the grounds for the work of the Union for the next six years. In this regard, I wish to comment on the following two important issues. Firstly, Ghana acknowledges the fact that telecommunication is now a multi-sectoral common factor and as such its policy implications should be viewed within the framework of overall national development policy. In this connection, I wish to congratulate the Secretary-General for his initiative in commissioning a study into the policy considerations of the changing telecommunication environment. I wish, also, to congratulate Mr. P. Hansen of Denmark and his distinguished colleagues of the International Advisory Group on Telecommunication Policy for their excellent work. Secondly, in order to be effective within the new telecommunication environment, the Government of Ghana hereby declares its support for the restructuring of the organs of the ITU.

It is my privilege, honour and pleasure to convey to this Plenipotentiary Conference, the fraternal greetings and best wishes of both the Government and the Telecommunication Administration of Ghana."

1.7 The Minister of Communications of Afghanistan made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan and my Delegation, may I congratulate you on your well-deserved election as Chairman of this august Conference. Your unanimous election is a good sign of your dedication and competence, by which you will lead the Conference with efficiency towards success.

I take this opportunity to express our thanks to you and through you to the Government of the Republic of France for hosting this Conference, for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to us, and for the excellent arrangements made for this Conference and our reception.

It is of considerable significance to us that the convening of this Conference coincides with the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution, which took place 200 years ago, affected the whole world, made "liberty, equality, fraternity" the watchwords of the people, tore down the medieval structure of Europe and opened the way to nineteenth century liberalism.

The French Revolution, being a source of inspiration for millions of people, has influenced various constitutions of many countries aspiring to liberty, equality, human rights and democracy.

The Republic of Afghanistan, having profound respect for human rights and liberties, has been including in its laws and regulations, and implementing, the valuable principles introduced and put into practice as a result of France's great Revolution. It is in this connection that the President of the Republic of Afghanistan issued on 19 May 1989 a Decree establishing a Commission on the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the great Revolution in France.

1989 coincides with the 200th anniversary of the victory of the French Revolution, which is glorified and welcomed by all countries of the world. As the great French Revolution has played a prominent role in the evolution of mankind's history, and as the slogans of this Revolution, i.e. liberty, equality and fraternity, are confirmed and upheld by the State in the Republic of Afghanistan, it is deemed necessary to commemorate in a worthy manner this great phenomenon in our country.

On the basis of the Decree, a Preparatory Commission on the commemoration of the great French Revolution has been set up, with the Honourable Dr. Mahoud Habibi, President of the Senate, as Chairman, the Honourable Sarwar Mangal, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers, as Vice-Chairman, and a number of the country's well-known scholars as members.

The Preparatory Commission will start functioning from Jauza 1st 1368 (22 May 1989) and adopt its work programme for commemorating the anniversary of the French Revolution. In this respect, the Commission, together with the State and social organs concerned, will organize the implementation of the programme throughout the country.

We are looking forward to receiving the contribution of the French authorities to the work of the Commission.

There should be a feeling of satisfaction that the Conference is being held in a country that has been one of the pioneers in the promotion of world telecommunication. We want, of course, to get acquainted with the latest telecommunication developments in this country.

Furthermore, France is one of the countries at whose initiative our Union was established.

I should like to bring the warm greetings and friendly wishes of the Afghan people, who are struggling for peace and national reconciliation in the country, to you and through you to your esteemed people.

The membership of the ITU has increased since the Plenipotentiary Conference of Nairobi, 1982. This increase certainly demonstrates the importance, indeed the vital importance, of our association with the work and objectives of the Union. It is essential that we constantly seek ways and means to strengthen the Union in order to achieve its fundamental goals, and above all a sound world telecommunication system. I consider it a happy occasion for our Delegation and myself to extend a cordial welcome to the new Members of the Union.

Telecommunication plays a significant role in promoting socio-economic development and fulfilling human needs. Considering this reality, the Republic of Afghanistan has been making investments in this vital sector.

We are well aware of the importance of the telecommunication network. It is no longer an indispensable instrument for the administration, as has hitherto been the case, but with the expansion of economic development it will acquire vital importance for trade, industry, transport, the press, education and also for private life. In fact, it is an essential prerequisite for socio-economic development.

We, like any other country, encounter difficulties in our endeavours to develop telecommunications. In addition to the scarcity of funds and shortage of trained personnel, our difficulties are further aggravated by the fact that our country, Afghanistan, is a mountainous country. Because of the country's geographical conditions, extension of telecommunications into the remote and rural areas will, therefore, be very expensive in terms of time, money and manpower.

Telecommunication is a speciality that cannot employ normal manpower directly to handle its services, unless the staff receives theoretical and practical training. Since, in most cases, older telecommunication equipment may co-exist with new and sophisticated technologies, personnel training will become more problematic. Though the Republic of Afghanistan has had a telecommunication training centre now for a number of years, the shortage of qualified personnel still poses a major problem.

Telecommunication development, on the other hand, requires heavy investment, which cannot be met under the ordinary budget. The limitation of financial resources therefore, constitutes a further obstacle to the normal and orderly development of the national telecommunication system.

In addition to the problems outlined, as a result of the war imposed on us, our telecommunication sector alone has sustained damage amounting to about 9,000 million afghanis. At the same time, television and radio stations being installed and brought into operation in order to entertain and instruct the people are - for instance in Nangarhar and Kandahar provinces - being demolished by rockets.

The price of telecommunication equipment and spare parts, particularly specialized items, are always determined by the manufacturer. In fact, they are dictated to and imposed on a telecommunication administration that has no alternative but to accept. This is indeed another of our problems.

Mutual collaboration among the countries and technical and financial cooperation from the developed countries, either directly or through the ITU and regional Unions, are, in our opinion, vital ways and means of solving the present problems.

However, we have not been alone in our efforts to develop telecommunication. International and regional organizations such as the ITU and the APT and friendly countries have been extending to us their valuable assistance, which we trust will continue.

The Republic of Afghanistan has been a member of INTELSAT since 1973, but unfortunately, owing to financial limitations, the earth station of this system has not yet been procured or erected in the country. We are making serious attempts to find ways and means of buying and installing the earth station, which would produce a dramatic qualitative and quantitative improvement in the country's telecommunications.

However, telecommunication technology has been advancing so rapidly that it is impossible for us, having limited resources, to keep pace with it.

Before we have finished introducing one technology, another arrives on the market and is brought into use. An ordinary telephone is still considered to be a luxury item for us, whereas the videophone is already available elsewhere. While we still admire the analogue system, the digital system is rapidly overtaking and superseding it.

Among other effects, the rapid advance of telecommunication technology raises the problem of non-availability or discontinuance of spare parts for the equipment possessed by developing countries, particularly the least developed ones, which cannot abandon the technology already procured in favour of the new technology. This certainly gives rise, as far as telecommunication is concerned, to an ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries.

The world telecommunication network cannot claim to be complete until this gap is narrowed or eliminated. Otherwise, this missing link would cause the world telecommunication network to remain incomplete and unsound.

The advances of the last two decades in telecommunications have, perhaps, exceeded the progress of the century before it. Following up this rapid rate of advance has thrown up a major challenge we in developing countries must face today. Only through a world-wide system of cooperation and coordination can we meet this challenge.

Thanks are due to the UNDP and the ITU for their untiring efforts to demonstrate their continuing interest in this important field through technical and financial cooperation for telecommunication projects. This is the place to express our appreciation in particular to the UNDP, the ITU and the APT for the comprehensive assistance extended to the Republic of Afghanistan. We eagerly look forward to receiving further assistance to enable us to obtain and maintain a sound telecommunication system to meet the needs of our time.

It is time for developed and developing countries to come closer together and recognize each other's equal rights with respect to the resources available. Development should not continue to be monopolized by only a few countries. It must be shared and generalized. Equal utilization of resources and reasonable technological transfer should be maintained.

Outer space is a natural resource and the common property of all mankind. As far as its utilization for telecommunication purposes is concerned, it is limited and should be considered as such. Any form of militarization of outer space must be opposed and curbed by both developed and developing countries.

Our cooperation with and participation in this international gathering stems basically from our traditional foreign policy of strengthening universal peace, developing extensive international cooperation, peaceful co-existence, positive and active non-alignment, extending and strengthening traditional friendship with all countries on the basis of mutual respect for national independence, national sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, striving to defend world peace and promote universal disarmament, banning arms races, preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons, developing and deepening international détente, eliminating military bases stationed in foreign territory and establishing a just international economic order.

As a loyal Member of the United Nations, the Republic of Afghanistan will continue to place a high value on international cooperation in various fields and will as always take an active part in the activities of the United Nations system. As for the International Telecommunication Union in particular, my Delegation hereby confirms that our country has been and will be fulfilling faithfully its obligations as an active Member State, observing the Convention, further strengthening international relations and cooperation and sparing no effort to attain the high aspirations of the United Nations and the noble objectives of the ITU.

We should like to see assistance to developing countries, particularly least developed ones, continue and increase, as indicated in and recommended by the first ITU Convention of 1865 and subsequent Conventions.

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU is a practical expression of the unshakable belief of the Member States in international cooperation and international understanding with a view to exchanging knowledge and experience and also to renewing our mutual friendship.

My Delegation believes that in spite of different viewpoints, if any, in this gathering, we should develop a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding which will make the Conference a fruitful one.

The Delegation of the Republic of Afghanistan assures you of its full and sincere cooperation during the ensuing meetings and wishes the Conference every success.

Let telecommunication be a means of international understanding and world peace."

1.8 The Minister of Communications and Tourism of Bhutan made the following statement:

"On this happy and auspicious occasion for my country, as we participate for the first time in the International Telecommunication Union's Plenipotentiary Conference, I have the honour to convey to the distinguished Chairman and all delegates and observers, the greetings and good wishes of His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, King of Bhutan, for the success of this important Conference.

On behalf of my Delegation and on my own behalf, I would like to congratulate you, Sir, on your unanimous election as the Chairman of the 13th Plenipotentiary Conference. I am sure that under your wise and able guidance, this Conference will prove a great success.

We are grateful to the Government and the people of the Republic of France for the very warm hospitality and the many courtesies extended to my Delegation. We would also like to express our appreciation to the Secretariat and the staff of the ITU for the excellent arrangements made for this Conference.

Mr. Chairman, an important aspiration of the Royal Government of Bhutan has been fulfilled with our membership of the International Telecommunication Union. After many years of self-imposed isolation, the Kingdom of Bhutan is now well and truly in the mainstream of international life. We look forward to close cooperation and assistance from the ITU in our efforts to develop an efficient telecommunication network within the Kingdom, and with the outside world.

Bhutan is a small kingdom situated in the Himalayan Region. Completely landlocked, Bhutan is situated amidst formidable mountainous terrain making it difficult to develop any kind of communication system without involving great physical effort and financial cost. This, therefore, makes it all the more imperative that a country such as ours, with difficult geographical features, establish and maintain an extensive and efficient telecommunication network to facilitate and enhance the pace of social and economic development.

Telecommunication was first introduced in Bhutan in the 1960s with the technical and financial assistance of our friendly neighbour, India. A microwave system was established in Thimphu, our capital, in 1984. This gave Bhutan its first direct access to India, and through India, to the rest of the world. At present, this microwave continues to be the most vital link for Bhutan with the outside world.

However, because of the need to expand and upgrade the telecommunication system, the Royal Government is currently in the process of setting up a satellite earth station at Thimphu. This station, when commissioned, will enable Bhutan to have direct access to the outside world through the use of INTELSAT facilities. We are hopeful that this project will be successfully implemented by the end of this year.

Mr. Chairman, may I at this juncture express our appreciation to the ITU, which even before our admission to membership, has already contributed to the development of telecommunications in our country. The organization's expertise has been made available in the planning of the satellite earth station, and several other experts are also presently engaged in studying and planning a domestic telecommunication network for the Kingdom. We hope that the proposal that will emerge will provide the Royal Government with a full and clear picture of a suitable system for Bhutan, given its geographical constraints. In the future we shall continue to look to the ITU for assistance and guidance in developing and maintaining an efficient telecommunication network in our country.

We all know how vital a role telecommunication plays in the socio-economic development of a country, especially one such as Bhutan, where physical barriers present a great constraint to any other form of communication. In the past we have faced many obstacles due to the absence of a proper and efficient communication network. Recognizing the handicap that it imposes on our development efforts, the Royal Government has accorded high priority to the establishment of an effective telecommunication system within the country during the current Sixth Five-Year Plan.

However, even as we recognize the importance of an effective telecommunication system, it is sometimes difficult for a developing country such as ours to discern priorities among the many equally vital sectors competing for the limited available resources. The problem of prioritizing among the sectors is a problem, I am sure, that this is faced by many other developing countries.

Nevertheless, I am happy to state that despite such constraints, the Royal Government of Bhutan is fully committed to improving the telecommunication system in the country and making it possible for the maximum number of its citizens to have access to the facility. We are confident, that with the assistance of the ITU, our objectives can be achieved within the foreseeable future."

1.9 The Director-General of the Ministry of Communications of Israel made the following statement:

"At the outset, I would like to reiterate the best wishes of my Delegation to you, Mr. Chairman, on your election, and to express our deep appreciation of the work of the Secretary-General, Mr. R.E. Butler, in guiding this organization during this critical period of transition. Finally, I would like to offer our gratitude to the French Government and to the city of Nice for their very generous hospitality.

My Delegation looks forward to participating actively in the important tasks which the Members have set themselves during the next few weeks. We are all aware that the provision of truly international telecommunications services can be assured only through the agreement and coordination of all countries of the world. The 125 years of

uninterrupted international cooperation undertaken by Member countries of the ITU is indisputable evidence of their universal commitment to the basic principles upon which the Union was founded in 1865.

We in Israel are proud of the progress we have made in telecommunications and information processing during the 41 years of the existence of our State. The telecommunications network in Israel today consists of more than one-and-a-half million telephone lines which represents more than 30 lines per hundred inhabitants. The network is fully automated and more than one-third is already digitalized. Investment in the telecommunications sector has a very high national priority. In the next five years it is estimated that investment in communications-related fields will comprise approximately 30% of the total investment planned for that period. The bulk of these funds will be allocated to telecommunications, postal, and broadcasting (including cable television) services.

It is our policy to encourage innovation through competition in telecommunications, particularly in the value-added services, to the full extent compatible with the existence of regulated monopolies which provide the basic services, and the protection of the national telecommunications infrastructure.

Our policy also is to reduce direct government involvement in the provision of services, but to retain government responsibility for regulation and supervision. Four years ago, our Ministry of Communications established an independent government-owned telecommunications corporation, and two years ago, the independent Postal Authority was created. While these bodies are still wholly government owned, it is our intention to privatize them during the coming years and to offer their shares to the public. In our broadcasting services, we are currently granting regional franchises for cable television, and will soon launch a new commercial television station to supplement the existing public channel.

The question of the quality of communications services provided in the territories under Israel's Administration has been raised, as usual in a distorted way. Here are a few facts. In 1967 we found an infrastructure which was both antiquated and sparse relative to the population. By 1987 the number of telephone lines had been increased nine-fold; the old mechanical manually-operated switches were replaced by modern, automated equipment in six major population centres, and in five of these, direct international dialling is available, and the inhabitants of these areas can reach virtually any other telephone subscriber in the world. In addition, many previously isolated villages have been connected to the network. Over and beyond this, we are looking forward to a peaceful and comprehensive dialogue with the elected representatives of the Palestinian Arabs as envisaged in the Government of Israel's peace plan as adopted on 14 May 1989. In the meantime, we would have no objection to visits to those areas by qualified professionals of the Union in order to see the situation for themselves.

We have witnessed a tremendous and rapidly-growing demand in Israel for international telecommunications services of all kinds - voice, data, and image - especially when compared with the size of our population. This past year we entered into a multi-national agreement to construct a new fibre optic submarine cable from Israel to Europe, and from there to the rest of the world. International commerce could not expand at the current rate without an accompanying expansion and the improvement of international communications. As information technology develops at an ever-increasing pace, the responsibilities of the ITU for setting operating standards for equipment and systems becomes more complex than ever before. Unless world-wide interconnectivity can be guaranteed, progress will be held back.

We in Israel fully appreciate the vital importance of the work of the ITU, and accept our rights and obligations as Members with the utmost seriousness. Above all, we believe that better communications should help bring about a better understanding between peoples, so that together, we can achieve our vision of a peaceful world as one intracconnected "GLOBAL VILLAGE".

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and may we, with your guidance, achieve success in our deliberations."

1.10 The Minister of Communications of Nigeria made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, may I on behalf of the Nigerian Delegation and the Federal Republic of Nigeria, congratulate you on your election to preside over the 1989 Plenipotentiary Conference of ITU here in Nice. I sincerely believe that you will bring your wealth of experience and maturity to bear on the debates and deliberations throughout this Conference. This is particularly desirable as some of the issues to be discussed will be thorny and delicate.

This assembly expects very frank and fruitful deliberations and I am confident that you will pilot our affairs to a successful and logical conclusion.

I bring greetings and felicitations from the people and Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as you celebrate your well deserved bicentenary anniversary of the French Revolution and express our deep appreciation for the kind invitation, warm and friendly atmosphere at the Conference Centre here. The old city of Nice is nice indeed.

Mr. Chairman, as we commence this Plenipotentiary Conference it will be pertinent that I pass comments on some issues that are most dear to the hearts of developing countries in general and my Administration in particular.

It is quite certain that the Conference will address serious, controversial and thought provoking issues pertaining to world-wide telecommunications development, technical cooperation and its funding, and the ever changing circumstances of the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB). The long outstanding issue of apportionment of revenue on international calls, and adequate funding to achieve our objectives will be revisited. Furthermore, the vital issue of the budget of the Union will be subjected to critical appraisal. In addition, it might be necessary to allocate funds to cover the three purposes of the Union prescribed in Article 4 of its Convention. Permit me, Mr. Chairman, to briefly recapitulate these fundamental purposes.

- 1) "To maintain and extend international cooperation between all Members of the Union for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds, as well as to promote and to offer technical assistance to developing countries in the field of telecommunications."
- 2) "To promote the development of technical facilities and their most efficient operation with a view to improving the efficiency of telecommunications services, increasing their usefulness and making them, so far as possible, generally available to the public."
- 3) "To harmonize the actions of nations in the attainment of those ends."

With these lofty ideas and objectives in view, it stands to reason that before allocation within the various units are conducted, the sectional allocations would be seen to reflect the weight given to each purpose by the Union. This is particularly important in view of the competing needs and the varying degree of emphasis placed on these purposes by the various Member Nations.

Before this Conference rises, there are other important global topics that will engage our attention. Issues like geostationary orbit, Administrative Council membership, chairmanship of conference committees and sessions, and election of members of various organs of the Union all fall within this range.

Mr. Chairman, please permit me to stress some of the points I have made. In the last Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi in 1982, the issue of world-wide telecommunications development was addressed under Resolution No. 20. That eventually led to the establishment of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development. Unfortunately, the warm sentiments expressed by the industrialized countries and the high hopes inspired in the developing countries in setting up this Commission and its subsequent Report to the ITU, has not been translated into any measurable improvement in the state of telecommunications facilities in the developing countries. Indeed it has left us high and dry, wondering if the issue of even development is a myth or a reality. The issue of uneven development of telecommunications facilities in the world is so serious that if it is not promptly and effectively addressed, it will erode the very ideals on which the foundation of this international body was established. It could lead to a permanent division that may give room to mushroom unions to serve sectional interests. Indeed it could lead to unions within a union, one for the industrialized world and the other for the developing countries. The future of the world lies in togetherness and the Union should be welded together by fair and equitable attention to the three purposes of the ITU.

The technical cooperation activities being carried out by the Union within the framework of the United Nations Development Programme are wide ranging and commendable. It must, however, be recognized as covered in the appropriate Article of the Constitution that it is the responsibility of the ITU. It should also be noted that over the years, the special UNDP funds available for this programme have been reduced for reasons already too over-flogged by the Secretariat for me to mention here. Suffice, therefore, for me to mention that my Administration would like to charge this Conference to recognize the importance of this programme and take steps to completely absorb the shortfall in its income for the programme and devise ways to forestall any recurrence. The ITU should be able to fully meet its plans for technical cooperation activities by funding our own obligations fully from the budget of the Union even if it leads to raising the budget ceiling. It is one of the cardinal points of our charters and deserves as much emphasis as any other.

Future expenditure will also have to be directed towards the purchase of equipment and training and less of feasibility studies. Mr. Chairman, please permit me to say here that those of us from the developing countries have seen enough of feasibility reports on virtually all facets of telecommunication facilities. As a matter of fact, it would not be an exaggeration and I believe I speak for my other brothers if I say that we have as much feasibility report papers as all other Government papers put together. What we want now, Mr. Chairman, is the translation of these feasibility studies and reports into more practical pragmatic and visible projects. Let me also mention here that donor nations must be made to honour their pledges and asked to redeem them, otherwise the issue of pledges should be discontinued and the entire project be predicated on the funds of the Union.

On a general note, the Remote Access Project (RAP) is obviously a lofty idea in view of the changing circumstances of the International Frequency Registration Board. As a result of the explosive increase in technical and administrative functions, the issue of computerization of the functions of the IFRB and the remote access of the data base for the purposes of information retrieval by Member nations is a welcome idea and a task that my Administration believes must be accomplished. The cost of establishing this facility is, however, high and it is understandably noted that all countries are not technically prepared to take advantage of the spin-off. Most developing countries are yet to establish their computerized frequency management system, let alone access a remote system somewhere in Geneva. It will therefore be necessary that the ITU proposes adequate programmes to assist in the areas of manpower development and funding of the developing countries to be able to utilize the proposed system gainfully. Anything short of this would inadvertently widen the already existing gap between the developed and developing countries. Mr. Chairman, as you certainly understand, this will be a very unhealthy development which will not be in the interest of this noble organization. I will merely be stating the obvious when I emphasize that the funding of this project, important as it may be, should not hinder the funding of the technical cooperation activities.

The ITU has come a long way in helping to set up a global telecommunication network. In this global network, the cost of installation and maintenance of facilities in the developing countries is many times more than that of the developed countries. The reasons for this are not too far fetched.

This Conference is, therefore, urged to address the issue of division of revenue accruing from the calls to reflect the relative costs of providing the services. The idea that was mooted in some quarters that proceeds from revenue readjustment between the developing and advanced countries should be put in the Telecommunications Development Fund will not be fair. Such action will be tantamount to passing the burden of funding this important scheme solely to the developing countries; and will appear contradicting in terms to Opinion No. 2 of the International Telecommunication Union Convention, Nairobi, 1982, which expressed favourable treatment for developing countries. The issue of how the affected nations utilize the extra earning if any could best be determined by the nations concerned.

Mr. Chairman, on a long-term basis the activities in the geostationary orbit gives us grave reason for concern. This orbit is getting crowded with telecommunication satellites yet this limited natural resource has to be equitably utilized by all nations developing and industrialized alike. How this will be achieved remains the greatest challenge of our time. It needs to be addressed boldly and urgently too. Mr. Chairman, the time has come for the ITU to encourage the use of geostationary orbit for international, regional and subregional cooperative communications satellites only. The advanced countries of the world have adequate technology and the wherewithal to keep their dedicated satellites in non-geostationary orbits and they should be persuaded to do so.

May I crave your indulgence, Mr. Chairman, to be undiplomatic for only a second, and hit the nail squarely on the head. I am saying that this organization must ensure that there is space reserved for the less developed countries to use in the geostationary orbit when they are technically and otherwise prepared to do so. The rate at which the orbit is getting crowded and used up does put an understandable fear in us. In addition, Mr. Chairman, this Plenipotentiary Conference should give appropriate guidelines on acceptable procedures for the planning of services in the geostationary-satellite orbit particularly in the C-band.

Mr. Chairman, my Administration proposes that the Administrative Council should be composed of 25% of the total number of Member countries of the Union rounded up as the case may be to the nearest higher integer elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference with due regard to the need for equitable distribution of the seats on the Council among all regions of the world. This will bring the total number of the Council membership to 42. My Administration feels very strongly that there should be rationalization of representation to enable the zones to be represented on the basis of equality of nations in the Union and in direct proportion to the number of Members in each of the geographical zones. It is therefore necessary for this Conference to consider the membership structure of the Council for each region based on numerical strength. We should also apply some weighting criteria within each subregion in proportion to the subscription of each nation to determine the permanency or otherwise of membership. When this is done, Mr. Chairman, Zone D would have two additional seats and Zone E one additional seat.

Mr. Chairman, please permit me to address an issue which my Administration considers paramount to this Conference, that is, the paucity of regional representation of the ITU. The perennial gap in the availability of facilities and services between the industrialized and developing countries, calls for measures that would allow countries requiring such representation to have a modality of approach to the Union. This is necessary because the present seat of the Union in the West African subregion has for some inexplicable reason not served our purpose. My Administration considers it necessary therefore, to strengthen such representation because of our geographical and peculiar needs. It is recommended that this Plenipotentiary Conference sets up policy guidelines to achieve this objective.

My Administration notes with satisfaction the two draft documents: the Constitution and the Convention, that have evolved out of Resolution No. 62 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference and we have prepared contributions which will be distributed at the appropriate time during the Conference.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, it is necessary that the Union recognizes the genuine fears and concern of my Administration. The advent of the special arrangements meant specifically for developing countries, the loose funding arrangement of the technical cooperation development, the heavy Union expenditure envisaged in the remote access projects, the long-term problem of the geostationary orbit and above all, the intractable widening gap between the two halves of the Union, both in technology and funding, puts us particularly under stress and in a state of economic and technical siege. We need succour now and we came to Nice with the hope that at the end of the deliberations, we shall find solace.

As you celebrate the bicentenary anniversary of your revolution, we hope that history as usual will repeat itself. We sincerely hope that in another 50 years from now, generations after us will look back and be able to emphatically say that the true beginning of telecommunications cooperation was stated today in Nice under your chairmanship.

Mr. Chairman, I cannot conclude this address without due reference to the indelible, valuable and most cherished contributions of the outgoing Secretary-General, Mr. Richard Butler in harnessing the resources of this global house, for the utilization of telecommunication understanding. Through his benevolence, exemplary administrative skill and high intellectual probity, Mr. Richard Butler has established a reputation for himself in the management of the most valuable international resource today; the telecommunications industry. As you leave us, Mr. Richard Butler, you should draw your satisfaction from the fact that you laid a sound foundation for this revamped organization and when its history is written, your name will be printed in gold.

Mr. Chairman, accept my profound gratitude for your patience and understanding. I bring greetings and good wishes from the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, General Ibrahim Babangida. I wish this Conference very successful and fruitful deliberations. May Almighty God guide and direct us."

1.11 The Minister of Information, Post and Telecommunications of Gabon made the following statement:

"Speaking on behalf of the Gabonese Delegation at this Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union, I should like, on behalf of my country, its President and its Government, to thank the French authorities for acting as hosts to the Conference, and I should like to say how glad we are to be in Nice, always a gay and attractive city, known the world over for its legendary hospitality, by which we have been overwhelmed since our arrival. Our sincere thanks go to its authorities and its inhabitants.

I should also like to stress what a fortunate coincidence it is that this Conference should coincide so closely with the bicentenary of the French Revolution, that symbol of ideals and liberties, of democracy and progress, ideals that telecommunications have always carried all over the world.

Mr. Chairman, I am glad to join with the speakers who have preceded me in offering you my sincere congratulations on your election to the chair of our Conference. This is undeniably a tribute to France, one of the Union's founder Members, and to you yourself, Mr. Grenier, a distinguished expert whose merits we have always appreciated.

In the same way, I should like, now that Mr. Butler is going to bid the Union farewell, to express to him our infinite gratitude for all the work he has done to encourage the development of telecommunications in the world. During his period of office as Secretary-General, substantial progress has been made, and we have had nothing but praise for the exceptional qualities he has placed at the service of the international community. It is therefore with all my heart that I wish him joy in his well-deserved retirement.

Mr. Chairman, seven years after the Nairobi Conference I note with real satisfaction that the Union, faithful to its traditions, has discharged the mandate assigned to it by the Plenipotentiaries. Despite the particularly bleak times we are going through, it has organized conferences and meetings of great significance for the future of telecommunications. I would cite, among others, the World Administrative Conference to plan the geostationary satellite orbit and related frequencies, the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference, the various meetings and specialized Study Groups held both at Headquarters and in Member countries. Solid results have come out of these meetings. Here I welcome the courageous initiative of the Independent Commission, which, in setting up the Centre for Telecommunications Development, did not fail to note the flagrant disproportion still persisting, at the dawn of the third millennium, in the distribution of telecommunication services networks between the countries of the North and South.

My country, Gabon, under the dynamic leadership of His Excellency the President of the Republic, is making its modest contribution to realizing the noble goal the Union can claim for itself, namely, the establishment of unified telecommunication networks on universal territory. Thus, Gabon put into service in 1987 a domestic satellite telecommunication network known as EFROISAT, under its programme for complete telecommunication, radio and television coverage of its territory, a network which also allows for rehabilitation and modernization of existing equipment and provision of services to rural areas. This equipment is based on an international telecommunication

infrastructure downstream which enables users today to set up automatic links with countries the world over. However, the maintenance and operation of such a system means that considerable human capital and adequate financial resources have to be made available. While Gabon is training its technical staff at its national school, which is also open to other African countries, it is unfortunately confronted with the decline in the world economy, which, in the long run, threatens to jeopardize its efforts. It therefore welcomes the results of the Independent Commission's work in its Report entitled The Missing Link. This happy initiative, greeted with all the seriousness it deserves, gave rise at the Conference held at Melbourne in 1988 to the adoption of a Resolution inviting the Union to continue and develop the study of a more appropriate apportionment of the revenue from international telecommunications. I hope very much that future discussions on this important question will invoke the principle of generosity and solidarity on the part of the countries of the North. Application of that principle has symbolic value when one considers that a few days ago the international community was celebrating the 21st World Telecommunication Day on the theme "International cooperation also represents the future". This future, I have to say, can only be assured by developing our telecommunication networks and improving the quality of the service we offer. Guided by a desire to promote cooperation at the regional and subregional levels, Gabon organized in June 1983, in collaboration with the ITU, the work of the Africa Plan Committee at the Libreville. It also launched with other Member States, under the Economic and Customs Union of Central African States, the Conference of Central African Posts and Telecommunications Administrations (CAPTAC), with a view to ensuring interconnection of the telecommunication networks of States in the subregions. In response to these measures, the Governing Council of INTELSAT approved the establishment of new services for the planning by that organization of subregional satellite networks, for which our congratulations and thanks go to INTELSAT.

Mr. Chairman, the technological environment in the field of telecommunications has evolved very rapidly. Faced with this challenge, the ITU is entitled to keep itself in the forefront of research, in order to go on playing its harmonizing role. Gabon therefore shares the view of those who think that the ITU as a specialized agency of the United Nations should be the key platform for discussions, the results of which will be available to all Member States. While the industrialized countries may already have had the flexibility to enter the era in which telecommunications and information technology come together, that is not yet the case for the third-world countries.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, among the items on the agenda is consideration of the Union's draft basic instruments, in accordance with Resolution No. 62 of the Nairobi Conference, under which the ITU, like other organizations in the United Nations system, is to be provided with two separate instruments, a Constitution and a Convention. Gabon for its part considers that the adoption of these instruments will mark a definite step forward for our Union. This Conference should, while preserving their unitary nature, seek to clarify their contents. Another item that deserves close attention is international technical cooperation, to which my country attaches special importance. A review of the system for technical cooperation in the Union should enable it to adapt itself better to the needs of the developing countries.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, I thank you for your kind attention and wish this Plenipotentiary Conference of our Union every success in its work."

1.12 The Deputy Minister for Post and Telecommunications of the USSR made the following statement:

"Let me first express my profound gratitude to the French Telecommunication Administration for the vast amount of work it has done in organizing the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference here in the beautiful city of Nice!

We have been greatly impressed by this fine, sunny city of yours, which has overwhelmed us with its beauty, architecture and history. It is a city famous for its democratic traditions, the city that gave the world the great revolutionary G. Garibaldi, the city where the great French artist Henri Matisse worked, the city that was the last refuge of the Russian democrat A.I. Herzen.

We are still under the spell of the festive atmosphere that prevailed at the official opening of the Plenipotentiary Conference, of the introductory address by the Minister of Posts, Telecommunications and Space, Mr. Quilès, in which he gave a most vivid account of the ITU's role in promoting international cooperation in the field of telecommunications.

We are grateful to the staff of this beautiful Acropolis Centre for the warm, attentive and obliging way they look after delegates.

The friendly atmosphere prevailing at this Conference gives us reason to hope that here on the Côte d'Azur we shall reach full understanding and achieve full success in our work.

Many people now recognize that the turn of the 20th century represents a period of transition from war and confrontation to good neighbourly relations and cooperation among peoples. A new kind of political thinking is taking root, and there is growing acknowledgment of the need to establish a comprehensive system of peace and security on the basis of a recognition of the priority of general human values and realization of the principles of "disarmament for development" and "peace without nuclear weapons by the year 2000".

All of us here have been able to observe for ourselves the first promising steps in the field of disarmament. The future course of this process will largely determine the prospects for international cooperation between States, in the field of telecommunication as in others, and for progress by developing countries along the path of economic and social development. Obviously, this process is full of problems and contradictions, and its success will depend to a great extent on the degree of understanding between peoples. In this connection one can hardly overestimate the role of telecommunications as one of the main means of international intercourse leading to the growth of mutual understanding.

Addressing the United Nations in December 1988, Mr. M.S. Gorbachev said: "The world has become, as it were, more visible and tangible for all of us through the latest means of communication, mass information and transport". These words recognize the importance of the role of telecommunications and the scientific and technological revolution in this field, the development of which cannot fail to influence the proceedings of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

Thus we have before us tasks of the greatest importance. Shall we be able to discharge them and to indicate in the Constitution and the new Convention of the ITU the way to achieve effective international cooperation in the field of telecommunications over the period that lies ahead? We believe that the ITU has every chance of doing so.

In the course of its nearly 124 years of existence the ITU has always, even when the political climate was tense, achieved practical results through close collaboration and a spirit of mutual understanding among the representatives of the parties concerned, i.e. the representatives of the telecommunication administrations of ITU Member States. I cannot fail to mention here another factor that has, to a large extent, determined the effectiveness of the ITU's work. I am thinking of those profound democratic principles, procedures and traditions that have always been characteristic

of the ITU and its organs. We think the surest way to achieve success in the future is to preserve and strengthen these democratic principles in the ITU's activities and to give them their due place in the Constitution and the new Convention.

This applies first of all to the procedure for the work of Plenipotentiary Conferences, the Administrative Council, CCI Plenary Assemblies and Administrative Radio Conferences. It is essential that provisions that will ensure further effective work by these organs should be embodied in the Constitution and the new Convention.

The basic democratic feature of the work of the ITU's permanent organs is their federal structure, which we must particularly preserve and strengthen. We therefore attach special importance to the Coordination Committee, which is called upon to play an exceptionally important role in implementing the decisions of Plenipotentiary and Administrative Conferences of the ITU and the Administrative Council.

We attach just as much importance to the CCIR and CCITT as independent democratic international organs which, through their Study Groups, discharge clearly defined, independent responsibilities. The membership of these organs includes, apart from telecommunication administrations, recognized private operating agencies and scientific, industrial and other international organizations, which is evidence of the democratic way these organs work. At the same time, every opportunity should be taken to make each of the CCIs still more efficient, due regard being paid to their specific mandates.

The work of the IFRB is also of great significance. It is a most important international body with special status, which is called upon to carry out the wishes of telecommunication administrations with regard to international regulation of the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary orbit, in accordance with the provisions of the Radio Regulations and the decisions of administrative radio conferences. The democratic basis of the IFRB's work is the annual rotation of its Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The size of the Board is optimal, so that in the period between Plenipotentiary Conferences each Member of the Board serves as Chairman and Vice-Chairman at least once. To introduce elements of additional administrative regulation of the activities of the IFRB Secretariat could create a danger of weakening this important organ.

We also see a strengthening of democracy in the ITU's work in a gradual widening of the sphere of use of the Union's official languages. Here there would still seem to be room for improvement. In our view, if a language has the status of an official language, that in itself should mean at the very least publication of all official ITU documents in that language and full-scale use of it in all official correspondence between telecommunication administrations and permanent organs of the ITU.

We could mention a whole range of other features of the ITU's work which are evidence of its democratic nature and to a large extent determine its effectiveness, such as the free choice of contributory unit, equitable geographical distribution of staff in the permanent organs, and so on.

At the same time, we cannot shut our eyes to the difficulties that face us at this Plenipotentiary Conference. First and foremost, we have to ensure that ITU expenditure is stabilized, against the background of an increase in its range of activity, and specifically in the field of technical assistance, although we cannot fail to note the importance of this aspect of the ITU's activities. The further development of telecommunications throughout the world cannot proceed normally unless the developing countries are duly provided for in this field.

As regards the staff of the ITU's permanent organs, we are concerned in particular with the fact that the Administrative Council has not given enough attention to these matters, which has led to an unjustified increase in the staff of the General Secretariat.

While noting the great services performed by the ITU in successfully organizing a large number of international and regional administrative conferences between the Nairobi and Nice Plenipotentiary Conferences, we cannot fail to note at the same time that the results achieved at some of them were not on a par with the intellectual effort and financial resources that went into the preparatory work and the holding of the conferences themselves. The typical problem here is that countries have not been active enough in ratifying the results of conferences, particularly regional ones.

We shall have to look with great care at the ITU's programme of conferences, and when doing so we shall necessarily have to take into account the priorities dictated by the need to develop the telecommunication services of the future.

This list of key issues could easily be extended considerably. However, it is our view that the main aim should be, not to highlight the difficulties, but to dispose of them. As far as the Soviet Delegation is concerned, Mr. Chairman, we are prepared to do everything possible to ensure that this Plenipotentiary Conference is a success and to make a positive contribution of our own to the development and expansion of international cooperation in the field of telecommunications.

In conclusion, I should like to express our profound gratitude to Mr. Butler, the Secretary-General, for the great amount of work and effort that he has put into developing international cooperation in telecommunications and strengthening the authority of the ITU."

1.13 The Head of the Delegation of Spain made the following statement:

"I should like to address this illustrious Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union on behalf of the Spanish Delegation, and first of all to extend our thanks to the Government of the French Republic for inviting the Conference to be held in Nice. I would also, Mr. Chairman, like to congratulate you on your brilliant election and to offer you our unhesitating cooperation to contribute to the success of our work.

This important Conference coincides with the date of one of the most transcendental events in the history of mankind, namely the second centenary of the French Revolution. By associating this Conference with those events, we hope that the spirit of modern democracy, which was born with them, will also accompany us here in the search for a consensus and in the achievement of the results which will make this Conference, as we feel sure will be the case under your chairmanship, an outstanding milestone along the way of international cooperation in world telecommunications. This cooperation has been maintained uninterruptedly since the first steps were taken, in 1865, also in France, towards the foundation of what is now the International Telecommunication Union.

Universality and efficiency have been the two characteristics of the Union in the 125 years of its existence.

In order to strengthen these two fundamental characteristics, the 20 or so countries which in 1865 set up the International Telegraph Union have now become the 166 Member States of the International Telecommunication Union present here today.

We have reached a kind of turning point in the development of telecommunication technology and services, with the introduction of new actors in a sector whose headlong dynamism has taken us beyond what was foreseeable in 1982 when the Nairobi Conference took place. The recent Administrative Conferences organized under the aegis of the ITU, that is to say, the Geostationary Orbit Conference and the World Telegraph and Telephone Conference in Melbourne, have shown just how far much progress can be achieved through world-wide agreements in two such topical fields as space telecommunications and the new public and private telecommunications services.

The institutional changes which this development is imposing on countries, and which also involve the regional organizations, must be accompanied by a new awareness in the International Telecommunication Union itself in order to adapt to this new situation, without, it should be said, sacrificing any of its universality and efficiency, for the benefit of the international community.

Needless to say, also, this Plenipotentiary Conference, besides exercising the legislative functions entrusted to it by the International Telecommunication Convention, is the ideal forum for establishing the guidelines of this adjustment, which will introduce, both in the structure and in the working methods of the various organs of the Union, whatever changes and adaptation are necessary, while avoiding any pressure which is not justified, in order to take into account the dynamism of the sector to which I referred earlier.

One of the first tasks of this Conference will be to resolve the dilemma of Constitution or Convention. Our own position is clear; we prefer a structure like the new Basic Instrument, as prepared by the Group of Experts set up to that effect, that is to say, a "more or less" permanent Constitution, and a complementary text of equal legal status, whose title as far as we are concerned should be General Regulations, as we explained in a Spanish proposal which will be considered in due course.

We consider that it is not only a matter of form involved in adopting this new structure of the Basic Instrument of the Union, but that this would entail a reconsideration of the legislative organs competent to revise the instruments on which the operation of the ITU is based, that is to say, the Constitution, General Regulations and Administrative Regulations, so that we would envisage three levels of conferences empowered to review whichever instruments are appropriate.

Other complementary activities, which are equally fundamental to the Union, are related to standardization, the management of the radio spectrum and the preparation of conferences, especially technical cooperation conferences essentially though not exclusively intended for the benefit of developing countries.

There should be a rigorous analysis of all these activities, in order to be able to identify what changes need to be introduced, what priorities need to be decided within these changes and what human and economic resources will have to be made available.

All this would constitute an important task for a planning group made up of competent personalities, which could submit the outcome of their studies to the next Plenipotentiary Conference for consideration and discussion.

If the Conference decides to opt for such a solution, we are certainly prepared to give our support to the implementation of such a study.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to express to the outgoing Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, the thanks of the Spanish Administration for his dedication throughout his term of office on behalf of the international community.

Thank you very much."

1.14 The Head of the Delegation of Togo made the following statement:

"I would first of all like to add my own congratulations, on behalf of the Togolese Delegation and Government, to the Chairman of the Conference on his brilliant election and I wish him and all others in charge of the Conference every success in their tasks.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring to the attention of the Conference the message of Mr. Nassirou Ayeva, Minister for Equipment, Posts and Telecommunications of Togo, which I have the honour of representing before this honourable assembly:

"On the occasion of the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union in Nice, I have the honour of extending, on behalf of the Government of the Togolese Republic, my sincere thanks to the Government of the French Republic for its kind invitation.

I am extremely sorry that at the last moment I have been prevented by other obligations from taking part personally in the work of this important meeting, attended by eminent personalities of the political and technical world who are participating in the development of telecommunications.

What progress indeed has been achieved in the field of telecommunications since the 1982 Nairobi Conference! There has been a real revolution, one might say, from both a technological and a service point of view.

Telecommunications have become the leading facility for the communication of all types of information.

The Togolese people for its part rejoices that the international community now has these revolutionary means of linking people together and hence contributing to the establishment and maintenance of peace and solidarity between nations.

In its awareness of this primary role of telecommunications, our country is sparing no effort to strengthen and modernize its installations.

I therefore have great pleasure in presenting my congratulations to the ITU, to its Secretary-General Mr. Butler, to its collaborators, and to all the national, international and private institutions and organizations, which have contributed to the gigantic task accomplished in the field of telecommunications for the well-being of mankind.

I would, however, like to draw the Conference's attention to the following figures taken from ITU documents.

The 21 richest countries of the North share between them 80% of the telephone sets in the world, whereas the developing countries, which account for over two-thirds of the earth's population, share the remaining 20%, with only 0.13% for the least developed countries.

It therefore seems quite clear that, despite the praiseworthy efforts already accomplished by the ITU on behalf of the development of telecommunications in the Third World, there still remains much to be done to reduce this imbalance.

I hope that Nice will mark the departure of a new era, in which the ITU will be provided with suitable structures and financial resources, to enable it at last fully to play its part and to achieve its objectives, as defined in Article 4, paragraphs 14 and 20, of the Nairobi Convention.

The Togolese Republic, which endorses all actions in favour of justice, peace and socio-economic development in the world, reasserts its faith in the ITU and will as always steadfastly provide it with its own modest contribution.

Thanks to the spirit of tolerance and compromise which has always inspired the Plenipotentiaries of the ITU, I feel sure that the Nice Conference will produce important decisions for the future of our institution, in the interest of all nations, and I wish it every success."

That, Mr. Chairman, was the message I was asked to convey by the Minister of Togo. Thank you."

1.15 The Minister of Works and Communications of The Gambia made the following statement:

"It has been said that the primary objective of telecommunication services is the provision of telephones and other services to the largest possible proportion of the population.

This statement has been extracted from the Report of the Advisory Group on telecommunication policy.

The Gambian Delegation agrees with the said statement but goes further to state that it is a question of how, when and at which stages of priority.

The Gambian Delegation has gone through the report very thoroughly and commends the authors for their very comprehensive study and recommendations.

From The Gambia's experience the main issues of the developing ones are a) the insufficient capital, involving also foreign exchange and b) the insufficient technical and commercial managerial expertise.

Fortunately for The Gambia, an EEC country, namely France, has contributed substantially to the development of telecommunications in the form of a soft loan. We believe this is one of the sure ways for developing countries to modernize and extend their services but at the same time these countries should contribute as much as possible in the form of co-financing, which portion should continue to increase with the particular country's increase in economic development.

The Gambia's experience has shown that the option of a commercial undertaking (state-owned) is the best possible way to efficient provision of communication services.

The Gambia originally considered either to continue with its Government Department of Telecommunications or to go for a joint venture with a foreign experienced company. It did neither in the end and on the advice of the ITU and its own officials, chose the road to a commercial undertaking. The developing countries, we believe, do not have the luxury of skills and stock markets to jump from the government departments to privatization. What these countries, in our view, should do is to go step by step which means first independently run state-owned organizations and at the right time to convert to public limited liability companies with a shareholding spread as much as possible amongst its population.

Now coming to the changing environment contained in the relevant study and the changing role of the ITU and the CTD experiment, The Gambian Delegation endorses 100% the need for the recommendation to adjust the role of the ITU. In this respect we congratulate the Secretary-General and his staff for the excellent way in which they

have been handling the standardization and regulation areas, but it is felt that the changes are required in other areas especially on development and policies and actions in narrowing the gap between the developing and telecommunication-developed countries.

We also take this opportunity to express The Gambia's thanks and appreciation to the ITU for their continued assistance in the form of experts to our young telecommunications company, GAMTEL.

On the question of the Centre for Telecommunications Development as presented by the Secretary-General, it is unfortunate that this body has not taken off as originally planned and it would be a sad development to see its dissolution.

The Gambian Delegation feels that the lack of resources could have been foreseen, as expectation for funding from manufacturers and industrialized countries without direct interest and benefit should not have been considered as a realistic proposition.

However, we are now faced with either finding ways and means to fund the CTD or absorbing it into the existing ITU Technical Cooperation Department. The possibilities of getting countries and manufacturers to contribute even though they do express the intention to do so seems, as experience has shown, very remote.

Therefore, it seems that the ITU's role should now be adjusted to include the following:

- 1) technical/economic feasibility studies for Master Plans and specific development projects;
- 2) human resource development especially on maintenance and management;
- 3) creation of conditions in industrialized countries for manufacturers and financial institutions to provide soft loans for telecommunications development.

If this is decided upon then we come again to the problem of augmenting the finances of the ITU and it appears that this could be achieved by the industrialized countries and the telecommunication-developed countries increasing their annual contribution to the ITU.

In this way the industrialized countries and telecommunication-developed countries will have a direct interest as their manufacturers will benefit from the procurement of equipment and their telecommunication organizations from increased traffic.

It is proposed by The Gambian Delegation that because of the changing environment the ITU Member countries should cease to be divided into developing and industrialized countries.

Instead the countries should be categorized into "Telecommunication-Developed Countries" (as there are developing countries whose telecommunications are developed) and "Telecommunication Least Developed Countries".

Thus, similar to the UNDP classification, we shall have "TDC" and "TLDC" countries in the ITU, with varying needs and attention.

In the new environment, in order not to increase the gap from the least developed countries (as these countries cannot either financially or managerially cope with the speed of modern technology in the telecommunication-developed countries) timely assistance and guidance should be a major policy of the ITU.

These telecommunication least developed countries' main constraint of non-availability of financial resources should be looked into very carefully and studies made for consideration in a combination of a) grants b) very soft loans and c) co-financing according to each country's particular conditions and state of telecommunications development.

In "The Missing Link" it was stated that by 2005 there should be at least two telephones per 100 inhabitants, but whilst appreciating this position The Gambian Delegation considers that the aim of every country should be to have by 2005 at least one public telephone booth in each village which means that all the population of a country will have access to a telephone.

Again, the telecommunication least developed countries would require help for their rural areas development, which would greatly improve the priority sectors, which are health, water, electricity and education.

Within the context of financial assistance to the "TLDC" countries for development, The Gambian Delegation has some proposals to make for the Conference's discussion and recommendation to the "TDC" countries.

Our proposals are as follows:

- 1) The "TDC" countries to reduce their transit rates for "TLDC" countries;
- 2) The "TDC" countries to agree on the sharing of the accounting rates with the "TLDC" countries on a ratio of 1:2, 1:3, or 2:3.

This proposal is also in line with the D.150 CCITT Recommendation and the recent study of the variance in telephone circuit costs between developing and industrialized countries.

The "TLDC" countries are also facing the dilemma of either encouraging incoming international traffic by having high rates or more incoming circuits, or encouraging outgoing traffic by having low rates and more outgoing circuits.

Of course, in the former case the country benefits in foreign exchange and the public is burdened and in the latter case the public benefits and the country is deprived of badly needed foreign exchange.

In concluding, The Gambian Delegation expresses the hope that its contribution to the Conference will turn out to be constructive and in this respect requests the participants support to the issues at stake.

The Members of The Gambian Delegation extend their best wishes to Mr. R.E. Butler for a happy retirement and thank him for the good work he has done for the Union and The Gambia and especially in various projects relating to the efficient running of the organization."

The meeting rose at 1230 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 2 to
Document 135-E
19 June 1989
Original: English

MINUTES
OF THE
FOURTH PLENARY MEETING

1. On the cover-page and in paragraph 1.6, replace "Statement by the Postmaster General of Malawi" by "Statement by the Minister of Transport and Communications of Malawi".
2. On the cover-page and in paragraph 1.9, replace "Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Zimbabwe" by "Statement by the Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications of Zimbabwe".

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTH PLENARY MEETING

Thursday, 25 May 1989 at 1430 hrs

1. First page, item 1.9 "Subjects discussed" is to read as follows:
 - 1.9 Statement by the Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications of Zimbabwe

 2. Page 17, read item 1.9 as follows:
 - 1.9 The Minister of Information, Posts and Telecommunications of Zimbabwe made the following statement:
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PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 135-E

31 May 1989

Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

FOURTH PLENARY MEETING

Thursday, 25 May 1989, at 1430 hrs

Chairman: Mr. J. GRENIER (France)

Subjects discussed:

1. General policy statements (continued)
 - 1.1 Statement by the Deputy Chairman of the National Association of Posts and Telecommunications of Bulgaria
 - 1.2 Statement by the Deputy Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of China
 - 1.3 Statement by the Minister of Communications of the Yemen Arab Republic
 - 1.4 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Niger
 - 1.5 Statement by the Deputy Minister of Communications of Peru
 - 1.6 Statement by the Postmaster General of Malawi
 - 1.7 Statement by the Minister of Transport, Telecommunications and Tourism of Mali
 - 1.8 Statement by the Deputy Minister of Posts, Telegraph and Telecommunications of Saudi Arabia
 - 1.9 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Zimbabwe
 - 1.10 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Pakistan
 - 1.11 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Burkina Faso
 - 1.12 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Uruguay

1.1 The Deputy Chairman of the National Association of Posts and Telecommunications of Bulgaria made the following statement:

"It is a great honour and boundless pleasure for me, on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, to greet the representatives of all countries in the world meeting here in the International Telecommunication Union's highest forum, its Plenipotentiary Conference, and to wish all participants a successful outcome to our work.

I should like to convey our intense gratitude to the French Government for the splendid organization of the Conference and for the excellent conditions provided for our work and our stay in Nice. It is a great pleasure to us that the Conference is being held in France, a country with great democratic traditions, on the eve of the 200th anniversary of the great French Revolution, which conquered under the slogan "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity!".

It is now seven years since the Plenipotentiary Conference held at Nairobi in 1982. These seven years have been full of outstanding events and processes, some of them of historic significance. I should like to draw your attention to just two of them: the strengthening of peaceful and democratic tendencies throughout the world and the incredible development in the capacity of telecommunications.

These two processes are not just taking place in parallel, they are interrelated. In our time - a time of new political thinking, a time of great changes on the political and economic scenes, a time that sees the peoples of the whole planet beginning to unite for the sake of a radiant future for mankind on earth - the role of telecommunications is growing unbelievably. The rapid development of international telecommunications of all kinds and the introduction of new kinds of information technology - all this helps to speed up the economic, social and spiritual development of mankind. And in this process our Union - the International Telecommunication Union - must take the high place that is its due. In these new circumstances it has to find a new approach to its work in carrying out its three basic functions - standardization, regulation and telecommunication development. An excellent example of this approach was given by the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference held in Melbourne at the end of 1988.

The drafting and adoption of a new basic document for the Union will give us a solid basis for our future activity. It will have to embody the basic principles governing the Union's work, bearing in mind the fact that principles are the only unchanging thing in any organization. At the same time it will have to be flexible enough so that it can easily follow changing trends in technological and economic development. The proposal that the basic document should be divided into a Constitution and a Convention therefore seems perfectly correct.

The present federal structure of the International Telecommunication Union is well established and its potential is far from exhausted. Accordingly, we consider it advisable that there should not be any basic structural changes at the present stage.

In our view, the main question is to improve the Union's methods of work.

They should be in keeping with the spirit of our times. They should be based on rationality, flexibility and efficiency. This applies both to the methods of preparing Recommendations and to the methods of work on regulations and on telecommunication development. A clear delimitation of the fields of activity and study of the individual Study Groups and other bodies, proper advance preparation for conferences and other

meetings, internal rationalization of the work of the Union's organs, application of the achievements of modern telecommunications, etc. - all this will lead not just to a reduction in the expenditure required, but also to an increase in the effectiveness of the Union's work and a strengthening of its position as the leading body in the field of telecommunications standardization in the world.

The task is a difficult one, but we are sure that the Plenipotentiary Conference will be able to perform it.

I wish all delegates good health, plenty of strength and creative energy to bring the Conference to a very successful conclusion.

Thank you for your attention!"

1.2 The Deputy Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of China made the following statement:

"In the name of the Chinese Government and Delegation, please allow me to extend warm congratulations on the opening of the Plenipotentiary Conference and on your election, Mr. Grenier, as the Chairman of the Conference. At the same time, I would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to the French Government and Administration for the efforts they have made in hosting the Nice Conference.

We are pleased to note that since the last Plenipotentiary Conference, held in Nairobi in 1982, the ITU has done an enormous amount of work in the promotion of world telecommunication development, in the establishment of a new regulatory order for telecommunication and in the formulation of new telecommunication standards. During the past seven years, the ITU held a number of WARC's, Plenary Assemblies of the CCIR and the CCITT, World and Regional Development Conferences, issued the well-known Arusha Declaration, and carried out a number of technical cooperation activities. All of these important world conferences and major activities have contributed to the further access by all States in a just and reasonable manner to the limited resources of radio frequency and spectrum and of the geostationary orbit, to the progress achieved in technical cooperation and to the attainment of the ITU's purposes. Here, I wish to express my appreciation to the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, Deputy Secretary-General, Mr. Jipguep, and all officials of the permanent organs for their endeavours in this regard.

Mr. Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At present, the international situation is characterized by a trend towards relaxation and dialogues in place of confrontation. With a greater emphasis on national, economic and social development, and an enhanced understanding of the status and role of telecommunications in national economy and social life, more countries are vigorously developing their telecommunications. On the other hand, with world-wide adoption of micro-electronic and digital technologies as well as their application in the field of telecommunication, particularly with the introduction of computers in telecommunications, a new information age has come, evidenced by the continuous evolution of the global telecommunication network and the emergence of various new services of information and telecommunication. To meet the requirements of their social and economic development, the telecommunication authorities of many countries are trying to adopt policies and measures favourable to their telecommunication development in the light of their specific conditions.

Mr. Chairman, our ITU family as a whole is facing the challenge of a new telecommunication environment. As the United Nations Specialized Agency responsible for telecommunication affairs, the ITU must come to grips with the question of how to adapt

itself to the new telecommunication environment, how to maintain its leading and dominant role in the area of telecommunications and how to make its due contribution. This issue is the concern of all States and is the major topic of discussion at this Conference. In order to effectively achieve the purposes of the ITU, to facilitate the development of the entire world telecommunications, and to make the ITU more effective, the Chinese Delegation believes that the following points are most essential:

First, the ITU is a world body consisting of 166 Members. In order to achieve its purposes, all Member States, big or small, should be able to take an active part in its activities and in its internal administration, as this is in line with the principle of universal participation. The developing countries that are in the majority in the ITU should be encouraged, in particular, to take part in the administration of the Union. Thus, an appropriate number of elected officials from the developing countries in the permanent organs and the Administrative Council should be ensured. The principle of equitable geographic distribution must be adhered to as regards the composition of the staff.

Secondly, technical cooperation in world telecommunications is an important component part of the ITU's purposes, and is an effective means for gradually reducing the gap between the developed and developing countries in the development of telecommunications. A key indicator of the success of the ITU in the fulfillment of its purposes is whether technical cooperation activities could promote the development of world telecommunications, especially that of the developing countries. In our view, technical assistance and North and South cooperation are always beneficial to both sides. Though some work in this area has been carried out by the ITU, it is far from meeting the needs of the developing countries. We are of the opinion that since the previous conference, the gap between the developed and the developing countries in telecommunication development, far from being narrowed, has widened to some extent. Therefore, apart from taking a more effective part in the assistance projects sponsored by UNDP, the ITU should be more active in taking effective measures and finding ways and means to raise more funding from various sources. At the same time, an appropriate amount of money should be allocated from the ITU's regular budget for technical cooperation aimed at giving an impetus to telecommunication development in the developing countries.

Thirdly, due to differences in social systems and the level of telecommunication development, it is natural that the management systems of telecommunication are varied. However, the adoption of a particular management system in conformity with one's specific situation is entirely within the purview of national sovereignty. The ITU, in formulating international telecommunication instruments, must first of all respect the principle of a State's sovereignty over its telecommunications, and secondly give full consideration to the difference in telecommunication development and in systems of management. On that basis, agreement should be reached through consultations on an equal footing and with mutual understanding so as to bring national telecommunication policies and instruments in line with the international obligations assumed by States. The good tradition among Members of the ITU of mutual consultations, understanding and coordination should be strengthened and carried forward to ensure the harmonious development of world telecommunications.

Fourthly, on our view, a changed telecommunication environment necessitates a thorough review of the strong and weak points of the present Union structure, with the aim of improving upon the organizational structure, making appropriate adjustments so as to enable the Union to adapt to the rapid development in telecommunication technologies and to the ever-changing trend, and to better contribute to narrowing the gap between the developed and the developing countries in telecommunication development, to improve internal administration and work efficiency, to stand the new challenges from various aspects, and thus to attain the purposes of the ITU in a more effective way.

Mr. Chairman, it is a great honour for the Chinese Delegation to have this opportunity to gather together with other distinguished Members of this big family to discuss major policies of the ITU and to seek world-wide cooperation. We wish to do all we can for the attainment of the ITU's purposes and for the promotion of international telecommunications development. We will also do our best, together with the distinguished representatives from other countries, to solve the problems on the agenda of this Conference through consultations on an equal footing. We believe that, under your brilliant leadership, Mr. Chairman, and with the efforts of all distinguished delegates, this Conference will be crowned with success.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

1.3 The Minister of Communications of the Yemen Arab Republic made the following statement:

"IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE COMPASSIONATE, THE MERCIFUL

Allow me first to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election and express the confidence that your brilliant leadership and knowledge of the problems facing this Conference will result in a successful outcome. I should also like to congratulate all the other officers elected by the Conference on the trust that has been placed in them. We wish them all success in their tasks.

I should like to thank the French Government which was kind enough to host our Conference and the French PTT Administration which has organized this Conference so excellently. They have made the best choice possible, namely the city of Nice, for this meeting. All these elements, no doubt, will have a beneficial influence on our dialogue and our discussions and on the recommendations that will emerge from this Conference. It is our duty here to mention the efforts made by the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, to achieve the general goals of this Union and achieve the excellent balance between the needs which appear in Article 4 of the Convention, namely, the development of telecommunication services, particularly in the developing countries, and the coordination with operating administrations, most of which are to be found in the industrialized countries. We would like to thank the Secretary-General, who has accomplished his task in the best way possible, and to wish him a very happy time in the future.

Mr. President, Members of Delegations, this Conference is being held at a time when several innovations have occurred on the international stage. Most of them are characterized by the positive optimistic approach taken and represent a step forward in achieving security for all the countries of the world. From the regional point of view, Intifada, the courageous uprising of the Palestinian people, carried out by the women and children of Palestine, is being strengthened day after day. And this for the last year and a half, in spite of all the measures of oppression which have been used, the expulsions, the assassinations, the murders, which a Member country of this Union constantly commits to our great regret. The resolutions adopted by the United Nations and the specialized agencies have not been taken into consideration. There is constant defiance of the appeals which come from all sides of the world. In spite of all this, no links are allowed between our peoples and the Palestinian people. We hope, with the help of God, that the Palestinian people will achieve their victory and that the State of Palestine will be declared, with Jerusalem as capital and Mr. Yasser Arafat at its head with recognition from all the countries of the world.

The Secretary of State of the United States recently used words which may lead the Palestinian people to hope that one day they will get their own territory. As for the contribution of the Union, we again wish to pay tribute to its cooperation with the peoples who have not yet acceded to their rights to self-determination. The Union has

asked for implementation of the rights that these people are entitled to enjoy. Thus the Union, by this attitude, again proves that it wishes to serve all peoples and achieve understanding in accordance with the wishes of the United Nations, to which we belong after all as a specialized agency. Human rights were declared in the 18th century and all this happened in a scenario of changes and developments but it has become the very symbol of human rights ever since the 18th century.

Mr. President, this Conference marks 58 years that we have been participating in the activities of the ITU. We acceded to this Union well before many other developing countries. This goes to show the interest we take in the Union and in the policy of cooperation and understanding among the peoples of the world. Mr. President, when we acceded to the Union in 1931 our international communications were practically non-existent. That was the case with most of the developing countries. It is therefore not surprising to note that at that time the activities of the Union were essentially concerned with coordinating communications between the industrialized countries, between the developed countries. Most of these activities were of an administrative and financial nature. The International Consultative Committees, the CCIs, had not yet started to work in the way in which we see them today. The problems of regulations, and communications in the developing countries were, in most cases, left to private companies and the authorities of the developed countries, if we may put it like that. The interests lay with the operators and were based on the principle of profits. We have no objections to that principle as such, so long as it leads to economic stability. Nevertheless, there are other goals which are equally important and which were not taken into consideration. Unprofitable communications or less profitable communications were not taken into account even if they were very important for the greater good. The competition between manufacturers to improve the industry and get prices down was limited to certain markets and the transfer of knowledge to the developing countries was not an aim in itself.

Mr. President, after that period, the ITU developed and granted a greater role to countries that had just acceded to their independence, asking industrialized countries to help those countries to develop. The activities of the ITU were not limited to just distributing radio frequencies or to coordination between the major operating administrations, where attention was concentrated on certain activities of interest to the industrialized countries only. The number of developing Third World countries increased in the various bodies and today the Administrative Council represents the different regions more fairly. Mr. President, while we welcome the fact that these events have occurred, we are nevertheless aware of the need to have a true balance between the different activities of the Union. Reality shows us that balance is achieved in the texts but not in actual activities. The budget of the Union still supports certain traditional objectives and not the innovative goals which are equally important.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we are not here in a club just to use telecommunication resources or to discuss increasing profits and profitability. We represent responsible countries which are interested in the manifold aspects of communication and will not limit themselves to the economic or profitability aspects alone. Mr. President, we have faith in the importance of communications as an element in the development of all the socio-economic facets. The encounter between communications and computer technology informatics promises a brilliant future. Consequently, we are working to develop communications in a context which is not purely economic but encompasses other areas that are primordial for achieving the development we wish to see.

Our country over the last 15 years has managed to develop a telecommunication network, increase it tenfold, and improve quality to an incredible degree. Nevertheless much remains to be done before we can leave behind this phase of development. We owe this largely to the development policy which we decided on ourselves, and also to the enormous financial sacrifices we agreed to make in order to achieve this objective.

Apart from that, we should like to mention the participation of the ITU and recognize the value of the assistance given technically or in the study of specifications and technical characteristics, which made it possible for our country to make its choice. Nevertheless we were compelled to turn to many different companies in industry and to have recourse to technical consultations for the transfer of this technology. Those companies, of course, work on a purely commercial basis and the increase in costs had a very harmful impact on the development of our communications. Over and above all that, the goals of development are not always in line with the aims of commercial companies. By way of example, I would like to mention a case where we suffered when it came to the telecommunication network in the rural areas of our country, which is one of our priorities. We would have liked to get technical cooperation of a broader nature from the ITU and we urgently need help in this connection. Mr. President, technical cooperation as offered by the ITU to developing countries that are Members of the Union is closely linked to financial movements and can be very beneficial to other Members of the Union in developed countries. The enhancement of the network in developing countries cannot but benefit industrialized, developed countries. We therefore hope that the companies, which are very rich, will devote a part of their revenue to help the developing countries to enhance their telecommunication network.

Mr. President, the direct contributions paid to the Union by the poorer countries, despite being very small, amount to more than what is given by the International Telecommunication Union to these countries under technical cooperation; the whole of which is devoted to technical cooperation is very limited indeed when it comes to developing countries. We ask that this phenomenon be rectified. We also note that there are primordial duties which are enshrined in our texts. We hope that the Union will implement them more factually but, generally speaking, we would like to welcome the efforts made by the ITU to help the developing countries.

In conclusion, Mr. President, I have the pleasure of once more thanking the brother Government of France, which has hosted this Conference for all the preparations that have been made, which have greatly facilitated our work. I hope that our discussions will take place in a context of cooperation, understanding and peace.

Thank you Mr. President."

1.4 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Niger made the following statement:

"Let me first of all, Mr. Chairman, thank the French authorities on behalf of my Delegation and myself for the way they have welcomed all participants in this XIIIth Plenipotentiary Conference. My thanks also go to the Secretary-General of the ITU and his staff for their excellent documents and organization.

At this session, let us remember, we have to take measures such as will enable the International Telecommunication Union to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Niger, for its part, remains convinced of the essential role that the ITU can play in telecommunication development. It should continue to maintain and extend international cooperation among all its Members with a view to the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds. The ITU should promote and offer technical assistance to developing countries in the field of telecommunications.

At the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference (Melbourne, 1988), an important historical milestone was passed in the field of telecommunications and international law. At that Conference, the first international treaty on integrated telecommunications services and networks was adopted. The international system of regulation thus established will, I am sure, enable international telecommunications to develop throughout the world harmoniously and without constraint.

The relevant Resolutions and Recommendations from the WATTC (Melbourne, 1988) will be considered at this Conference, and the Plenipotentiaries should take appropriate steps to enable the ITU to play its full role.

The concept of "national sovereignty" is another matter that must be taken into account in the development and evolution of telecommunication services, particularly as far as the developing countries are concerned. A final solution to this problem should be sought with a view to harmonization of national and international activities in the telecommunication field, for it is the developing countries that are most vulnerable to deregulation. The progress and introduction of technology does, it is true, require harmonization of the development and interworking of public and private networks. We therefore welcome the development of the new Telecommunication Regulations; once their relevant recommendations are applied, they will be able to reconcile the concept of national sovereignty with the harmonious development of telecommunications. Apart from the election of the senior officials of the Union and consideration of the new Basic Instrument of the ITU, other items of interest will include:

- the feasibility study on the African satellite communication system for the development of Africa (RASCOM);
- technical cooperation with the countries belonging to the PATU and African subregional organizations;
- the future of the IFRB;
- the follow up to be given to the conclusions of the report The Missing Link, particularly as regards the operation of the Centre for Telecommunications Development.

The Union should endow the Centre for Telecommunications Development with the necessary structure and give thought to the need to harmonize its three functions, namely, standardization, regulation and development.

Particular attention should be given to the question of the "missing link" and to draft Resolution PL/3 on the apportionment of revenue from international telecommunication services. Despite the efforts made in the telecommunication field, a number of Member countries do not have a fair share of technical resources fit to make available to users. Action should be taken to reduce these inequalities through international cooperation and the Union's technical assistance programmes. Multinational cooperation should also be established to help the developing countries not just to effect a gradual and smooth changeover from analogue networks to digital ones, but also to introduce the new telecommunication techniques and services.

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished Vice-Chairmen,
Mr. Secretary-General of the ITU,
Distinguished Ministers,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Niger has designed and has now established its modern telecommunication network. It provides fully automatic coverage for users in the country's seven provinces. We are now embarking on the stage of progressive digitization of our national and international telecommunication network and providing service for areas which still have no telecommunication links. The country is being opened up from the standpoint of telegraph, telephone and telex relations with the rest of the world through our international telecommunication network.

Niger, Mr. Chairman, takes telecommunications into account in all projects of an economic and social nature, being convinced that telecommunications are an important if not essential factor in development. Many factors, nevertheless, tend to hold up development in our countries. It is therefore urgently necessary, to say the least, that the gap between the industrialized and developing countries should be bridged, as advocated by the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development; telecommunications must not, in fact, remain the privilege of the few.

Mr. Chairman, let me congratulate you on your election to the Chair of our august assembly and thank you for the skilful and conscientious way you have guided us in our work.

I should not like to finish without taking this opportunity to express our appreciation for all the remarkable efforts Mr. Butler has made as Secretary-General of our organization to promote and harmonize international cooperation in telecommunications.

Thank you for your attention."

1.5 The Deputy Minister of Communications of Peru made the following statement:

"Speaking as the Head of the Peruvian Delegation, I should like first of all to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, for your well-deserved election. I have no doubt that the results we produce under your skilful guidance will be beneficial for all countries of the world.

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the members of the Peruvian Delegation and on my own behalf, I should like to thank the host country, France, for the hospitality extended to us in this the 200th anniversary year of the French Revolution which, by defending the democratic principles of liberty, equality and fraternity, has become a landmark in world history. The application of these principles within the Union should underpin the telecommunications revolution which is taking place in a world moving inexorably towards the information age.

Mr. Chairman, we extend greetings to all the participating delegations which, in their concern for the Union's activities and future destiny, have spared no effort to be present at this august assembly. Their endeavours deserve to be rewarded by results that are satisfactory for all ITU Members.

Mr. Chairman, we are greatly preoccupied by the breathtaking pace at which changes are taking place in the telecommunications environment. The same point was made by the French Minister for Posts and Telecommunications who, in his opening address, observed that more technological progress has been made in the last seven years than in the 70 preceding ones. It is therefore necessary, and in fact essential, to reinforce the ITU so that it can perform its major functions of planning, standardizing and regulating world telecommunication networks and services. Peru also considers that the Union should do everything within its power to prevent the multiplication of different standards which occur in the field of data transmission.

Mr. Chairman, training has to be geared to the actual situation of each country if it is to promote development. It should be borne in mind that proper technical training enables better judgement to be exercised when selecting and purchasing telecommunication systems and better use to be made of the scarce funds available today, creating a more satisfactory market for the products concerned and, in turn, promoting the development of technologies adapted to the specific needs of each region. Let us not forget that an increase in the number of users in a given region not only

benefits the region itself but, by increasing world telephone and data traffic, also helps to boost the GNP of countries throughout the world.

Mr. Chairman, we consider that technical cooperation needs a stable, adequate budget in order to be truly effective and we also believe that the growth in traffic resulting from this increased capacity should in turn effectively reinforce that capacity. I would emphasize that horizontal technical cooperation is equally important for telecommunications development geared to the actual situation of each region.

We hope that a consensus will emerge on the need for a permanent Constitution supplemented by Conventions or Protocols which can be amended in order to keep pace with changing world telecommunication requirements.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I wish to pay a tribute to the Secretary-General, Mr. Richard Butler, for imbuing our organization with his wisdom and energy and for the strong support he has given to the developing countries.

Thank you very much."

1.6 The Postmaster General of Malawi made the following statement:

"Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for being so kind as to give me the floor. I am conscious that there are other delegates who too wish to take the floor and I will therefore be brief in my statement.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to start by congratulating you on your brilliant election as Chairman of this important Conference. Your election, Mr. Chairman, is an expression by this august house of the admiration and confidence it has in your personal qualities which should see you steer the deliberations of the conference to a successful conclusion. You have before you, Mr. Chairman, a heavy task.

I also wish to echo the sentiments expressed by those delegations that have preceded me in thanking the Government of France for their excellent conference arrangements and the hospitality accorded to us since our arrival in France.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, the 1989 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference coincides with a very important event in the history of my country - Malawi. In six weeks time, Malawi will be celebrating her 25th Independence Anniversary. As you distinguished delegates will here be taking stock of what the ITU has achieved since the last Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, and decide how to shape your future actions for the improvement in the efficiency of telecommunications and its usefulness, we too at home are taking stock of our achievements - not only political achievements, but achievements in all fields - including telecommunications.

With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I would like to seek your indulgence and that of the distinguished delegates to give you a brief account of our achievements in the field of telecommunications in the 25 years we have been independent.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, as a politician, I am aware that we politicians are often accused by telecommunication engineers and administrators of not giving priority in our decisions to the development of telecommunication infrastructures.

It will please you, Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates to learn that in Malawi, our leader, Father and Founder of the Malawi Nation, His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi Dr. H. Kamuzu Banda, recognizes the importance of telecommunication

infrastructures for the economic, cultural and social development of Malawi and has, since we attained our independence, attached great importance to the development of telecommunication infrastructures.

At the time we gained our independence, Malawi had a small telecommunications network which was concentrated in few urban centres. Communication with the rural areas where over 80% of our population live was mainly by post.

Contact with the rest of the world was through a telephone operator who had access to a single high frequency circuit. The same was true for telex. Telegrams were transmitted by Morse.

Mr. Chairman, the Malawi Government's policy over telecommunications since attaining independence has been to: a) increase telephone penetration in rural areas so that no one should walk more than 10 km to reach the nearest telephone; b) increase the percentage of subscribers connected to automatic exchanges to 99% by the year 2000.

Today as we look back to the time we gained our independence 25 years ago, we do so with a sense of satisfaction. Of course our achievements do not in any way match our enthusiasm and aspirations.

Mr. Chairman, our telephone stations have in the 25 years grown 17-fold and 96% of the subscribers are now connected to automatic exchanges. This year, we have embarked on a major project to automate 15 of our manual telephone exchanges in rural areas by modern digital telephone exchanges.

For our international contact which is vital for our commerce and trade, Malawi operates two earth satellite stations, one standard A and the other standard B, which have facilitated us to introduce international subscriber dialling to nearly all countries around the world.

In conclusion, I would like to pay tribute to the ITU which throughout the years has been of great assistance to Malawi through technical assistance in terms of experts, equipment, fellowships, seminars and all other activities of the ITU that enabled us to keep abreast with telecommunication technology. Malawi is greatly indebted to the ITU.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, despite our telecommunication network growing 17-fold, our telephone penetration per 100 population is less than one. While my Government would like to increase this at an accelerated rate, we are handicapped by financial constraints. It is therefore Malawi's hope that the deliberations of the Conference will enhance the role of the ITU to respond to the requirements of our times and make it efficient and effective.

Thank you for your attention."

1.7 The Minister of Transport, Telecommunications and Tourism of Mali made the following statement:

"I have the honour, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Mali, to extend cordial greetings to this august assembly. This Conference is taking place seven years after the one held at Nairobi in 1982. My Government greatly appreciates the work done since Nairobi and the implementation of the Recommendations adopted there, including:

- the establishment of the Independent Commission to consider the problems posed by telecommunication development throughout the world;
- the convening of the first world conference on telecommunication development;
- the establishment of the Centre for Telecommunications Development;
- the complete fulfilment of the Union's whole programme of conferences and meetings, including World Administrative Radio Conferences (WARCs) and World Administrative Telephone and Telegraph Conferences (WATTC). Our heartiest congratulations go to the Secretary-General, Mr. Richard E. Butler, and his staff for their excellent and conscientious work. All through his period of office, we have been able to appreciate the personal efforts Mr. Butler has made in personally taking part, not just in the Union's conferences, meetings and other events, but also in many other international and regional conferences, meetings and events concerned with telecommunications. We greatly appreciated his presence at the most recent session of the Conference of Ministers of the African Postal and Telecommunications Union at Bamako on 20 and 21 March 1989, thus demonstrating the Union's great interest in and support for the promotion and development of telecommunications in Africa.

I take this opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to extend to you my warmest congratulations, on behalf of my Delegation and myself, on your election as Chairman of the Conference. We have no doubt that your exceptional qualities will help to make this Conference the greatest possible success. We should also like to congratulate the other officers of the Conference on the confidence shown in them. Finally, let me convey our congratulations and our great appreciation to all those who have helped to organize this Conference so perfectly and who have given our Delegation such an excellent welcome in this beautiful city of Nice.

Mr. Chairman,
Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Changes in the telecommunications environment require a reconsideration of the Union's role and activities in its three main functions, namely:

- standardization;
- regulation;
- cooperation and assistance for the development of telecommunications in all Member States.

The Union will thus have to deal with a number of problems which seem to us important:

- 1) adapt its legal means of action to the extremely rapid rate of development in the telephone industry;
- 2) prevent the trend towards deregulation encouraged by private transnational companies from being too unfavourable to developing countries and ensure that future developments take account of the need for equity and solidarity among members of a universal institution;
- 3) rapidly restore the balance in the resources allocated by the Union to technical cooperation so as to ensure genuine assistance for the development of telecommunications in developing countries.

African countries are particularly interested in providing for all their development needs. That is why General Moussa Traoré, Mali's Head of State, who presides over the Organization of African Unity at the present time, has instructed me to convey Africa's support to this august assembly and to inform it of the great personal interest he takes in its proceedings. Africa is celebrating today, 25 May, the 26th anniversary of the Organization of African Unity.

Among the items to its credit we may note major progress in the field of the liberation of peoples, in the struggle to regain dignity and sovereignty and in the common nature of the battle waged by States for a better economic future.

The record shows unfortunately that in world trade Africa bears the burden of an unequal distribution of income, which considerably reduces the resources it has available to finance development.

As you know, Africa's development needs are immense, and telecommunications represents one of the major solutions to the problem. All the studies made on the role of telecommunications have established a close correlation between economic development and telecommunication development. It is therefore essential that telecommunications should be given a prominent place in African countries' development programmes. In accordance with its function of assisting telecommunication development, particularly in developing countries, we consider that the Union has an important role to play in helping African countries plan and realize conditions for implementing strategies which will enable them to speed up their economic and social development. Within that context, the Union's aid will be valuable with regard to planning problems, implementation of investment programmes, formulation and application of a maintenance policy, drafting of regulations, sectoral restructuring and the application of the right human resources training and management policy. The Union's resources for technical cooperation activities to help developing countries are clearly inadequate. If it is to meet its responsibilities in this field, the resources allocated for the purpose will need to be increased substantially.

The difficulties encountered at the recent World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference (WATTC) in Melbourne show clearly enough the need to harmonize the positions of countries Members of the Union with a view to introducing a new regulatory instrument acceptable to everyone. The results achieved at Melbourne should be consolidated so as to enable the Union to carry out its function of coordination. The International Telephone and Telegraph Consultative Committee and the International Radio Consultative Committee are concerned with all aspects of the standardization of equipment and installations. At the same time, the rapid development of telecommunications has led to the emergence of three sets of standards in different parts of world. African countries do not manufacture telecommunications equipment, our research and development facilities are too limited. Hence our interest in the ITU and

our hope that it will continue to perform its coordinating role in order to guarantee solidarity and equity in decisions relating to telecommunication development. Duplication resulting from overlapping of the specific spheres of competence of the Union's two Consultative Committees should be reviewed and could, in our view, be avoided, which would help to make savings without affecting the quality of the Union's services. This would also help to adjust the allocation of resources between development activities and regulation and standardization activities.

The International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) should in our view be restructured in accordance with the results of the studies made by the ad hoc Committee. The adoption of a Basic Instrument consisting of a Constitution and a Convention, as proposed by the Group of Experts on the subject, will be a factor making for stability. Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen, this Conference will also have to look into the question of restructuring the General Secretariat in order to make it more efficient.

The African Group is following the work of the Conference with great interest.

The Group welcomes the extremely encouraging statements made by many delegations from industrialized countries which have taken a clear and positive position in favour of the developing countries:

- firstly, by reminding the Conference of the universal nature of the ITU and the fact that equity, solidarity and observance of democratic rules in decision-taking will enable the ITU to step up its contribution to peace;
- secondly, by committing themselves to a substantial increase in the resources allocated to development cooperation and assistance and simple procedures making it easy to get access to these resources during the programming period in question.

Mr. Chairman,
Your Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Government of Mali welcomes its relations with the Union, which have proved fruitful through the assistance we enjoy in support of our efforts to reform the postal and telecommunication sector. The Union's support will be necessary for:

- the implementation of programmes and policies for the management of human resources and cooperation;
- implementation of an effective maintenance policy;
- preparations for meetings of development partners around the Government's programme.

We have faith in the Union's future and we believe that this Conference will enable it to adapt to its new environment. In this way it will continue to play its full role as an important factor for the maintenance of peace and concord among peoples.

Thank you."

1.8 The Deputy Minister of Posts, Telegraph and Telecommunications of Saudi Arabia made the following statement:

"I should first of all like to thank you Mr. Chairman for having given me the floor and I have the pleasure of congratulating you on your election as the head of the highest body of the ITU. I am convinced that the work of this Conference is in good hands which will make it possible for our Conference to achieve the results expected, particularly since the task awaiting us in the next few weeks is extremely complex. However, such an august assembly will no doubt do its best and will certainly be able to achieve the results expected so that our Conference is successful. I also have the pleasure of extending my thanks to France, which was kind enough to host our Conference and I would like to thank those who organized this Conference for the warm welcome extended to us and for the facilities made available. There is no doubt that all these facilities will stimulate the delegations to redouble their efforts so as to achieve solutions to the various problems that hamper development of telecommunications on a world-wide scale. The rapid progress seen in the development of telecommunications over the last few years is outstanding, particularly in the developing countries. With the emergence of digital techniques in the field of telecommunication and information, developing countries today need to work out a strategy, now more than ever they have to do so in order to take advantage of new technology and meet their needs in the economic, social and cultural spheres. The progress of these techniques and the requirements which ensue therefrom require changes when it comes to telecommunications planning and investment by administrations as well as operations.

The International Telecommunication Union is doing its best to take up the challenge posed by world telecommunications at different levels when it comes to seminar and study groups under the CCIs and the IFRB, also in the form of exhibitions, Telecom; thus clubs are formed to closely follow the evolution of information systems and telecommunications technology; thus you have techniques such as the ISDN which are being closely watched. The activities of the Union and its achievements have helped to provide necessary advice to the administrations of the Member States, particularly the developing countries.

In the forthcoming weeks there will be an opportunity in one way or the other to review the activities and achievements of the ITU. We will also have an opportunity to discuss the best way of achieving progress, particularly when it comes to the budget and the financial resources of the organization. The Administration I represent would like to highlight the following points - first of all Resolution No. 62 adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference of Nairobi, on the Basic Instrument of the Union, Resolution No. 68 referring to the future of the CCIR and the long-term future of the IFRB in the light of the changes on the international scene, Resolutions Nos. 22 and 26 regarding technical cooperation activities also.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been engaged in great activities in the telecommunication sphere. Saudi Arabia has always cooperated with the ITU in this field, today we have the latest technology in terms of telecommunications but the digital technology has been introduced and we are in the process of developing a national integrated digital network. Communications between remote towns and villages take place over coaxial cable as well as through systems using optical fibre and satellite. When it comes to international communications Saudi Arabia today has a land communications network using submarine cables and international satellite. This, apart from the existence of ARABSAT which is the Arab satellite, where the main headquarters of ARABSAT are in Saudi Arabia and this satellite has managed to link all the Arab countries through a network of high capacity space communications.

The role of ITU when it comes to establishing standards is the main rule of our organization; world standards for telecommunication systems is one of our major tasks - that is why we have to place emphasis on this role particularly since we see that today there are many standardization organizations throughout the world. Having made this point we would like to stress the need to reconsider the methods of work of the International Consultative Committees in ratifying Recommendations and adopting procedures to rapidly introduce standards so as to avoid other standards being established and adopted in the various regions.

The whole world recognizes that there is a big gap between industrialized countries and developing countries when it comes to the development of telecommunications. Here we must emphasize that the last Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi adopted Resolution No. 20 to set up an Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development, a centre for the development of international communications was thus set up. However, today there is a need to follow the work of this Commission very closely to strengthen its structures and thus make it possible for this Commission to give the necessary aid to developing countries. Furthermore, there is also a need to strengthen the technical cooperation activities in the ITU and this has to be done by giving greater importance to the tasks of administration, management and operation and also training. Furthermore, Resolution No. 26, adopted in Nairobi, encourages ITU regional presence and it is up to us today to examine the advantages of this Resolution.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, as you know it is difficult to closely follow the various activities of the ITU without allotting the proper resources to these activities, consequently this question deserves close consideration so as to find better solutions which would lead to a strengthening of the means and financial resources made available to the ITU. There is another point which deserves our attention, namely the question of working languages of the ITU; we all know that language plays a basic role in helping peoples understand each other and achieve better comprehension, that is why my Administration would like to stress the need to give the Arabic language the importance it deserves as a working language of the International Telecommunication Union.

While we are speaking about the question of development of telecommunications and the need to make available to all peoples all these telecommunication services it is regrettable to see today that the Arab people of Palestine has seen its territories occupied and has been deprived of its most elementary and legitimate rights including its right to telecommunications. In this connection may I pay a tribute to the Intifada, the uprising of the Palestinian people, and to welcome this Palestinian uprising which started something like 18 months ago at this time when the Palestinian people is continuing its struggle to recover its territory, its independence and its liberty. We have taken the liberty of presenting a working document on the subject to the Conference.

In conclusion, I should like to pay a tribute to the efficient role played by and the contribution made by Mr. Butler during his term as Secretary-General of the ITU. His work will be a landmark in the history of our organization. On behalf of the Saudi Delegation I have the pleasure of expressing our deepest appreciation for the efforts he has made and we wish him good rest and all happiness in the years to come. We should also like to thank Mr. Jipguep, Deputy Secretary-General as well as the Chairman and the Members of the IFRB and the Director of the CCITT and the Director of the CCIR as well as the Director of the International Centre for the Development of Telecommunications and his staff, likewise the whole staff of the ITU for the efforts made to the service of technical cooperation in telecommunications.

Thank you very much."

1.9 The Head of the Delegation of Zimbabwe made the following statement:

"In my brief remarks this afternoon I should like to underscore the views held by the Republic of Zimbabwe as elaborated on two separate occasions, first at the WATTC-88 in Melbourne and second at the Asia Telecom '89 in Singapore.

But before I do that, Mr. Chairman, may I sincerely congratulate you on your deserved election as Chairman of this august assembly of Plenipotentiaries of sovereign Member States of our endeared Telecommunications Union. The task before you, Mr. Chairman, is indeed difficult but minisculed only by your towering stature as an experienced engineer and negotiator. I therefore have no doubt that with your ability coupled with the support we have set aside for you, the Conference will be a resounding success.

In the same vein, on behalf of my Government, I wish to thank the Government of France for hosting this Conference and extending an invitation to us. The Conference setting in this exotic city of Nice and excellent conference facilities are indeed a good incentive for the negotiating process we came here to participate in. It should however be obvious that the negotiations we are about to enter would not take off without the judicious moderation by an able and selfless umpire whom we have in the office of the Secretary-General. I wish once again to pay tribute to Mr. Richard Butler for the dedicated manner in which he devoted the last 20 years to the strengthening of the Union and marshalling its technical expertise for the benefit of all Member States, in particular the developing countries of Africa who had well-known reasons to rely on the Union. We have all the hope that Mr. Butler's successor will be a man of similar disposition to hard work and dedication to the fulfillment of the objectives of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

Mr. Chairman, Zimbabwe is here in Nice under no illusion that the work of the Conference will be easy. We are well aware of the seriousness of the negotiations which we are here to engage in. The outcome awaited by all of us at the end of this Conference is an international treaty representing the consensus view widely accepted by all Members of the Union. International treaties, by their nature call for openness and a spirit of compromise on the part of all participants in the negotiating process. Zimbabwe therefore came to Nice well prepared to approach all the issues on our agenda with great openness which should assist other Member States to understand our negotiating stance.

Mr. Chairman, Zimbabwe has already made its views known regarding the future role of the ITU in harmonizing world-wide development of telecommunications particularly as this has a bearing on the relations between the developed and the developing countries. Both at WATTC-88 in Melbourne and at Asia Telecom '89 in Singapore, our views on the future of our Union were stated for all to note in preparation for this very important Conference in Nice. We intend to underscore the aspects of our views which we feel may assist the work of the Conference.

Mr. Chairman, you may recall that the Melbourne Conference was preoccupied with the question of liberalization as it pertains or relates to the provision of services. A good number of Members were concerned by the attempt being made to establish a direct correlation between efficient provision of new services with liberalization. Our view on this important issue is that liberalization per se does not necessarily enhance efficiency in the provision of services. What enhances efficiency, in our view, is the system of management adopted by whatever entity which has the ultimate responsibility of providing telecommunication services. In this regard we go along with those who advocate the strengthening of the technical and administrative capacity of the Union to enable it to render effective assistance and advice to developing countries. We also note with gratitude that this view has been endorsed by the Report of the Advisory

Group on Telecommunications Policy. Liberalization therefore becomes a matter for each sovereign Member State to decide, as was in fact generally agreed upon in Melbourne. We therefore commend the Report of the Advisory Group to this Conference and hope that it will be tabled for consideration by the Plenipotentiary Conference here in Nice.

Mr. Chairman, the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference recognized the urgent need to restructure the Union and streamline its organs commensurate with the ensuing technological revolution in the field of telecommunications. Specific proposals have been placed on the agenda of this Conference. We would like to see the principle of equitable geographical representation being respected both in the IFRB and the Administrative Council. This is a matter of great importance to Zimbabwe, as indeed to all developing countries. In our view, it is through participation in these decision-making organs of the Union that the interests of developing countries can be fully represented.

Regarding the creation of a Constitution and a Convention for the Union, Zimbabwe would support this to the extent that both documents would continue to uphold the principle of sovereignty of Members of the Union. We also feel that the dynamic state of telecommunications development calls for a more flexible Convention to facilitate the work of the Union in between Plenipotentiary Conferences. This flexibility can best be assured by this proposed separation.

Mr. Chairman, the widening gap in the level of telecommunications development between the developed countries, on the one hand and the developing countries on the other, calls for special attention both by this Conference and by the Union after this Conference. The gravity of the situation was sufficiently highlighted in the Maitland Report, "The Missing Link" which should be, in my view, by now be quite familiar to all Members. In the view of Zimbabwe, far too much emphasis is being placed on the issue of liberalization at the expense of the fundamental issues of development as raised in this Report. We are in total agreement with the Recommendations of "The Missing Link" regarding the need to reduce the present dependence of developing countries on equipment imports. In this regard it is recommended that immediate steps be taken to encourage the setting up of local manufacturing industries on a regional basis. This, in our view is the long-term solution to the existing disparity in telecommunications development. We also submit that the present concern about efficient provision of new services to the productive sectors of national economies would also fade away with such local manufacture.

Mr. Chairman, we have come a long way from the last Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi to the present one in Nice. Despite the yawning gap in time very little in practical terms has been done to reduce the wide gap in telecommunication services between the two worlds as mentioned earlier. This fact is clearly demonstrated by the despicably low telephone densities that continue to characterize the situation in developing economies especially those in Africa. In some cases the low telephone densities that raised concern in Nairobi have since deteriorated and due to population growth rates that outstripped GDP growth rates. It is therefore imperative that the Nice Conference emerges with more concrete programmes geared to reversing the negative trend in development. We therefore hope that the Centre for Telecommunications Development will get a new impetus from the Nice Conference and its financing assured within the budgets of the Union. Let me emphasize that in the developing world the Centre is viewed with a great deal of reverence and we hope we can now do something to ensure that the Centre is actually effective and not just exists in our minds. Other relevant recommendations of "The Missing Link" and recently the Report of the Advisory Group merit serious consideration in this Conference.

Let me conclude, Mr. Chairman, by stating that Zimbabwe is confident that this Conference had most of its groundwork done in Melbourne where the legal framework for future cooperation in the Union was agreed upon. If the Nice Conference takes cognizance of the outcome of Melbourne and its "spirit", i.e. the Melbourne spirit of cooperation, the new "sunshine spirit" of Nice would bring us fruitful results and the Nice Conference would, in our view, be a resounding success.

Zimbabwe is grateful to the Conference for having been elected to the Steering Committee. We are here to lend you our full support in your formidable task of steering this Conference to a successful outcome. We have complete faith in the ultimate wisdom of mankind to take command of his own destiny in the interest of collective self-preservation. Nice will give a lease of new life to the ITU. We have already made a good beginning for they say "Well begun, well done". I am sure we are going to succeed; we are imbued with a spirit of success. We succeeded in Melbourne and nothing succeeds like success; we should succeed here in Nice. I wish you, Mr. Chairman and our indefatigable Secretary-General well and long life. I wish to thank you all for having listened to me. Thank you."

1.10 The Head of the Delegation of Pakistan made the following statement:

"It is a matter of great pleasure and indeed an honour for me to have an opportunity to address this august assembly. This Conference is being held at a time when the people of France are preparing for celebrations of the Second Centenary Anniversary of the French Revolution. This Revolution took place on French soil but it has spread enlightenment in all lands of the globe and guided the evolution of an egalitarian society endowed with the human rights, fundamental liberties and freedom of speech. We in Pakistan appreciate these values as our religion which started 1,400 years back gave the message of dignity for all human-beings irrespective of ethnic origin, colour, race and sex. I congratulate the French Government and the people on this occasion. I will be failing in my duty if I do not express my gratitude to the French Government and PTT Administration for the excellent arrangements which they have made for the hosting of this Conference. Nice is a renowned place for its beauty and excellent climate. Comfortable arrangements with all facilities have created an atmosphere which will go a long way in making our deliberations constructive, beneficial and conclusive. I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election as Chairman of the Conference. Your ability is a further guarantee towards the success of this Conference.

We are considering the election of a new Secretary-General at this Conference and I would therefore like to pay homage to Mr. R.E. Butler, Secretary-General of the Union who has guided the activities of the Union since his election in Nairobi in 1982. Although Mr. Butler was known to us as Deputy Secretary-General much earlier but his role as Secretary-General was excellent. The dedication which he showed towards the Union is exemplary. The capacity with which he tackles the different day-to-day and policy problems will always be appreciated. To us in the developing world his role was of special significance as he paid attention to our needs. We would like to place on record our heartiest tributes for the services which he rendered to the Union. We wish him best of health and happiness in his life. Similarly, I would also like to place on record our appreciation of the work being done by the Deputy Secretary-General and his team. It has been good team-work and the affairs of the Union were well taken care of.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, the telecommunication development, technically and socially, has entered into a new phase. A long time back it was recognized as a necessity instead of a luxury. Today it is moving from necessity to the category of essential part of life. Telecommunication is a recognized infrastructure but it has now emerged as an essential ingredient of all human activities.

Still in the developing world the demands for telecommunication are not being fully met. Thanks to the role played by the ITU, the National Governments have started giving priority to this sector but a lot still needs to be done. Lack of telecommunication facilities in a way means that we are denying certain sections of the society their right to communicate. Its deficiency is a stumbling block to the creation of a society with freedom of speech. The choked lines which are hindering free access need to be increased to create an open society. This is a new realization. To overcome this situation there has to be an increased flow of aid from the developed world to the developing world to remove the deficiencies in the telecommunication systems.

It is a matter of great concern for us that the cost of the telecommunication equipment and systems has been continually rising. It has been partly due to the exchange rates and partly due to the high cost of labour inputs in the developed world. Due to various financial crises things are becoming out of reach of the developing countries and economic viability of the telecommunication projects has started looking less attractive. We have to look at ways and means to put a check on the situation. We have to encourage joint ventures in the developing countries and we have to exempt the developing countries from paying the equipment development cost.

In the ITU, ways and means also have to be looked into so that cost of access to participation, technical assistance and documentation is reduced.

We have actively participated in the activities of the Union. Recently, World Telecommunications Day was celebrated [on 17 May] in Pakistan. Presently we are enjoying membership of the Administrative Council and hope that distinguished delegates would allow us an opportunity to continue our participation more effectively in future.

Due to the changing telecommunications environment, and to meet the present challenges there is a need for reforms in the ITU structure. We should streamline working and operation in the CCIs by the possible reduction of Study Groups and the amalgamation of Secretariats, exact the possibility of merger of the CCIR and the CCITT. Secondly, strengthen the management procedure of the Union. Thirdly, possible restructuring of the IFRB. Fourthly, telecommunication cooperation activities should also be strengthened through the development of technical cooperation.

In the end, I thank you, Mr. Chairman again, and assure this august house of our full support by confirming the spirit of cooperation and fraternalization in order to achieve our common goal."

1.11 The Head of the Delegation of Burkina Faso made the following statement:

"Our Delegation is delighted at your well-deserved election to preside over this august assembly. I should like, both on its behalf and on behalf of the Government of my country, to join with previous speakers in offering you our sincere congratulations.

I should also like to congratulate the officers of the Conference as well as the Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen who have been chosen by this assembly to conduct our deliberations and guide us towards a successful outcome.

Our Delegation has a great deal to say, and many ideas to share with the other participants on the important and complex subjects which we shall be discussing in this superb city of Nice. However, we know full well that 166 countries are represented in this room and that they are all better able than we are to contribute by their messages to the success of our deliberations.

Accordingly, we will confine our remarks to certain crucial matters which in our opinion deserve particular attention.

It seems to us that the central aim of this Conference is to establish a legal and organizational framework for the next five years at least, and to identify the resources which will enable the ITU to carry out its activities, attain its objectives and perform satisfactorily the tasks entrusted to it.

Very high on the list of these objectives we find the harmonious and generalized development of telecommunication installations, equipments and services, and the acquisition of the related know-how for the benefit of all peoples.

For some years now the Government of our country has given high priority to access to telecommunication services, with particular emphasis on access to the telephone for as large a share of the population as possible. Thanks to our national endeavours and to the ITU's constant technical support, the number of telephone connections doubled between 1986 and 1988.

This performance, encouraging though it may be in relative terms, falls far short of the necessary minimum in absolute value. The main reason for this continues to be the objective inadequacy of the financial resources which can be allocated to this sector, in view of the volume of requirements of the other sectors of economic and social development, the burden involved in debt servicing and the multifarious effects of the world economic crisis.

We are aware that this situation is not particular to our country, and that, at least in broad outline, it also affects a large number of developing countries.

At the same time, some countries are over equipped and are recording a spectacular growth in telecommunication techniques and services.

This picture of the coexistence between feast and famine within a community as old, mature and experienced as the ITU calls for some correction.

No doubt, the road to this goal will be a long one, but should not the role of the ITU be primarily to prepare the ground for it?

This is the place, Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, to reaffirm the wholehearted support of Burkino Faso for the exalted ideals of international technical cooperation, with the ITU as its privileged instrument, in keeping with Article 4 of the Nairobi Convention of 1982.

This Plenipotentiary Conference should make it possible to translate this principle into reality in a more resolute manner than has been done in the past.

We are persuaded that the judicious rearrangement of the Union structures, calculated to provide technical cooperation with the dimensions which it deserves, coupled with greater resources, would help to enhance its efficiency and achieve all its objectives.

For its part, Burkino Faso will spare no effort to make an active contribution to the quest for the ways and means of strengthening international cooperation and making our organization a model of efficiency within the United Nations system. For this reason, it plans to play an even more direct and sustained role in the organization of the life of the Union.

It is with the same intention of enhancing efficiency that it was contemplated equipping the Union with legal instruments which would enable it to base itself both on stable and fundamental principles and a regulatory machinery which could be adapted to the pace of technological advance in telecommunications and to the subsequent standardization requirements. Burkino Faso endorses these trends and highly appreciates as a whole the preliminary work carried out to this effect by the Group of Experts appointed by the Administrative Council.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, we should be derelict in our duty if we concluded without paying a well-deserved tribute to him who, for nearly a quarter of a century, has entirely devoted himself to the Union and who has presided over its destiny in a skilled, vigorous, farseeing and just manner. I speak of Mr. Butler.

Finally, I should like to take this opportunity of expressing, on behalf of our Delegation and our country, our gratitude to the high authorities of the French Republic and the city of Nice for this pleasant setting which has been made available to us for our labours and for the kindness which we have met throughout our stay.

Thank your very much."

1.12 The Head of the Delegation of Uruguay made the following statement:

"The Delegation of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay has the honour to congratulate you on your election and extends its warmest thanks to the Republic of France for having received us on the occasion of one of the most significant Plenipotentiary Conferences in the history of the Union.

We have experienced the emotion of rediscovering the historic links which have existed ever since we emerged as a sovereign nation and which have taken the form of your cultural influence in the broadest sense, deeply enriching the socio-cultural qualities which over time have generated our country as it is today.

We would also like to extend our greetings and our support to the Vice-Chairmen who will be assisting you, to the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees, to the officials of the Union and to all those who may not appear in the forefront but who are essential to the success of this Conference.

We would like to greet the distinguished delegations of the Member countries, in the hope that together we may ensure the successful outcome of this Plenipotentiary Conference for the benefit of all.

We would now like to pay homage to the Secretary-General and express our conviction that, in the turbulence which the scientific and technical challenges have occasioned in recent decades and especially during his term of office, he has got the ITU forward, while at the same time laying special emphasis on the developing countries. We would also like to assure the Deputy Secretary-General that in this team-work which the Union has produced he has been one of the most important factors acting in support of countries, and especially developing countries.

Our country is one of these. Convinced that in its own essence it had achieved integration and joint development with the group of nations who are in similar conditions, our country began to make an effort.

It understood that among the first necessities it had to have a greater international presence, especially in a regional sense, in all spheres of telecommunication activity.

Thus in the area of telecommunications it has as far as possible intensified participation in the regional context, through the specialized conference of the Organization of American States, CITEI and within the subregion of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, in the development of common objectives. On the international scene, through a substantial economic sacrifice, it has strengthened its intense participation in the Union.

As we have said, we are convinced that social, economic, technological and humanistic development is the basis of our existence and it is part of this conviction that telecommunications are for us one of the faces of development; they are neither its infrastructure nor a tool nor anything else; they are development itself.

This brings us to a few basic principles:

- 1) The need for telecommunications is paramount and demands that the specialized agencies should adapt to this requirement.
- 2) Human resources need to accept the perpetual change required by adaptation to the constantly changing requirements of telecommunications. In the face of change, of course, human beings feel an initial sense of rejection, although their reason tells them that they should accept it.
- 3) As a consequence and a corollary to the above, it is natural that the structure of the Union should change in order to adapt in the best way possible to the rapidly changing requirements of telecommunications.
- 4) Development implies growth, and growth implies the existence of internal tensions caused by the intrinsic disharmonies arising from different rates and degrees of growth in the different parts of the developing whole.

On the basis of these principles, our country is convinced:

- a) that there will have to be changes in the Union;
- b) that these changes will have to be cautious ones;
- c) that the conclusions reached by the Independent Commission in its report The Missing Link and confirmed in the Arusha Declaration have proved very important.

Uruguay, as I said, has been making efforts, basically of an economic and social nature, to give high priority to the telecommunication sector and so far has achieved the following results:

- I) this year will see digitization of 60% of all telephone lines installed;
- II) the whole population of the country has been given access to a telephone within 10 km, and the aim is to comply with the Arusha Declaration within the next two years;
- III) a telephone density of 15.2% has been achieved;

- IV) multiple-access rural telephony has been established in 50% of the national territory, mainly in agricultural areas. This has been done in coordination with Argentina and Brazil within the subregion;
- V) the land mobile service is being introduced through cellular telephony in coordination with Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, thus furthering integration.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Mr. Secretary-General, Mr. Deputy Secretary-General, distinguished members of the ITU staff, that is our way of thinking, that is our political vision of telecommunications. In our own modest way, we will try to achieve the success that is necessary for the common good. We prefer to be the protagonists rather than mere spectators."

The meeting rose at 1745 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
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(This corrigendum concerns the French text only)

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

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9 June 1989

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PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH PLENARY MEETING

Friday, 26 May 1989, at 0940 hrs

Chairman: Mr. GRENIER (France)

Subjects discussed:

1. General policy statements (continued)
 - 1.1 Statement by the Minister of Transport and Communications, Lesotho
 - 1.2 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, the Republic of Guinea
 - 1.3 Statement by the Deputy Head of the Delegation of Suriname
 - 1.4 Statement by the Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Posts, Malaysia
 - 1.5 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Côte d'Ivoire
 - 1.6 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Liberia
 - 1.7 Statement by the Deputy Minister for Communications, Philippines
 - 1.8 Statement on behalf of the Minister of Public Works and Communications, Portugal
 - 1.9 Statement by the Director-General, National Office of Posts and Telecommunications, Chad
 - 1.10 Statement by the Deputy Head of the Delegation of Chile
 - 1.11 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of the Netherlands
 - 1.12 Statement by the Director-General, Iraqi Posts and Telecommunications
 - 1.13 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
 - 1.14 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of New Zealand
 - 1.15 Statement by the Secretary-General of the Arab Telecommunication Union

1. General policy statements (continued)

1.1 The Minister of Transport and Communications, Lesotho made the following statement:

"I would like first of all to express my gratitude to the Government and people of France, for the hospitality accorded to me and my Delegation since our arrival. We feel that the Government of France has indeed created for us an atmosphere in which we can successfully address the important question of cooperation in telecommunications.

The value of information systems, and particularly of telecommunication services to development, needs no debate and is fully understood by us. In pursuit of our desire to facilitate creative activity in this connection, the Kingdom of Lesotho believes that the Plenipotentiary Conference accords an appropriate international forum to address this all important question of cooperation in telecommunication. More closely, an opportunity is accorded in this forum to review the cooperation between and among Member States of the Union. In this regard, projects such as the AFRALTI (African Advanced Telecommunications Institute), which was initiated in Nairobi, we view with satisfaction and as signs of what can be done.

It is again in this regard that we feel that, to facilitate the increasingly important role of the ITU as a development agency, the move towards harmonization of roles with other development agencies should be enthusiastically supported. On the question, Mr. Chairman, of performing the role of a development agency, the issue of technical assistance becomes important. Here, we are calling on the function of technical assistance to encompass manpower development, and we are defining manpower development to mean the development of a cadre that can adapt and create technology and not simply to exploit existing technologies. The creation of such a capability is a priority in many developing countries, and certainly in the Kingdom of Lesotho. The technological imbalance between the industrialized and developing countries was highlighted at the Nairobi Conference in 1982, and was emphasized in the Maitland report entitled the Missing Link. It would appear that the situation in this regard has not improved, because in the report to the Administrative Council, we are advised that the gap in services available between the industrialized and developing countries continues to widen. At present, over two-thirds of the world population remains without access to telecommunication services. This is undoubtedly disturbing.

It is against this background that my Delegation sincerely requests the Conference to pay special attention to the following important matters: (a) the special needs of the developing countries including technology transfer. Here perhaps, we should charge the Committee on Technical Cooperation with the responsibility to make clear and implementable recommendations; (b) the need to assist developing countries to establish their own network frequency administration and monitoring units; and (c) the principle of equitable regional and subregional representation in the various offices of the ITU, especially to accept the principle of rotation for all elected officials of the Union, that is to say, not more than two successive terms in office.

For our part, since the last Plenipotentiary Conference in 1982, the Kingdom of Lesotho embarked on an ambitious programme to develop its telecommunications network. The commissioning of a satellite earth station at Ha Sofonia in 1984 was a significant technological landmark for Lesotho because for the first time it had direct access to the outside world. During the same year a digital telex exchange and a digital

international/national switch were commissioned, offering international subscriber dialling facilities to the subscribers to more than 100 countries all over the world. The declaration of 1983 as World Communications Year, served as a springboard which enabled us to review our national policies on telecommunications as an instrument for economic development and growth. In 1985 all major towns of Lesotho were linked by the commissioning of a wide-band backbone microwave system, and this drastically improved the quality of trunk traffic as witnessed today. By the end of 1987 eight fully-fledged digital telephone exchanges and three remote subscriber switches were operating. By the end of 1989 two more will be operating and this means that penetration of digital exchanges will be such that 95% of all Lesotho subscribers will have access to this type of exchange. Digital microwave and optic fibre cable systems will be introduced on the main national routes during the 1989/1990 timeframe, and intermediate data rate will be introduced at the earth station during 1991. It is planned that by 1993 all exchanges will be automatic. We believe that we are well positioned for introduction of the Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) as and when it becomes standard. In general, we are taking measures to introduce and widen the various subscriber services.

Our policy is to expand and extend telecommunications services into rural areas, so as to reach the majority of our people by the year 2000. The strides that we have taken have been possible through cooperation with the ITU and Member States. These efforts become increasingly more effective when the specific geo-political circumstances of our country are borne in mind.

I am advised that Mr. Butler will not be available for re-election to the office of Secretary-General. It is appropriate therefore, at this point, to express our appreciation of the dedicated manner in which Mr. Butler discharged his responsibilities. My Delegation takes this opportunity to wish him well in his retirement.

In conclusion, I wish all delegations to this Conference healthy deliberations, particularly to our various committees, which have the onerous task of shaping the programme of work of the Union."

1.2 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of the Republic of Guinea made the following statement:

"Circumstances beyond our control meant that we were unable to be present at the official opening of our Conference, but fortunately we have now been able to join you.

Mr. Chairman, the way we have been welcomed here is no surprise, since it was here, in France, in 1865 that the Plenipotentiaries of 20 States met to decide on the harmonization and coordination of communication media, fully aware of the difficulties created by the frontiers separating them. That was how the Union was born.

Today, when our Union is celebrating 124 years of existence and telecommunications have developed prodigiously, the 166 Member countries are once again meeting in France, not just to compare experiences, but also to determine the Union's policies and principles with a view to harmonization, to compatibility in telecommunication technology. Our Delegation invites you, worthy representatives of communications, that you are to consider further what the future structure of our Union should be.

The Republic of Guinea, my country, conscious of the great gap between the rich and the developing countries, expects much from our organization and from the present Conference in the face of the scientific and technological innovations we are witnessing today. It is with that specifically in mind that I should like to inform the Conference, on behalf of my Delegation, of the efforts already made by my Government in the field of telecommunication development, efforts which have enabled part of my country to come out of its isolation and will shortly do the same for the rest. Since last December, my country has provided itself with a new telex exchange and two transit exchanges, national and international, through the cooperation and aid of a considerable number of countries with which my Government maintains good relations. Thus, under the dynamic leadership of the President of the Republic, Guinea has included telecommunications among the priority development activities to promote the essential recovery of our economy.

What we should like, and we hope the Conference will agree, though we do not underestimate the efforts already made by the ITU, is that international cooperation should be further strengthened so as to enable developing countries like ourselves to meet the needs they have today in this particular field of communications.

We already cherish the hope that the work of this Conference and the discussions that will follow will enable you, as the eminent personalities you are, and the technical specialists who are assisting us, to achieve an appreciable improvement across the whole range of our shortcomings and inequalities today in the field of telecommunications.

Mr. Chairman, my Delegation welcomes most sincerely your election as Chairman of this Conference and hopes that under your guidance bold decisions can be taken to enable our respective countries to contribute to the expansion of telecommunications in the world in general and in the developing countries in particular.

I should like, on behalf of my country, my Government and the Delegation I head, and with your permission, Mr. Chairman, to extend our heartiest congratulations to Mr. Richard Butler, who after working for nearly twenty years to give the Union the character it has today has decided to retire. We believe that despite his retirement he will continue to give us the benefit of his wisdom and experience."

1.3 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Suriname made the following statement:

"Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to extend to you on behalf of the Delegation of Suriname our warmest congratulations on your election as Chairman of the Conference. Our congratulations go also to the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees. We are confident, Mr. Chairman, that under your excellent guidance this Conference will meet the goals set for this most important event of the Union. We would like to take this opportunity to express our profound thanks to the Government and Administration of France for the tremendous efforts and meticulous arrangements they have made for this Conference. Our thanks also go to the personnel of the Secretariat for their best endeavours in preparing this Conference.

The past seven years since the last Conference have seen rapid developments in science and technology in telecommunications. More and more developing countries have become aware of the importance of telecommunications as a part of the social and economic infrastructure of all countries. During this period, the ITU has made great efforts to strengthen international cooperation and to promote the development of international telecommunications. In this respect we would like to pay a special tribute to the Secretary-General, Mr. Richard Butler, who has dedicated the last 20 years to the promotion and harmonization of international telecommunications and who has always given our Administration full support. Mr. Butler has been a good friend of the developing countries and we do wish him all the best for the future.

Suriname is located on the north-east coast of South America and has borders with the Federal Republic of Brazil to the south, with French-Guyana to the east and with Guyana to the west; to the north we have the Atlantic Ocean. Due to our location on the northern coast of South America, we form a part of the Caribbean. Being a developing country, we realise that it is a basic undeniable fact that the developing countries make up more than 80 per cent of the Member countries of the Union and still have less than 20% of the telecommunications facilities in the world. As in most of the developing countries, one of our Administration's purposes is to improve our level of telecommunication services in accordance with ITU regulations, Recommendations and standards. It is worth noting that the percentage of faults in basic telecommunications in our country is less than ITU standards.

We can report that in the year 1990 we will have doubled the number of telephone lines in our country; we will then have telephone facilities in the isolated interior of Suriname. However, we have to face the fact that the developing world continues to be increasingly dependent on the developed countries in the field of technological know-how. In our experience, telecommunications equipment, which is for and mostly produced in the developed countries, does not always quite meet the requirements of our countries. The Union therefore has an important role in assisting the developing countries in formulating their telecommunication needs, and also in stimulating in every possible way the continuous growth of telecommunications in order to enhance the level of development. A very important issue of developing countries is how to structure technical cooperation programmes in the sense that they may achieve optimal results in order to minimize dependence. We are of the opinion that further strengthening of the ITU regional presence will stimulate further development in telecommunication networks sectorally, regionally and internationally.

This Plenipotentiary Conference faces the huge task of guiding ITU's future work, identifying the further trends which the work of the ITU should follow in a field of technical assistance and determining the strategies of an international, regional and subregional nature which are to be followed in the next few years, particularly taking into account the changing telecommunication environment, which will require the ITU to adjust its structure and the organization of its work to the new circumstances. Of great importance, therefore, is the further democratization of ITU executives, the selection of personnel on the basis of equitable geographical representation of all regions, increased efficiency of the ITU's permanent organs and economic use of the resources of Union Members.

After studying the matter of the legal bases of the Union, we are of the opinion that the adoption of a permanent basic instrument, namely a constitution supplemented by a convention, would be an important step towards achieving the purposes of the Union and for the maintenance of the required stability within the Union.

In conclusion, I would like to say, on behalf of the Government of Suriname, that my Administration would welcome the opportunity to be able to make a useful contribution to the lofty causes of the Union by being allowed by election to have a seat on the Administrative Council.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we all hope to complete this meeting successfully and will do our utmost to give you all the necessary support to achieve this objective."

1.4 The Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Posts of Malaysia made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Malaysian Delegation I would like firstly to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election as Chairman of this Conference. I would also like to record, through you, our appreciation to the Government of the Republic of France, for hosting this Conference and for making our stay in this beautiful city of Nice a very pleasant one indeed.

Listening to the various speakers in the last few days, one is impressed with the similar concerns that are being expressed. The issues are not new but they have become more urgent and, in terms of international cooperation, more complex. There is the concern with the glaring disparity in the type of telecommunication development in the developed as compared to the developing countries. There is the challenge posed by the rapid change in telecommunication technology. There is the question of spreading the location of telecommunication industry. More fundamental to this Conference is the question as to how best the ITU, in terms of organization and structure, should prepare itself to serve the cooperative needs of the telecommunication community of the 1990s and beyond. There is the question of spreading the location of the telecommunication industry.

The disparity in the level of telecommunication facilities between the developed and developing countries is in itself serious enough, but more seriously it encourages further widening of the economic gap that already exists between these two sets of countries. The telecommunication network has long been recognized as a vital infrastructure in the modern economy. In a number of developed countries the network has matured and is fully developed; more than half the population has private telephones. The rest have access to public ones. They are able to develop new services and to introduce innovative systems. This trend will continue as the human mind and the human spirit will always aspire to progress. In these countries the cumulative effect of technological change will expand the boundaries of services that are offered - in terms of voice, data transmission, images, electronic offices and so on. All these no doubt impact on social life, but they also change the way businesses are run and the way the economy is operated. Distance no longer has relevance. Certainly, countries equipped with these facilities will have a competitive advantage in terms of trade and in terms of overall international relations.

Malaysia shares similar challenges that are faced by other developing countries. The provision of telecommunication services cannot be isolated from the overall question of the national economy in which equally pressing demands for education, health services, basic transportation and so on must compete for allocations within a limited budget. Within the telecommunication sector there is the twin objective of providing a universal basic telephone service while at the same time introducing new facilities to meet the requirements of the Government and modern business. The Malaysian economy has traditionally been dependent on rubber, palm oil, tin, cocoa and petroleum; these are subject to the volatile uncertainty of international commodity prices. We believe we have to restructure and push the development of industries. In this we encourage foreign investment by offering a package of incentives. The provision of efficient modern telecommunication infrastructure is central to this industrialization programme. In order to address these needs we have restructured our telecommunications entity. A skeleton version of the original Department of Telecommunications is retained, functioning as a regulatory body responsible for type approval, standard setting, frequency allocation and so on. A commercial entity has

been set up under the Companies Act and is being licensed to operate and manage the telecommunication network and services. This company, initially owned by the Government, will later be privatized. This restructuring exercise is intended to address the fundamental questions: firstly, to provide a flexible organizational structure that can respond to new demands; secondly, to facilitate the injection of private capital in the provision of telecommunication facilities. The Malaysian network is still small and it is felt prudent to retain a monopoly on the basic network - but competition exists in the supply of terminal equipment, and is being gradually introduced into the sphere of value-added services. This restructuring was implemented in early 1987. Two years ago we had five telephones per 100 population. Now we have eight per 100. The urban centres of business are served with modern digital facilities. Packet-switched networks are available for those who need them. We have a nation-wide coverage of a cellular network that combines mobile services with a fixed station capability which has enabled us to provide rural community telephones to a number of rural villages.

In restructuring our telecommunication entity in Malaysia we have been guided by questions of practicality. I am equally impressed by the collective practicality of the Members of the ITU, in respect to the International Telecommunication Regulations, formulated at the WATTC Conference in Melbourne last December. Malaysia welcomes that decision. In this context I would like to caution against any over-enthusiastic move towards uncontrolled deregulation in international telecommunications. The argument of free trade in telecommunication technology and services in the context of the glaring disparity that now exists in these matters between the north and the south will further widen the very disparity that all Members of the ITU should seek to narrow. In international trade, as in other spheres of international relations, the countries that are strong tend to dominate those that are not as strong. A completely deregulated telecommunication sector will have the effect of restricting the ability of countries of the south to control their telecommunication network, which is of so strategic an importance in terms of their economic growth and in terms of their national security. The ITU has to be forever alert to the risk of being an instrument either consciously or unconsciously of further widening the gap between the countries of the north and the countries of the south. Instead, the ITU should give special attention to the special problems and the special needs affecting developing countries.

Let me now turn to some of the issues with which this Conference is directly concerned, firstly, with regard to universal standards. The existence of a widely accepted standard will enhance connectivity and in terms of telecommunication equipment will serve to lower prices. The Union should continue to act as a catalyst for the formulation of widely acceptable standards. Secondly, with regard to the proposals to reform the Basic Instrument of the Union. The telecommunication environment of the 1990s and beyond is going to be totally different, even from that of the 1980s. ISDN now still in its infancy will become fully grown. Radio and satellite transmission will become increasingly prominent. The speed in which new technology and new services are introduced will move at an exponential rate. All this demands a flexible and dynamic structure. On the other hand there are countries that will still struggle to provide basic services to their people. They will look for stability; they will need continuity. The proposal for a flexible Convention based on a more permanent Constitution we believe will partly address this necessary requirement.

In addition, the operating mode of the ITU Secretariat may need to be examined. Some delegates have already questioned the need for voluminous documentation. Another question - cannot the activities of the Union be more regionalized? By so doing the Union will encourage a wider involvement of participants from Member countries at the regional level. We know that Geneva is a very pleasant city, but so are the other regional centres of the countries of the world.

Earlier I had mentioned Malaysia's success in combining our mobile cellular service with fixed station capability. In drawing up the technical configuration for that we were assisted by experts from the ITU. I would like to place on record our appreciation for that support. Indeed the technical cooperation that the ITU can contribute to Member countries must continue to be given top priority in terms of allocation of resources. I am thinking for example of one area that will require such attention - that is in the field of frequency-spectrum management which will become important as the use of radiocommunication increases. There must also be balanced participation of ITU Members in its activities. Such exposure will enhance the support of the ITU to those countries which need it most. In this context, Malaysia has decided to offer herself as a candidate of the Administrative Council.

I would also like to join in recording our appreciation to Mr. Butler for the contribution he has made to the workings of the ITU in his capacity as Secretary-General and before that as Deputy Secretary-General. Mr. Butler has shown himself to be a diplomat of the highest order and has provided the ITU with pragmatic leadership. He has been responsible in convincing Member States to give the highest priority to telecommunication development, to treating telecommunications as a catalyst for economic growth. He has now alerted the ITU on the urgent need to restructure itself to meet the challenges of the 1990s and beyond. On behalf of the Malaysian Delegation we wish you, Mr. Butler, a happy retirement and I would like to take this opportunity of assuring you that you will always be welcome to visit us."

1.5 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Côte d'Ivoire made the following statement:

"Let me first of all add Côte d'Ivoire's voice to those of the delegations that have preceded me in expressing our sincere thanks to France for its cordial welcome and for all the kind attentions we have received at this Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union here in the beautiful city of Nice, whose generous hospitality is in keeping with the great values of liberty, equality and fraternity. I should like next, on behalf of my Delegation, to congratulate you very warmly on your election as Chairman of our Conference. Your wide experience of international relations and your intrinsic qualities augur well for the success of our work. Our thanks also go to Mr. Butler, the outgoing Secretary-General, for the quality and consistency of the work he has done at the head of our Union for years.

The world today is characterized by breathtakingly rapid development in the techniques of communication, at a time when the gap between developed and developing countries is widening day by day because of the economic recession, the effects of which weigh hard on those who have the least. Our Conference, the importance of which is obvious to everyone, has every reason to ponder the strategies to be adopted in order to ensure that the benefits of this technological development are shared universally in accordance with the charter of our Union, whose fundamental aim is to encourage through international cooperation the development of means of telecommunication in all countries of the world. To make means of communication available to the whole of mankind would undoubtedly promote mutual understanding among peoples and strengthen collaboration and solidarity between nations, ideals which are at the foundation of my country's policy. For that reason Côte d'Ivoire will continue to make its contribution, however modest, to the successful operation of our common institution.

Being aware of the importance of telecommunications for a country's economic and social development, we have made substantial efforts in Côte d'Ivoire to extend and modernize our telecommunication network. For example, an electronic time-division switch was put into service in our country in 1978. Having thus made the right choice, we have been able since then to digitize 52% of the switching and 31% of the transmission in our network. All this has been achieved as a result of the priority given by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to developing telecommunications, following the action taken by the Union to make countries aware of this question. For further harmonious development of its network, my country places great hopes in the Union's assistance and considers that the Union's technical cooperation activities should be supported by adequate financing. The Centre for Telecommunications Development set up in 1985 under Resolution No. 20 of the Nairobi Conference remains an excellent instrument for giving assistance to the least developed countries in their development efforts. While we welcomed the birth of this institution, we are sad to note that it has not grown as it was expected to because of financial difficulties. We would therefore formulate the wish that this Conference should be the starting point for a vigorous new approach which will enable the Centre to achieve the noble aims for which it was set up. The Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development recommended in its report that the States Members of the ITU should envisage allocating a percentage of receipts from international telecommunications to financing telecommunications in developing countries. This recommendation was analysed successively by the VIIIth and IXth CCITT Plenary Assemblies and by the WATTC-88, and this Conference should find the way to put it into effect; that would be proof of the triumph of international solidarity.

With that very much in mind, I should like to conclude my statement by wishing the Conference once again every success in its work."

1.6 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Liberia made the following statement:

Mr. Chairman, permit me firstly to convey warm fraternal greetings to you, to the distinguished delegates to this Conference and, through you, to the Government and great people of France from my President, His Excellency Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe, the Government and people of Liberia and myself. I should also like to express to the Government of France, and in particular the friendly and hospitable people of this historic city of Nice, profound thanks and appreciation on behalf of my Delegation and in my own name, for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to us since our arrival and for the very meticulous and excellent organization put into this Plenipotentiary Conference. Indeed, the Delegation of Liberia is not the least surprised, because the tremendous reception accorded to delegates and the excellent organization which is evident in this hall symbolize France's ideals within the committee of sovereign nations as eloquently reflected in its motto, namely, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Permit me, too, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you and the various Vice-Chairmen on your election, and to pledge to you personally the full cooperation and support of the Liberian Delegation as you steer the affairs of this important Plenipotentiary Conference to a successful conclusion. I and the members of my Delegation are convinced that with the rich diversity of your knowledge and experience both as a professional engineer and as an active participant in the activities of the ITU for more than two decades, this Nice Plenipotentiary will record an equal success in the resolution of many of the thorny issues that have seemed to elude this august body.

We are meeting here in Nice, France, at a particularly crucial period in the world today. For the International Telecommunication Union, it is a critical time - a time of monumental challenges and ever-increasing opportunity. The opportunities for change in this important world organization and within our individual nation States, as well as their relationships one with another have never been so great. At the institutional level, the ITU's structure, which has been subjected to only minor, virtually cosmetic changes since the organization's founding, must now be examined with the view of making it leaner, more cost-efficient, more responsive and more dynamic. My Government therefore joins those other nations which at this Conference have advocated the restructuring of the Union. Accordingly, the Government of Liberia wishes to make the following proposals for the restructuring of the ITU: (1) that the Government of Liberia is opposed to calls for the integration of the CCIR and CCITT. However, while allowing these two Committees to retain their individualities and autonomy, it is imperative that the authority of the General Secretariat be strengthened to allow it to coordinate and harmonize their activities within the framework of the Union's programmes and objectives; (2) when His Excellency the Federal Minister of Communications of Nigeria, the Honourable Mr. D.A. Mark, addressed this assembly yesterday, he called attention to the unfair manner in which seats in the various organs of the Union are distributed. My Government fully shares the sentiments of the distinguished Nigerian Delegation and asks that this Conference initiates measures to redress this apparent imbalance; (3) a proposal is before this Conference for the review and adoption of the Convention and Constitution of the Union. The Government of the Republic of Liberia endorses the decision to separate these two organic instruments and further registers its support for their adoption; (4) a proposal has also been advanced for the restructuring of the Technical Cooperation Department with the aim of enlarging its authority and scope. My Government fully endorses this proposal, but more than this, the Government of Liberia believes that the subject of technical cooperation is one that touches the core of this Conference and needs more elaboration.

It is common knowledge that telecommunications technology is capital-intensive, and more often than not countries which wish to acquire it are prohibited by the high cost. In addition, as we enter the twenty-first century, there will be a greater need for south-south cooperation and collaboration as well as north-south cooperation. It is therefore the position of the Government of Liberia that the creation of a Technical Cooperation Division within the ITU with the rank of a director or a comparable senior level supervisor will underscore the importance the Union attaches to this area and hence enable it to attract more resources. The hard fact is that technical assistance or technical cooperation is the way of the future; for those of us in the Third World, faced with the rapid pace of technological change, who must routinely make difficult choices between acquiring new technologies and providing the basic needs of our people, technical cooperation remains the one hope and the medium through which the transfer of appropriate technical knowledge, skills and technology can occur between the north and the south. There is another reason why the Government of Liberia supports the creation of a Technical Cooperation Division within the Union: with this Division, the ITU could more actively encourage and assist in telecommunications development at the subregional, regional and continental levels. One of the tragic legacies of colonialism has been the physical and psychological barriers erected to keep the Third World, and particularly developing countries in Africa, divided by the establishment of communication links that ignore ethnic, social and national identities. One of the challenges facing the ITU, in the view of my Government, is to help Africa dismantle all such communication systems, and thus remove the potentials for subregional and regional conflicts.

We are assembled in Nice at a particularly unique time in the history of France. This year, the hardworking and courageous people of France will celebrate the bicentennial of their Revolution. This ITU Plenipotentiary must take note of the gains of the great French Revolution. More importantly, our Conference must not fail to be influenced by the impact of the French Revolution and take decisions that will forever transform the character and the content of the Union. The Liberian Delegation therefore challenges the ITU to go forth from Nice committed to solve the problem of interconnectivity and standardization of telecommunication technologies and equipment which continues to hamper a number of important telecommunication projects, including of course the Pan African telecommunications link project. The Liberian Delegation challenges the ITU to go forth from Nice, deepened in its resolve to assist Third World countries, particularly those in Africa, in the formulation of national telecommunications policies that genuinely reflect their socio-political, economic and cultural experiences. The Liberian Delegation challenges the ITU to go forth from Nice to become a catalyst in the transfer of appropriate technical and managerial skills for telecommunications development in the Third World.

The Government of Liberia wishes to register its appreciation for the tremendous benefits it has received and continues to receive from the International Telecommunication Union in the areas of training and consultancy. Thanks also to Mr. Richard E. Butler, the ITU is assisting my Government in the formulation of our national telecommunications development plan, which will be the first comprehensive telecommunications plan in the history of Liberia. In my travels around the world, I have often encountered three categories of people: those people who had never heard of Liberia nor ever met Liberians; those people who had heard of Liberia, but had never met Liberians; and those people who had heard of Liberia and had met Liberians. Therefore, for the benefit of all of us, a very brief statement of Liberia and the strides our Government has made in telecommunications development seems in order. Liberia is a small country in West Africa with an area of about 43,000 square miles, it is bordered by the Republics of Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Côte d'Ivoire in the west, north, and east, respectively. The country was carved out of a special partnership between returned freed slaves from North America and indigenous people who inhabited the West African coast. Until 12 April 1980, the country was effectively ruled by the settler minority from North America who institutionalized a western-style democracy. However, on 12 April 1980, 17 young non-commissioned officers of the armed forces of Liberia staged a revolution that led to the overthrow of the minority settler Government. Since 1980, the Government of the President, His Excellency Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe, has consistently pledged and demonstrated its support of the ITU and the Union's various programmes as well as the development, expansion, and improvement of our national telecommunication infrastructures, facilities, and services. In 1986, for instance, our Government embarked on the construction of a standard "A" satellite earth station and a new international digital switching centre, at a cost of approximately 19 million dollars. Both the station and centre were commissioned recently by the President of Liberia. We have also undertaken the rehabilitation of our coastal telecommunications link which, when completed, will provide microwave links to the rest of the country. In spite of this progress, our Government is far from being satisfied. In fact, the President in 1988 declared telecommunications as a priority area of his Government's national development programme and has repeatedly reaffirmed his personal commitment to ensure that the ITU requirement that one telephone set be made available to every 100 inhabitants by the year 2000 is met in Liberia.

As I speak to you today, the Liberian Delegation, indeed all of Liberia, is saddened by the news that Mr. Richard E. Butler, eminent scholar, humanist, world citizen, erudite statesman, excellent organizer, administrator and civil servant, who

for nearly seven years has steered the affairs of this Union to a place of global acclaim and envy as its Secretary-General, is retiring. We are further informed that Mr. Butler has said that his decision is unequivocal. The Government of Liberia therefore wishes to express its profound thanks and appreciation to Mr. Richard E. Butler for the many important and lasting contributions he has made to the International Telecommunication Union, both as its Deputy Secretary-General and now Secretary-General, and in particular for the special place he accorded Africa throughout his tenure. As we bid you goodbye, Mr. Butler, my President, Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe, would have me convey to you his sentiments of esteem and regard and his best wishes. I should further like to inform you that the Government and people of Liberia will always reserve a place of honour for you in their hearts, and that you are welcome to visit us any time you desire. We in Liberia entertain the hope that the new Secretary-General, when elected, will press forward with the Butler policy which has encouraged active participation of Third World countries in the activities of the International Telecommunication Union and accorded priority to our RASCOM and PANAFTEL projects.

We meet here in Nice at a very difficult time. The tasks confronting this assembly are no less difficult. From the election of the Secretary-General and Members of the Administrative Council; the election of the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the CCIR and CCITT, the members of the IFRB; the restructuring of the ITU to include the draft Convention and draft Constitution; the development of new programmes and policies that will take the Union into the twenty-first century; to important issues relating to technology transfer, national sovereignty and technical cooperation, each of our delegations in this hall will be challenged to summon the courage to make tough choices and hard decisions. But, it is in moments as unique as this that man demonstrates his ability and capacity to soar to meet the challenge. Today, it is our challenge to rebuild the Union, to restructure it to meet the exigencies of the coming decade and beyond. In this effort, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, you will find the Delegation of the Republic of Liberia squarely with you and by your side."

1.7 The Deputy Minister for Communications of the Philippines made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, the Philippines Delegation wishes to join previous speakers in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of this important Conference. Under your guidance, we can be assured of success. I would also like to express our gratitude to the Honourable Secretary-General, for his excellent and dedicated stewardship through all these years of the organization. Likewise, our deep gratitude is being extended to the Government of France for hosting this Conference in this beautiful Mediterranean city of Nice.

Our country has been an ardent and active supporter of the ITU for a long time, in spite of our limited resources and heavy load of domestic priorities. At the outset may I state that some real soul-searching may indeed be needed in view of the rapidly changing telecommunications environment in order to find out whether the present structures within the ITU framework, which have helped us achieve our goals in the past will continue to serve us well in attaining our objectives for the future. The peaceful revolution of 1986 has not only served to remind the Philippines of its role as a member of the world's democracies; it has given new life and purpose to economic development and social transformation. In these three short years, many new programmes have sprung up, and many older ones have been revitalized. Telecommunications is no exception, for it is more than just another element of a country's economic infrastructure, it is in fact the infrastructure of infrastructures. All other sectors benefit from improved telecommunications.

The Philippines is currently undergoing a rejuvenation programme in telecommunications. Last year, our President established the National Telecommunications Development Committee in which Government departments and industries can explore the many issues facing us and recommend new policies and programmes. In fact telecommunications was given a presidential mandate of priority for economic recovery and development, and it was within the purview of this critical directive that our Department has undertaken developmental projects of no mean dimension, and has embarked on the very painstaking work of rationalizing a very complex sector of the country. A new policy and regulatory framework will lead in the near future to a rationalization of our strategic planning process. At the same time, specific projects are being carried out to provide services rapidly to rural and remote communities. Our National Telephone Programme which aims to establish nation-wide telephone accessibility has been reviewed and given new impetus by the Department of Transportation and Communications, and plans are underway to privatize it as soon as possible. Likewise, we intend to revitalize our domestic satellite entity and to expand its mandate so that it can take full advantage of new technology and better serve the growing needs of the country in terms of nation-wide broadcasting, data networks and service to the very inadequately served areas of our island archipelago.

In the field of international telecommunications, Philcomsat has recently commissioned its fourth earth station and, because of its strategic location, the Philippines is at the crossroads of a number of new fibre optic submarine cable undertakings, which give us the critical connectivity to the rest of the world. In the long term, we are committed to the Integrated Services Digital Network, being a member of the Asian ISDN Council, and have started to lay the necessary infrastructure for ISDN. Many countries perhaps know by now that the Philippines has been chosen as the host country for a UNDP/ITU sponsored Senior Telecommunications Management Training Programme for the Asia Pacific region, the tenure of which may be five years, possibly a decade, and even more. I should like to stress that endeavours of this nature should be strongly encouraged.

Since 1982, the Philippines has served on the Administrative Council, and together with forty other countries, has helped carry through the spirit and the mandates of the Plenipotentiaries manifested in Nairobi in 1982. Our country has been highly privileged and honoured to have been a part of the many significant developments in world telecommunications, as an active participant in many of the historic decisions of the ITU in the last six years. It is our sincere hope, through the ITU electoral process, to assume the same responsibility and privilege, within the ensuing seven years.

We are but a small Delegation but what we lack in numbers, we make up in enthusiasm. We identify fully with the emerging world-wide trend towards global interconnectivity and interoperability. As can be seen our country is moving forward, and it is on this note of optimism that we join our sister nations at this all-important Conference of what has been very aptly referred to by the Honourable Minister from Kenya, as the large ITU family. There are all the signs for the Conference's veritable success in being able to cope with the extremely significant dynamism of the telecommunications environment and the complexity of its implications. May I at this point thank the excellent Secretariat and staff for the kind attention extended very selflessly. I am grateful for this opportunity to speak before this assembly and am certain that this Conference will be able to resolve effectively, no matter how difficult the process, the many critical issues before it."

1.8 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Portugal, speaking on behalf of the Minister of Public Works and Communications, made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, Secretary-General, Distinguished Delegates, I should like to apologize for the absence of His Excellency, the Minister of Public Works and Telecommunications of Portugal, who was unable to come owing to the death of his father. For this sad reason, I shall speak in his name and in the name of the Portuguese Delegation.

Mr. Chairman, I would first of all like to assure you of the warmest congratulations of the Portuguese Delegation on your election to the chairmanship of this important Conference. We are convinced, Mr. Chairman, that your competence and your qualities will ensure that the work of the Conference will lead to a strengthening of the ITU, which is necessary in the new environment of telecommunications and which should concern the legal bases, the structural principles and the operation of the Union, all factors which are essential for a more effective fulfilment of its important missions. I would like to take this opportunity to greet all the other delegations and to thank France for its hospitality and the facilities provided, which have greatly enhanced the organization of the Conference and are making the stay of all participants in this wonderful city of Nice most enjoyable.

In recent years the world economy has undergone major changes, in which telecommunications have played an increasingly decisive role, with respect either to the homogeneity of the social and economic fabric, or the structuring of development. In this context, we see the following tendencies developing: the growing role of the service sector in the economy, where telecommunications occupy a fundamental place, especially with regard to employment and the creation of wealth, dynamic world growth due to the gradual opening up of markets for products and services, and the importance of information technologies as the basis of integrated development. In this respect, I should like to point out that in Portugal the contribution of telecommunications to the gross domestic product stands at present at around 2 per cent, which is equivalent to the average for all EEC countries, and that, from the year 2000 onwards, the proportion will increase to around 7 per cent, a level which is also expected for the countries of the European Community. The significance of this reference framework will tend to vary according to the degree of development of different economies, but it does represent a world trend. Aware of this reality, Portugal is investing in this sector substantial human, technical and financial resources, thanks to which it has already managed to reduce significantly the gap between itself and the more developed countries. Regarding this tendency, we would like to stress the following aspects: firstly, Portugal is now the country in the Community investing the greatest percentage of its gross fixed capital investments in communications, which has produced a growth rate comparable only to that of France in the 1970s. Secondly, in 1989, the growth of telephone services will be three main lines per 100 inhabitants, while in data switching, expansion is already equal to the average for the EEC. There has been a parallel development, moreover, of advanced services.

Further profound changes have been taking place at the political and organizational levels, among which I might mention, firstly, legislative changes based on the principles of the exclusive operation of basic services, the access to competition of supplementary and added-value services, and the liberalization of terminal equipment. Secondly, regulatory and supervisory functions will be separated from operational and commercial functions and attributed to a new body, the Portuguese Institute of Communications. Thirdly, the separation of postal activities from

telecommunications. Lastly, the private sector's capital investment in telecommunication operators. All these measures are currently under discussion and are to be implemented by 1991. Portugal considers this Conference to be essential for the integrated development of telecommunications world-wide. To that effect, we believe that the ITU's work should be strengthened through the remodelling and modernization of its instruments and mode of operation, without disregarding the promotion of development, the full participation of all its Members and the rationalization of management. The structural function of telecommunications, in our view, justifies strengthening the Union's work as an organization fostering world economic development and social cohesion among all peoples - alongside the other specialized agencies of the United Nations. In this field, it is a question of finding means of action which are realistic and unambiguous. Solutions will not be easy to find, but they should not be delayed. Portugal is prepared to play a more active role in applying appropriate solutions to the activation of cooperation.

With regard to full participation in the operation of the Union, the inadequacy of certain mechanisms of the Convention has to be recognized. There are circumstances, in fact, which prevent the full participation of all countries in the management organs of the Union. The vitality and creativity of an organization require its renewal, with caution, undoubtedly, in order to avoid any sharp breaks which could have negative consequences for management, yet renewal all the same, which would entail a greater commitment by and, subsequently, greater responsibility for all the Member countries. In this connection, Portugal has submitted a proposal concerning the rotation of Members of the Administrative Council, which we would like to see adopted at this Conference.

With regard to the general running of the ITU, Portugal considers that measures should be taken to adapt our organization to the new environment of telecommunications and to rationalize its management. These measures could include: (a) the need to reformulate the Basic Instrument in order to give greater stability to the main core of the provisions; and (b) the need to make the operation of the Union more effective and more expeditious, especially the system for the approval of Recommendations. In this respect, we consider that the Union's regulatory and standardization functions should not be entrusted to other regional organizations. The system should be coordinated by the ITU, which should adapt and become more flexible in line with the evolution and convergence of technologies, ensuring the full development of information systems within the interrelated environment of telecommunications. At the same time, there is a need to rationalize administrative conferences, which should be specialized according to certain priorities. We would also like to set up procedures for rationalizing the Union's expenditure in accordance with profits/results.

In conclusion, I would like to express our highest esteem and all our sympathy to the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, whose efforts in a particularly difficult period for the progress of world telecommunications has contributed greatly to strengthening the role of the ITU. We would also like to extend our best wishes to all participants for the success of the work of this Conference. Thank you."

1.9 The Director-General of the National Office of Posts and Telecommunications of Chad made the following statement:

"Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you on your well-deserved election to the chairmanship of this important Conference, which is the supreme organ of our Union. Through you I should also like to thank the French Government and people for the warm and friendly welcome extended to my Delegation and myself.

Chad, which is one of the forty-two least developed countries in the world, has been disrupted for more than twenty years by a series of unfortunate events, which have not only exacted a high price in terms of both human life and damage to what was already a very limited telecommunication network, but have also prevented us from attending certain international telecommunication meetings, in particular the previous Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union held in Nairobi in 1982. Despite our absence, that Conference showed its concern for my country's situation by adopting Resolution No. 32 entitled "Assistance to the people of Chad". You will find an account of the implementation of that Resolution in the report submitted to you by the Administrative Council. As you will realise, it gives us great pleasure and satisfaction once again to take our place among you here in Nice and, in this short statement, to make our modest contribution to your deliberations.

The International Telecommunication Union is the main international organization responsible for regulating and planning world telecommunications, developing standards for systems equipment and operation, coordinating and disseminating the information required for planning and operating telecommunication services, and promoting the development of world telecommunications.

The telecommunication environment has been subject to very rapid change in recent years. The application of new technologies has led to the creation of new products, new services, new user requirements and new telecommunication suppliers, obliging the developing countries to turn more and more frequently to the International Telecommunication Union for advice and making it necessary to review the organization's role and activities in order to enable it to fulfil its historic mandate, namely, the development of world telecommunications.

A little earlier I alluded to the damage and losses sustained by our telecommunication networks during the events. However, since 7 June 1982, the authorities and officials of the Third Republic under the leadership of the Founder President of the National Union for Independence and the Revolution (UNIR), His Excellency, President Al-Hadj Hussein Habre, aware of the crucial importance of telecommunications for safeguarding peace and promoting social and economic development in all countries, have given a high priority to this sector, with the result that today the network has largely been restored and the country is no longer isolated.

These restoration and rehabilitation operations, which are still under way, have been made possible by both national endeavour and international technical cooperation. That is why at this stage, Mr. Chairman, I should like to emphasize the importance of encouraging and strengthening technical cooperation and assistance activities in order to promote the development of telecommunication networks and services in the developing countries.

Acting on the recommendations of the report of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development and the Arusha Declaration relating to the development of telecommunications in the developing countries, the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union, in Resolution No. 929 adopted at its 40th session (1985), set up the Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) to help the developing countries in the development of their telecommunication networks. The Secretary-General was instructed to make the necessary arrangements for the Centre to become operational as soon as possible.

Has the Centre, which has now existed for four years, become operational? We have seen no sign of this in our Administration. While it is true that the Centre was set up with a view to mobilizing additional resources in order to step up assistance to the developing countries, it is nevertheless clear that its objectives are very similar to those pursued by the Technical Cooperation Department of the General Secretariat of the International Telecommunication Union. As far as the utilization of resources is concerned, therefore, we consider that particular care should be taken to avoid a duplication of work.

We hope that this important Plenipotentiary Conference will take courageous decisions, which will enable the changing telecommunication environment to be brought under control and settle the question of the Centre for Telecommunications Development's future. Faced with these challenges, the ITU will have to make the necessary adjustments to its strategy and adopt the appropriate operational structures."

1.10 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Chile made the following statement:

"Speaking for the first time at this Plenipotentiary Conference, we in the Delegation of Chile wish to greet you cordially, Mr. Chairman, and through you, all the Conference authorities, and to say how eager we are to get down to work and cooperate with them in the delicate and important responsibilities they have undertaken. We should also like to greet in the same way all the delegates here present, with whom, as members of the international telecommunication community, we will work together to achieve positive results over a wide range of matters, with the aim of achieving better and greater efficiency for the Union in its role as the supreme body coordinating international telecommunications. In this context we have to review as a matter of priority the structure of the organization, its competence and the functions of its permanent organs, together with the performance of those organs in the assignments given to them by the Nairobi Conference. Our task is a complex one, but at the same time it is a genuine professional challenge for those of us who have faith in this century-old institution, and we have no doubt that the work we shall be doing and its results will be commensurate with the effort made by our governments to enable such distinguished delegates to attend, and at the same time this collective professional contribution will constitute the best possible demonstration of international cooperation, a subject which the ITU has recommended should be emphasized during this year, especially for the developing countries, of which Chile is one. To take part in ITU activities is important and very necessary, since it means, first of all, helping to draw up the regulations, standards and Recommendations necessary for the planning and development of national telecommunications and, secondly, it means receiving a variety of reports which enable countries to keep abreast of technological progress, which has been particularly striking in this decade. Together with the advantages of participating, it is necessary to bear in mind the fact that it entails a considerable effort. We are therefore obviously anxious that the Union should give us support in all those areas where our national capacity is insufficient. We are making this point because we consider it relevant for a better understanding of the content of the contributions that developing countries have submitted to this Conference.

We consider that all the subjects to be dealt with at this Conference are important. Nevertheless, we wish to draw the attention of the distinguished delegates to some which seem to us likely to have a major influence on the success of the activities programmed in the period up to the next Plenipotentiary Conference, such as, for example, the purposes of the Union, that is, the definition of its areas of

activity, which will enable us to concern ourselves in a more flexible way with the whole range of subjects deriving from these areas of activity, which must obviously be consistent with the objective set. The Union's present Convention is appropriate for the needs of international cooperation and technical assistance in the structuring of international telecommunications. Nevertheless, we should reflect on what some experts have called the changing telecommunication environment, so as to determine whether or not it is necessary to extend the Union's purposes into areas of activity which will give rise to recommendations for better understanding of the impact of telecommunications on development processes or to cooperate with countries in formulating their telecommunication development policies. If in the matter of the structure of the Union and its permanent organs we seek greater efficiency at lower cost, we must bear in mind that structural changes give rise to intermediate periods of disorganization and increased costs - the more so the more radical they are. Accordingly, we consider that while giving thought to structural changes we should also exhaust the opportunities for securing better coordination within the present system and improving its methods of work. Genuine application of the principle of universality established in Article 1 of the Convention, which declares it desirable that all countries should participate in the Union's activities, leads us to reflect on the need to establish procedures which, without infringing the rights of Members as established in Article 2 of the Convention, will make possible adequate rotation both of elected officials and of Members of the Administrative Council. In line with this way of thinking, we have submitted a contribution relating to the Administrative Council, namely, Document 19, which we hope will provide a basis for discussion of the subject.

We should also like to draw attention to the implications of a correct evaluation of international cooperation. We believe that all Members of the Union require international cooperation in order to achieve their development goals in making telecommunications available to users. Consequently, we must not think that this international cooperation effort flows just from our organization to its Members; it must also flow from its Members back to the organization, an effort in which everyone contributes what he can, including of course the professional skills of our specialists in obtaining better results in the international events that are programmed.

With regard to the separation of the present Convention into two basic instruments, we are in favour of the Conference approving this proposal, but we believe the decision will serve its purpose insofar as due account is taken of resolves 1 of Nairobi Resolution No. 62, i.e. the Constitution should basically cover matters that are likely to remain permanent, such as the Union's principles, areas of competence and general structure, leaving to the Convention all those provisions that may be modified in accordance with the development of telecommunications brought about by new technology or the development requirements of the world community. We shall be paying close attention to the work of Committee 9 with a view to making a contribution to that end.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, in addition to informing this distinguished audience of our thinking on some matters that will be discussed, we should also like you to remember that our Delegation represents a Government and a national administration which have great faith in the Union's work and attach great importance to its Members' cooperation in its activities. Hence its interest in contributing the skills of our specialists to help the Administrative Council discharge its lofty responsibilities. We have never had the honour of serving as a Member of the Council although we believe we have the professional qualifications for doing so.

Finally, we should like to express our recognition and gratitude for the work done by Mr. Richard E. Butler as Secretary-General of the ITU, and also by the Deputy Secretary-General, the Directors of the Consultative Committees, the Members of the IFRB and the distinguished delegates of the countries which make up the Administrative Council. We believe that despite all the modifications it may be necessary to approve at this Conference, they have been able to raise the Union to a level of efficiency making it an international organization that is respected and appreciated in the United Nations system.

Before ending this first statement by the Delegation of Chile, in addition to expressing our assurance that the Conference will be a success, we should like to convey similar gratitude and recognition to the Administration of France for its excellent contribution to the organization of this event and through it to the whole French community for the cordial welcome we have received here in the beautiful city of Nice."

1.11 The Head of the Delegation of the Netherlands made the following statement:

"Like all other speakers before me I want to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this meeting of Plenipotentiaries of the International Telecommunication Union. But at the same time I should like to wish you strength and wisdom in accomplishing the enormous task you face.

Mr. Chairman, the ITU is fulfilling its task towards the international telecommunications society in a rapidly changing environment not only technological but also political.

As far as the changing political environment is concerned I can inform you that in our country the legal and political post and telecommunication environment has been drastically changed. As from 1 January this year, new legislation has come into force. Under this legislation, the Netherlands PTT Organization, previously part of the Ministry of Transport and Public Works, has been transformed into a private enterprise. Simultaneously, a new service was formed inside the Ministry of Transport and Public Works which is responsible for the formulation of the Government's policy in the field of post and telecommunications for the questions connected with frequency management and for the formulation of national standards for type approval.

As a consequence the monopolistic market situation with which the PTT had carried out its task until the beginning of this year was changed; changed into an environment where, in principle, a climate of competition prevails.

This means that telecommunication services with the exception of public telephone, telex, telegraph and basic data transport services which are considered in our country as having a social significance, a public interest, are open for competition for the supply of value-added services in our country, no licences of any kind. The market for equipment to be connected to the network has been equally liberated under the condition that it has been type-approved on the basis of conditions formulated by the Government.

Why have those changes been introduced? It is the conviction of the Netherlands Government that an economic environment which is characterized by competition offers the best opportunities for our national telecommunication enterprises and not least our national PTT Organization to develop the technological possibilities available today. To develop them in the interest of the consumers of telecommunication services and also in the interest of our country, as a whole, which has a long-standing tradition in the services industries in Europe and in the world.

Mr. Chairman, our belief in an economic environment which is characterized by competition does not stop at the boundaries of our small country. We are convinced that the world telecommunication society should not be dominated by a mass of rules and regulations. We think that there too, an organized liberalism enables the development of telecommunication services in the interest of both developing and developed countries. And in that respect I fully agree with the words of the Secretary-General when he stated that the results of the WATTC Conference in Melbourne last year were an elegant combination of the wish to organize the telecommunication policies of nations on the basis of national sovereignty and the necessity of global telecommunication arrangements.

Mr. Chairman, many, if not all, of the questions related to the ITU today and its development have to do with money, I am afraid to say. Important tasks lie ahead of the Union. The financial resources of the Union and its Members are limited, as are the possibilities of the Member countries, the majority of which is gradually recovering from the worst economic crisis in 50 years.

This implies that choices have to be made. We can do A and then as a consequence we cannot do B at the same time. In this respect the Netherlands chooses for the substance in the Union. The main tasks of the organization are standardization matters, frequency management and technical cooperation. In this perspective of formulating priorities, my Delegation cannot agree with the proposals which have, as a consequence, that the administrative secretariat and organizational costs will increase. On the contrary, Mr. Chairman, we believe that in principle the ITU is an organization, like there are many more and in any organization with long-standing procedures, specific habits in dealing with problems are possibilities for streamlining and economizing.

These possibilities should be properly investigated. Optimal cooperation and coordination between the main bodies of the Union must be possible and are in any case a necessity. Reflection on the number of meetings, their character and preparation could be, in our mind, very rewarding. Mr. Chairman, with this process of streamlining and efficiency improvement it must be possible to increase the functions available for the main tasks of the Union.

First the standardization where the process of formulation and acceptance of global standards has to be speeded up if the ITU wants to maintain its position as the only international organization providing for world scale standardization in this field. Secondly, to meet the requirements of the developing countries, they should be given due consideration and approached with a positive spirit not only within the ITU but in all appropriate multilateral and bilateral relationships.

Now as to whether the necessary streamlining and economizing process requires a complete restructuring of the organization - we have serious doubts. During its long history the ITU and its constituting bodies: the IFRB, the CCIR and the CCITT have always been able to adapt themselves to the changing environment and the specific provisions it required. The arguments for complete restructuring have not convinced us yet. On the contrary, we should like to tackle the problem from the other side - What are our priorities? - What funds are available? - What possibilities for streamlining, procedural and efficiency improvement are able under the actual organization?

If this type of discussion proves that important terms can be made available by restructuring we are open to discuss this restructuring, but along the lines as described and not the other way around.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, my Delegation will support the adoption during this meeting of a new basic instrument. We think that a change of the actual Convention into a Constitution and a Convention is wise and that it will help the organization to adapt itself to the requirements of the rapidly changing telecommunication environment.

To conclude my contribution under this agenda item I would like to thank, on behalf of the Netherlands Government and the new Netherlands PTT Organization, Mr. Butler, as Secretary-General for his efforts and more than outstanding contributions to the work of the ITU and the telecommunication community in general, and we wish him many happy years together with his family in his retirement. Thank you very much."

1.12 The Director-General, Iraqi Posts and Telecommunications made the following statement:

"IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE MERCIFUL, THE COMPASSIONATE

Allow me first of all to congratulate Mr. Grenier most sincerely on his election as Chairman of the Conference. I should also like to congratulate the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees on their election, and wish them every success in accomplishing the tasks entrusted to them, in order to steer the Conference to a successful outcome.

In the seven years which have elapsed since the Nairobi Conference in 1982, the Union has been extremely active in many areas. In particular, a whole series of world administrative conferences have been held, the most recent of them being the WATTC Conference. Iraq has participated in the Union's various activities during that period, and in particular the different administrative conferences. It has always endeavoured to make an effective and constructive contribution to the success of the conferences.

We today have the opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation for the efforts deployed by the Union, guided by the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, and by the Directors of the International Consultative Committees and the Chairman of the IFRB.

The importance of the Union is growing daily, particularly on account of the rapid development of technologies in the various fields of telecommunications, changes in the telecommunication administrations' infrastructures and the emergence of new regional standardization organizations, obliging the Union to step up its efforts still further in order to meet the challenges placed before it and maintain its pre-eminent position.

We believe that the Union, with its present structure, has served the international community admirably in the field of telecommunications. However, we also feel that the time has come to make some changes to the ITU's structure and working methods, which need to be improved and made more flexible in order to cope with the ever faster pace of technological progress in telecommunications. Merging the CCIR and CCITT to form a single body, at least at the senior level, constitutes one of the possible solutions to achieve that aim.

Extended use of computers in the work of the IFRB and the possibility of direct connections with administrations' terminals will reduce the volume of documentation to be processed, whilst at the same time strengthening the IFRB's capacity and giving it faster access to available data.

We do not adhere to the proposals for radical changes in the IFRB's structures, and are in favour of maintaining its independent character, in view of the important role it plays and its influence on the use of the frequency spectrum, which require that its decisions continue to be taken on the basis of unanimity.

Mr. Chairman, as you know, and as many of the speakers who have taken the floor before me have highlighted, every day sees a widening of the gap between the developing countries and the industrialized countries in all spheres of telecommunications.

In our opinion, this calls for an additional assistance effort on the part of the Union in order to close the gap. In general terms, we approve the thrust of the Report "The Missing Link" in this regard, and consider that it is necessary to strengthen the programme of international technical cooperation for the developing countries and peoples struggling for freedom and independence, including the Palestinian people, so that they may improve their communications and make their voice heard throughout the world. In this connection, I take the opportunity to applaud the uprising of the Palestinian people who are struggling to exercise their right to self-determination, and I greet the creation of the State of Palestine, which we hope will play a full role in our Union.

In concluding, I should like to extend my thanks to the French Government for hosting the Conference in Nice, which is a beautiful city, and to wish the Conference every success in its work.

Thank you for your attention.

May the peace, mercy and grace of God be with you."

1.13 The Head of the Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, I would like to express my deep gratitude to the Government of the Republic of France for hosting this Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union and for extending its kind invitation to our Administration.

I also congratulate Mr. Grenier on his election as Chairman of this august Conference.

I think it very significant that this Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union be held in France where its founding Conference was held in 1865.

It is my view that the Union has worked greatly to fulfil the purposes specified in the International Telecommunication Convention adopted at the last Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi.

For the first time in the history of the ITU, it has stipulated it as its main purpose to extend technical cooperation to developing countries and it has consequently organized many projects for the realization of this goal. The ITU has thus made a big step forward towards the establishment of a world-wide integrated telecommunications network.

In particular, the ITU has made enormous endeavours to carry out the decisions adopted at the Conference held in Arusha, Tanzania in 1985, and has attained great success by actively conducting various kinds of technical cooperation activities for the African countries and other developing countries.

At the same time, it has made great progress in expanding and strengthening telecommunication networks of all Member countries of the Union. It has provided its Member countries with the tools necessary for the introduction and operation of these networks by organizing many world and regional conferences and seminars (such as the HFBC Conferences and the ORB Conferences - organized at the request of developing countries for planning high-frequency bands for broadcasting) and equitably utilizing the geostationary orbit in a planned way.

Such measures have been achieved entirely thanks to the full enhancement of the spirit of close international cooperation among Mr. Butler, the Secretary-General, and the Member countries.

In the past, our country has closely cooperated with the Union in expanding and strengthening telecommunication networks and broadcasting of the country into a higher stage.

Under the very difficult condition under which all communication equipment and facilities were utterly destroyed during the Korean War, and the country's territory covers a great part of mountainous area, we have achieved great successes in the modernization of our telecommunication and broadcasting including the televization of the whole country and meeting the increasing economic and population requirements for telecommunication under the wise leadership of the great leader, Comrade Kim Il Sung and the dear leader, Comrade Kim Jong Il.

In particular, on the occasion of the 13th World Youth and Students' Festival to be held for the first time in Asia in Pyongyang, the Capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from 1 July to 8 July this year, our people have conducted their powerful activities to expand the capacity of telecommunication for various functions of the Festival, of international network and the transmission of the TV programme and other broadcasting programmes.

Thus, we are able to successfully provide communication and transmission of broadcasting related to the Festival.

By so doing, the 13th World Youth and Students' Festival, with participants of youth delegates and many prominent figures as guests from all regions of the world, will make a great contribution to ensuring world peace and strengthening friendship and solidarity among the world's peoples, also to further increasing international relations in many fields of social life including informatics media.

While making every effort to bring our telecommunications into the more up-to-date stage by ourselves, we will actively encourage international cooperation with the ITU and Member countries, thus adapting our telecommunications to the ever changing telecommunication environment of the world.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, as shown in the past, we hope that this Conference will once again witness good cooperation spirit, one of the ITU's traditions, and all of the Union's future work will most effectively contribute to the rapid development of the telecommunications of the developing countries and all other countries with full consideration of the proposals made by administrations concerned with restructuring the Union and reviewing the Union's Basic Instrument.

In conclusion, I would like to express my conviction that all mankind the world over will have a free and easy access to telecommunications by early in the next century, as discussed and decided in the Arusha Conference by successfully finalizing this Conference with an increasing spirit of cooperation among all Members."

1.14 The Head of the Delegation of New Zealand made the following statement:

"First, on behalf of the New Zealand Delegation, I too, Sir, should like to sincerely congratulate you on your election and also to thank the Government of France for its generosity in hosting this Plenipotentiary Conference.

The International Telecommunications environment presents a real challenge both to national policy makers and also to delegations here charged with reviewing the international framework for cooperation and regulation. As previous distinguished speakers have pointed out, telecommunications technology and services are characterized by rapid change, the emergence of new services and service providers, as well as the convergence of telecommunications and other services such as broadcasting; national responses to these factors have led to an increasing diversity in domestic regulatory regimes yet there also remains a pressing need for the extension of the most basic telecommunication services within many countries.

The state of telecommunications within New Zealand and the South Pacific area reflects many of the same changes and needs arising at the global level.

New Zealand itself has been fortunate in having built up a strong basic infrastructure for telecommunications and has been able over the last two years to embark on comprehensive liberalization of markets for telecommunications equipment and services. This programme culminated on 1 April this year with the deregulation of network services (including public switched telephone services) subject only to certain constraints on the provision of international toll services. This followed already the separation of commercial activities from policy and the residual regulatory activities. Under a further new law, entry restrictions on the adjacent market of broadcasting services are being largely removed, with effect from 1 July this year.

Liberalization of telecommunications and broadcasting markets puts pressure on conventional approaches to radio frequency spectrum allocation and management. Accordingly, the New Zealand Minister of Commerce has announced that new radiocommunications legislation will also be introduced into the New Zealand Parliament shortly in order to provide for a new regime for the efficient allocation of spectrum.

In making these changes, the New Zealand Government recognizes, and indeed relies upon, the existence of formal and effective international frameworks provided by the ITU. Express provision is being made within New Zealand legislation and its administrative policies for New Zealand to continue to give full effect to its international regulatory obligations.

New Zealand is a comparatively developed country. However, many of our immediate neighbours in the South Pacific area face the same sort of development needs in telecommunications which the Plenipotentiary Conference will be addressing over the next few weeks. We therefore have direct experience of these problems within our own subregion, but we also have experience of practical solutions. In this regard, New Zealand cooperates closely with its Pacific neighbours and with regional ITU representatives to develop solutions which are both cost effective and responsive to the individual country's telecommunications needs.

The issues facing the ITU at this Conference are, of course, far more complex than those facing any single Member country. The Basic Instrument of the Union, which will emerge from this Conference will need to embody not only the future direction and purposes of the Union, but also ensure the effective organizational structures and procedures are in place to carry these out.

At the same time, the new Constitution and Convention will need sufficient breadth and flexibility to accommodate the diversity of Members' national sovereign telecommunications policies and aspirations.

Finally, it will need to focus the Union's activities in such a way as to achieve the best results for Members within the limited resources; with increasing demands on those resources in the Union to undertake a growing range of tasks, this Conference will need to look critically at priorities for the future. As far as New Zealand is concerned, New Zealand considers that the ITU must continue to build on its basic essential role, that is of providing the international regulatory, technical and operational guidelines which enable the global network to function for the benefit of all countries.

New Zealand is confident that the ITU is well able to meet these challenges. The experience of WATTC in Melbourne last year demonstrates the ability of the Union and its Members to develop and evolve solutions to problems and to respond to opportunities presented by a changing telecommunications environment. As other speakers have already commented, the international telecommunications regulations which resulted from WATTC represent a balance both between national aspirations and global needs. That same pragmatism and cooperation should assist this Conference in reaching an equally effective outcome.

There is one final element of change facing this Conference, of course, of which we are all conscious and to which previous speakers have referred, namely the fact that the Secretary-General, Mr. Richard Butler, has announced that he will not be standing again for this office. New Zealand would like to join with other delegations in commending very sincerely the great and valued service of Mr. Butler that he has given to the ITU as well as to the global telecommunications community during his term of office."

1.15 The Secretary-General of the Arab Telecommunication Union made the following statement:

"At the beginning please allow me to add my voice to those who preceded me to present my warm congratulations for your election as the Chairman of this Conference. We are confident that this Conference will achieve the expected results because of your experience and wisdom. I would like also to greet the Plenipotentiary Conference and the international delegates participating in it.

I am also honoured to be invited to participate as an observer in the work of this important Conference which we hope will contribute effectively to the development and regulation of telecommunications on the national and international level. There is no doubt that the ITU during its long history has played and is still playing an important role in the regulation of telecommunications with the objective of developing it and achieving peace and international cooperation between nations through regulating, developing telecommunications and drafting appropriate specifications and standards.

We in the ATU, as a regional organization specialized in the field of telecommunications, realize the importance of this stage in the history of the ITU as an international organization concerned with telecommunication affairs and also the importance of this stage in the development and expansion of telecommunications due to the development and diversification in the telecommunication technologies, the services presented, and the means and policies for management and investment in telecommunications, in addition to the enormous expansions in the services and the increasing demands and the growing importance that telecommunications is having.

All this put an extra coordination load on this international organization in addition to the other objective associated with parallel development in various parts of the world. We are therefore hoping very much that your respectful Conference will address all their problems in a manner that serves the interests of the international community and achieves integrated telecommunication development and our aspirations in having the telephone within easy reach of all, and that telecommunications be an effective tool for achieving peace for mankind.

The Arab countries whose activities the ATU is honoured to coordinate, by virtue of their special nature and their special regional situation and the linguistic, cultural, hereditary and historical ties that join them, in addition to being developing countries, have their special requirements and wishes which they hope this international Conference will be able to address and fulfil. One of the important requirements that the Conference should stress in its Resolutions is that the ITU should play a greater role in achieving parallel and just development of telecommunications in various parts of the world, in addition to its present important functions in regulating and laying down specifications and standards and urging administrations to comply with them internationally. We also see that it is time that the Arabic language be adopted as a working language in the ITU to enable 22 ITU Members to maximize their benefits from opportunities that are made available by the ITU and to contribute effectively in its activities through Arab experts in this field.

We must insist here on guaranteeing the rights of the oppressed and nations which are struggling for freedom and independence. We specially mention here the heroic Palestinian people. Your Conference, therefore, has to guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people to freely develop and use their telecommunications in their occupied land, which were cut by the occupier in order to block the news of the uprising of the Palestinian people. The Conference has also to guarantee their rights in the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary orbit. The international community and the ITU should play a greater role towards achieving this until the Palestinian people are able to liberate their homeland.

The Arab Telecommunication Union, while praising the achievements of the ITU in the fields of telecommunication development and regulation of international relations and international cooperation, must also praise the constructive and fruitful cooperation between the ATU and the ITU in implementing a number of joint activities in the Arab region during the last period. We also praise the role played by Mr. R.E. Butler, the ITU Secretary-General and the staff of the General Secretariat for their achievements and cooperation and the constructive joint activities that have been achieved, hoping that the next period will witness similar fruitful cooperation and similar joint activities.

At the end of my speech I can only wish for your respectful Conference every success in achieving its expected noble objectives."

The meeting rose at 1240 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

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PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH PLENARY MEETING

Friday, 26 May 1989, at 0940 hrs

Chairman: Mr. GRENIER (France)

Subjects discussed:

1. General policy statements (continued)
 - 1.1 Statement by the Minister of Transport and Communications, Lesotho
 - 1.2 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, the Republic of Guinea
 - 1.3 Statement by the Deputy Head of the Delegation of Suriname
 - 1.4 Statement by the Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Posts, Malaysia
 - 1.5 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Côte d'Ivoire
 - 1.6 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Liberia
 - 1.7 Statement by the Deputy Minister for Communications, Philippines
 - 1.8 Statement on behalf of the Minister of Public Works and Communications, Portugal
 - 1.9 Statement by the Director-General, National Office of Posts and Telecommunications, Chad
 - 1.10 Statement by the Deputy Head of the Delegation of Chile
 - 1.11 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of the Netherlands
 - 1.12 Statement by the Director-General, Iraqi Posts and Telecommunications
 - 1.13 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Korea
 - 1.14 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of New Zealand
 - 1.15 Statement by the Secretary-General of the Arab Telecommunication Union

1. General policy statements (continued)

1.1 The Minister of Transport and Communications, Lesotho made the following statement:

"I would like first of all to express my gratitude to the Government and people of France, for the hospitality accorded to me and my Delegation since our arrival. We feel that the Government of France has indeed created for us an atmosphere in which we can successfully address the important question of cooperation in telecommunications.

The value of information systems, and particularly of telecommunication services to development, needs no debate and is fully understood by us. In pursuit of our desire to facilitate creative activity in this connection, the Kingdom of Lesotho believes that the Plenipotentiary Conference accords an appropriate international forum to address this all important question of cooperation in telecommunication. More closely, an opportunity is accorded in this forum to review the cooperation between and among Member States of the Union. In this regard, projects such as the AFRALTI (African Advanced Telecommunications Institute), which was initiated in Nairobi, we view with satisfaction and as signs of what can be done.

It is again in this regard that we feel that, to facilitate the increasingly important role of the ITU as a development agency, the move towards harmonization of roles with other development agencies should be enthusiastically supported. On the question, Mr. Chairman, of performing the role of a development agency, the issue of technical assistance becomes important. Here, we are calling on the function of technical assistance to encompass manpower development, and we are defining manpower development to mean the development of a cadre that can adapt and create technology and not simply to exploit existing technologies. The creation of such a capability is a priority in many developing countries, and certainly in the Kingdom of Lesotho. The technological imbalance between the industrialized and developing countries was highlighted at the Nairobi Conference in 1982, and was emphasized in the Maitland report entitled the Missing Link. It would appear that the situation in this regard has not improved, because in the report to the Administrative Council, we are advised that the gap in services available between the industrialized and developing countries continues to widen. At present, over two-thirds of the world population remains without access to telecommunication services. This is undoubtedly disturbing.

It is against this background that my Delegation sincerely requests the Conference to pay special attention to the following important matters: (a) the special needs of the developing countries including technology transfer. Here perhaps, we should charge the Committee on Technical Cooperation with the responsibility to make clear and implementable recommendations; (b) the need to assist developing countries to establish their own network frequency administration and monitoring units; and (c) the principle of equitable regional and subregional representation in the various offices of the ITU, especially to accept the principle of rotation for all elected officials of the Union, that is to say, not more than two successive terms in office.

For our part, since the last Plenipotentiary Conference in 1982, the Kingdom of Lesotho embarked on an ambitious programme to develop its telecommunications network. The commissioning of a satellite earth station at Ha Sofonia in 1984 was a significant technological landmark for Lesotho because for the first time it had direct access to the outside world. During the same year a digital telex exchange and a digital

international/national switch were commissioned, offering international subscriber dialling facilities to the subscribers to more than 100 countries all over the world. The declaration of 1983 as World Communications Year, served as a springboard which enabled us to review our national policies on telecommunications as an instrument for economic development and growth. In 1985 all major towns of Lesotho were linked by the commissioning of a wide-band backbone microwave system, and this drastically improved the quality of trunk traffic as witnessed today. By the end of 1987 eight fully-fledged digital telephone exchanges and three remote subscriber switches were operating. By the end of 1989 two more will be operating and this means that penetration of digital exchanges will be such that 95% of all Lesotho subscribers will have access to this type of exchange. Digital microwave and optic fibre cable systems will be introduced on the main national routes during the 1989/1990 timeframe, and intermediate data rate will be introduced at the earth station during 1991. It is planned that by 1993 all exchanges will be automatic. We believe that we are well positioned for introduction of the Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) as and when it becomes standard. In general, we are taking measures to introduce and widen the various subscriber services.

Our policy is to expand and extend telecommunications services into rural areas, so as to reach the majority of our people by the year 2000. The strides that we have taken have been possible through cooperation with the ITU and Member States. These efforts become increasingly more effective when the specific geo-political circumstances of our country are borne in mind.

I am advised that Mr. Butler will not be available for re-election to the office of Secretary-General. It is appropriate therefore, at this point, to express our appreciation of the dedicated manner in which Mr. Butler discharged his responsibilities. My Delegation takes this opportunity to wish him well in his retirement.

In conclusion, I wish all delegations to this Conference healthy deliberations, particularly to our various committees, which have the onerous task of shaping the programme of work of the Union."

1.2 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of the Republic of Guinea made the following statement:

"Circumstances beyond our control meant that we were unable to be present at the official opening of our Conference, but fortunately we have now been able to join you.

Mr. Chairman, the way we have been welcomed here is no surprise, since it was here, in France, in 1865 that the Plenipotentiaries of 20 States met to decide on the harmonization and coordination of communication media, fully aware of the difficulties created by the frontiers separating them. That was how the Union was born.

Today, when our Union is celebrating 124 years of existence and telecommunications have developed prodigiously, the 166 Member countries are once again meeting in France, not just to compare experiences, but also to determine the Union's policies and principles with a view to harmonization, to compatibility in telecommunication technology. Our Delegation invites you, worthy representatives of communications, that you are to consider further what the future structure of our Union should be.

The Republic of Guinea, my country, conscious of the great gap between the rich and the developing countries, expects much from our organization and from the present Conference in the face of the scientific and technological innovations we are witnessing today. It is with that specifically in mind that I should like to inform the Conference, on behalf of my Delegation, of the efforts already made by my Government in the field of telecommunication development, efforts which have enabled part of my country to come out of its isolation and will shortly do the same for the rest. Since last December, my country has provided itself with a new telex exchange and two transit exchanges, national and international, through the cooperation and aid of a considerable number of countries with which my Government maintains good relations. Thus, under the dynamic leadership of the President of the Republic, Guinea has included telecommunications among the priority development activities to promote the essential recovery of our economy.

What we should like, and we hope the Conference will agree, though we do not underestimate the efforts already made by the ITU, is that international cooperation should be further strengthened so as to enable developing countries like ourselves to meet the needs they have today in this particular field of communications.

We already cherish the hope that the work of this Conference and the discussions that will follow will enable you, as the eminent personalities you are, and the technical specialists who are assisting us, to achieve an appreciable improvement across the whole range of our shortcomings and inequalities today in the field of telecommunications.

Mr. Chairman, my Delegation welcomes most sincerely your election as Chairman of this Conference and hopes that under your guidance bold decisions can be taken to enable our respective countries to contribute to the expansion of telecommunications in the world in general and in the developing countries in particular.

I should like, on behalf of my country, my Government and the Delegation I head, and with your permission, Mr. Chairman, to extend our heartiest congratulations to Mr. Richard Butler, who after working for nearly twenty years to give the Union the character it has today has decided to retire. We believe that despite his retirement he will continue to give us the benefit of his wisdom and experience."

1.3 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Suriname made the following statement:

"Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to extend to you on behalf of the Delegation of Suriname our warmest congratulations on your election as Chairman of the Conference. Our congratulations go also to the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees. We are confident, Mr. Chairman, that under your excellent guidance this Conference will meet the goals set for this most important event of the Union. We would like to take this opportunity to express our profound thanks to the Government and Administration of France for the tremendous efforts and meticulous arrangements they have made for this Conference. Our thanks also go to the personnel of the Secretariat for their best endeavours in preparing this Conference.

The past seven years since the last Conference have seen rapid developments in science and technology in telecommunications. More and more developing countries have become aware of the importance of telecommunications as a part of the social and economic infrastructure of all countries. During this period, the ITU has made great efforts to strengthen international cooperation and to promote the development of international telecommunications. In this respect we would like to pay a special tribute to the Secretary-General, Mr. Richard Butler, who has dedicated the last 20 years to the promotion and harmonization of international telecommunications and who has always given our Administration full support. Mr. Butler has been a good friend of the developing countries and we do wish him all the best for the future.

Suriname is located on the north-east coast of South America and has borders with the Federal Republic of Brazil to the south, with French-Guyana to the east and with Guyana to the west; to the north we have the Atlantic Ocean. Due to our location on the northern coast of South America, we form a part of the Caribbean. Being a developing country, we realise that it is a basic undeniable fact that the developing countries make up more than 80 per cent of the Member countries of the Union and still have less than 20% of the telecommunications facilities in the world. As in most of the developing countries, one of our Administration's purposes is to improve our level of telecommunication services in accordance with ITU regulations, Recommendations and standards. It is worth noting that the percentage of faults in basic telecommunications in our country is less than ITU standards.

We can report that in the year 1990 we will have doubled the number of telephone lines in our country; we will then have telephone facilities in the isolated interior of Suriname. However, we have to face the fact that the developing world continues to be increasingly dependent on the developed countries in the field of technological know-how. In our experience, telecommunications equipment, which is for and mostly produced in the developed countries, does not always quite meet the requirements of our countries. The Union therefore has an important role in assisting the developing countries in formulating their telecommunication needs, and also in stimulating in every possible way the continuous growth of telecommunications in order to enhance the level of development. A very important issue of developing countries is how to structure technical cooperation programmes in the sense that they may achieve optimal results in order to minimize dependence. We are of the opinion that further strengthening of the ITU regional presence will stimulate further development in telecommunication networks sectorally, regionally and internationally.

This Plenipotentiary Conference faces the huge task of guiding ITU's future work, identifying the further trends which the work of the ITU should follow in a field of technical assistance and determining the strategies of an international, regional and subregional nature which are to be followed in the next few years, particularly taking into account the changing telecommunication environment, which will require the ITU to adjust its structure and the organization of its work to the new circumstances. Of great importance, therefore, is the further democratization of ITU executives, the selection of personnel on the basis of equitable geographical representation of all regions, increased efficiency of the ITU's permanent organs and economic use of the resources of Union Members.

After studying the matter of the legal bases of the Union, we are of the opinion that the adoption of a permanent basic instrument, namely a constitution supplemented by a convention, would be an important step towards achieving the purposes of the Union and for the maintenance of the required stability within the Union.

In conclusion, I would like to say, on behalf of the Government of Suriname, that my Administration would welcome the opportunity to be able to make a useful contribution to the lofty causes of the Union by being allowed by election to have a seat on the Administrative Council.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we all hope to complete this meeting successfully and will do our utmost to give you all the necessary support to achieve this objective."

1.4 The Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Posts of Malaysia made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Malaysian Delegation I would like firstly to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election as Chairman of this Conference. I would also like to record, through you, our appreciation to the Government of the Republic of France, for hosting this Conference and for making our stay in this beautiful city of Nice a very pleasant one indeed.

Listening to the various speakers in the last few days, one is impressed with the similar concerns that are being expressed. The issues are not new but they have become more urgent and, in terms of international cooperation, more complex. There is the concern with the glaring disparity in the type of telecommunication development in the developed as compared to the developing countries. There is the challenge posed by the rapid change in telecommunication technology. There is the question of spreading the location of telecommunication industry. More fundamental to this Conference is the question as to how best the ITU, in terms of organization and structure, should prepare itself to serve the cooperative needs of the telecommunication community of the 1990s and beyond. There is the question of spreading the location of the telecommunication industry.

The disparity in the level of telecommunication facilities between the developed and developing countries is in itself serious enough, but more seriously it encourages further widening of the economic gap that already exists between these two sets of countries. The telecommunication network has long been recognized as a vital infrastructure in the modern economy. In a number of developed countries the network has matured and is fully developed; more than half the population has private telephones. The rest have access to public ones. They are able to develop new services and to introduce innovative systems. This trend will continue as the human mind and the human spirit will always aspire to progress. In these countries the cumulative effect of technological change will expand the boundaries of services that are offered - in terms of voice, data transmission, images, electronic offices and so on. All these no doubt impact on social life, but they also change the way businesses are run and the way the economy is operated. Distance no longer has relevance. Certainly, countries equipped with these facilities will have a competitive advantage in terms of trade and in terms of overall international relations.

Malaysia shares similar challenges that are faced by other developing countries. The provision of telecommunication services cannot be isolated from the overall question of the national economy in which equally pressing demands for education, health services, basic transportation and so on must compete for allocations within a limited budget. Within the telecommunication sector there is the twin objective of providing a universal basic telephone service while at the same time introducing new facilities to meet the requirements of the Government and modern business. The Malaysian economy has traditionally been dependent on rubber, palm oil, tin, cocoa and petroleum; these are subject to the volatile uncertainty of international commodity prices. We believe we have to restructure and push the development of industries. In this we encourage foreign investment by offering a package of incentives. The provision of efficient modern telecommunication infrastructure is central to this industrialization programme. In order to address these needs we have restructured our telecommunications entity. A skeleton version of the original Department of Telecommunications is retained, functioning as a regulatory body responsible for type approval, standard setting, frequency allocation and so on. A commercial entity has

been set up under the Companies Act and is being licensed to operate and manage the telecommunication network and services. This company, initially owned by the Government, will later be privatized. This restructuring exercise is intended to address the fundamental questions: firstly, to provide a flexible organizational structure that can respond to new demands; secondly, to facilitate the injection of private capital in the provision of telecommunication facilities. The Malaysian network is still small and it is felt prudent to retain a monopoly on the basic network - but competition exists in the supply of terminal equipment, and is being gradually introduced into the sphere of value-added services. This restructuring was implemented in early 1987. Two years ago we had five telephones per 100 population. Now we have eight per 100. The urban centres of business are served with modern digital facilities. Packet-switched networks are available for those who need them. We have a nation-wide coverage of a cellular network that combines mobile services with a fixed station capability which has enabled us to provide rural community telephones to a number of rural villages.

In restructuring our telecommunication entity in Malaysia we have been guided by questions of practicality. I am equally impressed by the collective practicality of the Members of the ITU, in respect to the International Telecommunication Regulations, formulated at the WATTC Conference in Melbourne last December. Malaysia welcomes that decision. In this context I would like to caution against any over-enthusiastic move towards uncontrolled deregulation in international telecommunications. The argument of free trade in telecommunication technology and services in the context of the glaring disparity that now exists in these matters between the north and the south will further widen the very disparity that all Members of the ITU should seek to narrow. In international trade, as in other spheres of international relations, the countries that are strong tend to dominate those that are not as strong. A completely deregulated telecommunication sector will have the effect of restricting the ability of countries of the south to control their telecommunication network, which is of so strategic an importance in terms of their economic growth and in terms of their national security. The ITU has to be forever alert to the risk of being an instrument either consciously or unconsciously of further widening the gap between the countries of the north and the countries of the south. Instead, the ITU should give special attention to the special problems and the special needs affecting developing countries.

Let me now turn to some of the issues with which this Conference is directly concerned, firstly, with regard to universal standards. The existence of a widely accepted standard will enhance connectivity and in terms of telecommunication equipment will serve to lower prices. The Union should continue to act as a catalyst for the formulation of widely acceptable standards. Secondly, with regard to the proposals to reform the Basic Instrument of the Union. The telecommunication environment of the 1990s and beyond is going to be totally different, even from that of the 1980s. ISDN now still in its infancy will become fully grown. Radio and satellite transmission will become increasingly prominent. The speed in which new technology and new services are introduced will move at an exponential rate. All this demands a flexible and dynamic structure. On the other hand there are countries that will still struggle to provide basic services to their people. They will look for stability; they will need continuity. The proposal for a flexible Convention based on a more permanent Constitution we believe will partly address this necessary requirement.

In addition, the operating mode of the ITU Secretariat may need to be examined. Some delegates have already questioned the need for voluminous documentation. Another question - cannot the activities of the Union be more regionalized? By so doing the Union will encourage a wider involvement of participants from Member countries at the regional level. We know that Geneva is a very pleasant city, but so are the other regional centres of the countries of the world.

Earlier I had mentioned Malaysia's success in combining our mobile cellular service with fixed station capability. In drawing up the technical configuration for that we were assisted by experts from the ITU. I would like to place on record our appreciation for that support. Indeed the technical cooperation that the ITU can contribute to Member countries must continue to be given top priority in terms of allocation of resources. I am thinking for example of one area that will require such attention - that is in the field of frequency-spectrum management which will become important as the use of radiocommunication increases. There must also be balanced participation of ITU Members in its activities. Such exposure will enhance the support of the ITU to those countries which need it most. In this context, Malaysia has decided to offer herself as a candidate of the Administrative Council.

I would also like to join in recording our appreciation to Mr. Butler for the contribution he has made to the workings of the ITU in his capacity as Secretary-General and before that as Deputy Secretary-General. Mr. Butler has shown himself to be a diplomat of the highest order and has provided the ITU with pragmatic leadership. He has been responsible in convincing Member States to give the highest priority to telecommunication development, to treating telecommunications as a catalyst for economic growth. He has now alerted the ITU on the urgent need to restructure itself to meet the challenges of the 1990s and beyond. On behalf of the Malaysian Delegation we wish you, Mr. Butler, a happy retirement and I would like to take this opportunity of assuring you that you will always be welcome to visit us."

1.5 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Côte d'Ivoire made the following statement:

"Let me first of all add Côte d'Ivoire's voice to those of the delegations that have preceded me in expressing our sincere thanks to France for its cordial welcome and for all the kind attentions we have received at this Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union here in the beautiful city of Nice, whose generous hospitality is in keeping with the great values of liberty, equality and fraternity. I should like next, on behalf of my Delegation, to congratulate you very warmly on your election as Chairman of our Conference. Your wide experience of international relations and your intrinsic qualities augur well for the success of our work. Our thanks also go to Mr. Butler, the outgoing Secretary-General, for the quality and consistency of the work he has done at the head of our Union for years.

The world today is characterized by breathtakingly rapid development in the techniques of communication, at a time when the gap between developed and developing countries is widening day by day because of the economic recession, the effects of which weigh hard on those who have the least. Our Conference, the importance of which is obvious to everyone, has every reason to ponder the strategies to be adopted in order to ensure that the benefits of this technological development are shared universally in accordance with the charter of our Union, whose fundamental aim is to encourage through international cooperation the development of means of telecommunication in all countries of the world. To make means of communication available to the whole of mankind would undoubtedly promote mutual understanding among peoples and strengthen collaboration and solidarity between nations, ideals which are at the foundation of my country's policy. For that reason Côte d'Ivoire will continue to make its contribution, however modest, to the successful operation of our common institution.

Being aware of the importance of telecommunications for a country's economic and social development, we have made substantial efforts in Côte d'Ivoire to extend and modernize our telecommunication network. For example, an electronic time-division switch was put into service in our country in 1978. Having thus made the right choice, we have been able since then to digitize 52% of the switching and 31% of the transmission in our network. All this has been achieved as a result of the priority given by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to developing telecommunications, following the action taken by the Union to make countries aware of this question. For further harmonious development of its network, my country places great hopes in the Union's assistance and considers that the Union's technical cooperation activities should be supported by adequate financing. The Centre for Telecommunications Development set up in 1985 under Resolution No. 20 of the Nairobi Conference remains an excellent instrument for giving assistance to the least developed countries in their development efforts. While we welcomed the birth of this institution, we are sad to note that it has not grown as it was expected to because of financial difficulties. We would therefore formulate the wish that this Conference should be the starting point for a vigorous new approach which will enable the Centre to achieve the noble aims for which it was set up. The Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development recommended in its report that the States Members of the ITU should envisage allocating a percentage of receipts from international telecommunications to financing telecommunications in developing countries. This recommendation was analysed successively by the VIIIth and IXth CCITT Plenary Assemblies and by the WATTC-88, and this Conference should find the way to put it into effect; that would be proof of the triumph of international solidarity.

With that very much in mind, I should like to conclude my statement by wishing the Conference once again every success in its work."

1.6 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Liberia made the following statement:

Mr. Chairman, permit me firstly to convey warm fraternal greetings to you, to the distinguished delegates to this Conference and, through you, to the Government and great people of France from my President, His Excellency Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe, the Government and people of Liberia and myself. I should also like to express to the Government of France, and in particular the friendly and hospitable people of this historic city of Nice, profound thanks and appreciation on behalf of my Delegation and in my own name, for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to us since our arrival and for the very meticulous and excellent organization put into this Plenipotentiary Conference. Indeed, the Delegation of Liberia is not the least surprised, because the tremendous reception accorded to delegates and the excellent organization which is evident in this hall symbolize France's ideals within the committee of sovereign nations as eloquently reflected in its motto, namely, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Permit me, too, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you and the various Vice-Chairmen on your election, and to pledge to you personally the full cooperation and support of the Liberian Delegation as you steer the affairs of this important Plenipotentiary Conference to a successful conclusion. I and the members of my Delegation are convinced that with the rich diversity of your knowledge and experience both as a professional engineer and as an active participant in the activities of the ITU for more than two decades, this Nice Plenipotentiary will record an equal success in the resolution of many of the thorny issues that have seemed to elude this august body.

We are meeting here in Nice, France, at a particularly crucial period in the world today. For the International Telecommunication Union, it is a critical time - a time of monumental challenges and ever-increasing opportunity. The opportunities for change in this important world organization and within our individual nation States, as well as their relationships one with another have never been so great. At the institutional level, the ITU's structure, which has been subjected to only minor, virtually cosmetic changes since the organization's founding, must now be examined with the view of making it leaner, more cost-efficient, more responsive and more dynamic. My Government therefore joins those other nations which at this Conference have advocated the restructuring of the Union. Accordingly, the Government of Liberia wishes to make the following proposals for the restructuring of the ITU: (1) that the Government of Liberia is opposed to calls for the integration of the CCIR and CCITT. However, while allowing these two Committees to retain their individualities and autonomy, it is imperative that the authority of the General Secretariat be strengthened to allow it to coordinate and harmonize their activities within the framework of the Union's programmes and objectives; (2) when His Excellency the Federal Minister of Communications of Nigeria, the Honourable Mr. D.A. Mark, addressed this assembly yesterday, he called attention to the unfair manner in which seats in the various organs of the Union are distributed. My Government fully shares the sentiments of the distinguished Nigerian Delegation and asks that this Conference initiates measures to redress this apparent imbalance; (3) a proposal is before this Conference for the review and adoption of the Convention and Constitution of the Union. The Government of the Republic of Liberia endorses the decision to separate these two organic instruments and further registers its support for their adoption; (4) a proposal has also been advanced for the restructuring of the Technical Cooperation Department with the aim of enlarging its authority and scope. My Government fully endorses this proposal, but more than this, the Government of Liberia believes that the subject of technical cooperation is one that touches the core of this Conference and needs more elaboration.

It is common knowledge that telecommunications technology is capital-intensive, and more often than not countries which wish to acquire it are prohibited by the high cost. In addition, as we enter the twenty-first century, there will be a greater need for south-south cooperation and collaboration as well as north-south cooperation. It is therefore the position of the Government of Liberia that the creation of a Technical Cooperation Division within the ITU with the rank of a director or a comparable senior level supervisor will underscore the importance the Union attaches to this area and hence enable it to attract more resources. The hard fact is that technical assistance or technical cooperation is the way of the future; for those of us in the Third World, faced with the rapid pace of technological change, who must routinely make difficult choices between acquiring new technologies and providing the basic needs of our people, technical cooperation remains the one hope and the medium through which the transfer of appropriate technical knowledge, skills and technology can occur between the north and the south. There is another reason why the Government of Liberia supports the creation of a Technical Cooperation Division within the Union: with this Division, the ITU could more actively encourage and assist in telecommunications development at the subregional, regional and continental levels. One of the tragic legacies of colonialism has been the physical and psychological barriers erected to keep the Third World, and particularly developing countries in Africa, divided by the establishment of communication links that ignore ethnic, social and national identities. One of the challenges facing the ITU, in the view of my Government, is to help Africa dismantle all such communication systems, and thus remove the potentials for subregional and regional conflicts.

We are assembled in Nice at a particularly unique time in the history of France. This year, the hardworking and courageous people of France will celebrate the bicentennial of their Revolution. This ITU Plenipotentiary must take note of the gains of the great French Revolution. More importantly, our Conference must not fail to be influenced by the impact of the French Revolution and take decisions that will forever transform the character and the content of the Union. The Liberian Delegation therefore challenges the ITU to go forth from Nice committed to solve the problem of interconnectivity and standardization of telecommunication technologies and equipment which continues to hamper a number of important telecommunication projects, including of course the Pan African telecommunications link project. The Liberian Delegation challenges the ITU to go forth from Nice, deepened in its resolve to assist Third World countries, particularly those in Africa, in the formulation of national telecommunications policies that genuinely reflect their socio-political, economic and cultural experiences. The Liberian Delegation challenges the ITU to go forth from Nice to become a catalyst in the transfer of appropriate technical and managerial skills for telecommunications development in the Third World.

The Government of Liberia wishes to register its appreciation for the tremendous benefits it has received and continues to receive from the International Telecommunication Union in the areas of training and consultancy. Thanks also to Mr. Richard E. Butler, the ITU is assisting my Government in the formulation of our national telecommunications development plan, which will be the first comprehensive telecommunications plan in the history of Liberia. In my travels around the world, I have often encountered three categories of people: those people who had never heard of Liberia nor ever met Liberians; those people who had heard of Liberia, but had never met Liberians; and those people who had heard of Liberia and had met Liberians. Therefore, for the benefit of all of us, a very brief statement of Liberia and the strides our Government has made in telecommunications development seems in order. Liberia is a small country in West Africa with an area of about 43,000 square miles, it is bordered by the Republics of Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Côte d'Ivoire in the west, north, and east, respectively. The country was carved out of a special partnership between returned freed slaves from North America and indigenous people who inhabited the West African coast. Until 12 April 1980, the country was effectively ruled by the settler minority from North America who institutionalized a western-style democracy. However, on 12 April 1980, 17 young non-commissioned officers of the armed forces of Liberia staged a revolution that led to the overthrow of the minority settler Government. Since 1980, the Government of the President, His Excellency Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe, has consistently pledged and demonstrated its support of the ITU and the Union's various programmes as well as the development, expansion, and improvement of our national telecommunication infrastructures, facilities, and services. In 1986, for instance, our Government embarked on the construction of a standard "A" satellite earth station and a new international digital switching centre, at a cost of approximately 19 million dollars. Both the station and centre were commissioned recently by the President of Liberia. We have also undertaken the rehabilitation of our coastal telecommunications link which, when completed, will provide microwave links to the rest of the country. In spite of this progress, our Government is far from being satisfied. In fact, the President in 1988 declared telecommunications as a priority area of his Government's national development programme and has repeatedly reaffirmed his personal commitment to ensure that the ITU requirement that one telephone set be made available to every 100 inhabitants by the year 2000 is met in Liberia.

As I speak to you today, the Liberian Delegation, indeed all of Liberia, is saddened by the news that Mr. Richard E. Butler, eminent scholar, humanist, world citizen, erudite statesman, excellent organizer, administrator and civil servant, who

for nearly seven years has steered the affairs of this Union to a place of global acclaim and envy as its Secretary-General, is retiring. We are further informed that Mr. Butler has said that his decision is unequivocal. The Government of Liberia therefore wishes to express its profound thanks and appreciation to Mr. Richard E. Butler for the many important and lasting contributions he has made to the International Telecommunication Union, both as its Deputy Secretary-General and now Secretary-General, and in particular for the special place he accorded Africa throughout his tenure. As we bid you goodbye, Mr. Butler, my President, Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe, would have me convey to you his sentiments of esteem and regard and his best wishes. I should further like to inform you that the Government and people of Liberia will always reserve a place of honour for you in their hearts, and that you are welcome to visit us any time you desire. We in Liberia entertain the hope that the new Secretary-General, when elected, will press forward with the Butler policy which has encouraged active participation of Third World countries in the activities of the International Telecommunication Union and accorded priority to our RASCOM and PANAFTEL projects.

We meet here in Nice at a very difficult time. The tasks confronting this assembly are no less difficult. From the election of the Secretary-General and Members of the Administrative Council; the election of the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the CCIR and CCITT, the members of the IFRB; the restructuring of the ITU to include the draft Convention and draft Constitution; the development of new programmes and policies that will take the Union into the twenty-first century; to important issues relating to technology transfer, national sovereignty and technical cooperation, each of our delegations in this hall will be challenged to summon the courage to make tough choices and hard decisions. But, it is in moments as unique as this that man demonstrates his ability and capacity to soar to meet the challenge. Today, it is our challenge to rebuild the Union, to restructure it to meet the exigencies of the coming decade and beyond. In this effort, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, you will find the Delegation of the Republic of Liberia squarely with you and by your side."

1.7 The Deputy Minister for Communications of the Philippines made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, the Philippines Delegation wishes to join previous speakers in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of this important Conference. Under your guidance, we can be assured of success. I would also like to express our gratitude to the Honourable Secretary-General, for his excellent and dedicated stewardship through all these years of the organization. Likewise, our deep gratitude is being extended to the Government of France for hosting this Conference in this beautiful Mediterranean city of Nice.

Our country has been an ardent and active supporter of the ITU for a long time, in spite of our limited resources and heavy load of domestic priorities. At the outset may I state that some real soul-searching may indeed be needed in view of the rapidly changing telecommunications environment in order to find out whether the present structures within the ITU framework, which have helped us achieve our goals in the past will continue to serve us well in attaining our objectives for the future. The peaceful revolution of 1986 has not only served to remind the Philippines of its role as a member of the world's democracies; it has given new life and purpose to economic development and social transformation. In these three short years, many new programmes have sprung up, and many older ones have been revitalized. Telecommunications is no exception, for it is more than just another element of a country's economic infrastructure, it is in fact the infrastructure of infrastructures. All other sectors benefit from improved telecommunications.

The Philippines is currently undergoing a rejuvenation programme in telecommunications. Last year, our President established the National Telecommunications Development Committee in which Government departments and industries can explore the many issues facing us and recommend new policies and programmes. In fact telecommunications was given a presidential mandate of priority for economic recovery and development, and it was within the purview of this critical directive that our Department has undertaken developmental projects of no mean dimension, and has embarked on the very painstaking work of rationalizing a very complex sector of the country. A new policy and regulatory framework will lead in the near future to a rationalization of our strategic planning process. At the same time, specific projects are being carried out to provide services rapidly to rural and remote communities. Our National Telephone Programme which aims to establish nation-wide telephone accessibility has been reviewed and given new impetus by the Department of Transportation and Communications, and plans are underway to privatize it as soon as possible. Likewise, we intend to revitalize our domestic satellite entity and to expand its mandate so that it can take full advantage of new technology and better serve the growing needs of the country in terms of nation-wide broadcasting, data networks and service to the very inadequately served areas of our island archipelago.

In the field of international telecommunications, Philcomsat has recently commissioned its fourth earth station and, because of its strategic location, the Philippines is at the crossroads of a number of new fibre optic submarine cable undertakings, which give us the critical connectivity to the rest of the world. In the long term, we are committed to the Integrated Services Digital Network, being a member of the Asian ISDN Council, and have started to lay the necessary infrastructure for ISDN. Many countries perhaps know by now that the Philippines has been chosen as the host country for a UNDP/ITU sponsored Senior Telecommunications Management Training Programme for the Asia Pacific region, the tenure of which may be five years, possibly a decade, and even more. I should like to stress that endeavours of this nature should be strongly encouraged.

Since 1982, the Philippines has served on the Administrative Council, and together with forty other countries, has helped carry through the spirit and the mandates of the Plenipotentiaries manifested in Nairobi in 1982. Our country has been highly privileged and honoured to have been a part of the many significant developments in world telecommunications, as an active participant in many of the historic decisions of the ITU in the last six years. It is our sincere hope, through the ITU electoral process, to assume the same responsibility and privilege, within the ensuing seven years.

We are but a small Delegation but what we lack in numbers, we make up in enthusiasm. We identify fully with the emerging world-wide trend towards global interconnectivity and interoperability. As can be seen our country is moving forward, and it is on this note of optimism that we join our sister nations at this all-important Conference of what has been very aptly referred to by the Honourable Minister from Kenya, as the large ITU family. There are all the signs for the Conference's veritable success in being able to cope with the extremely significant dynamism of the telecommunications environment and the complexity of its implications. May I at this point thank the excellent Secretariat and staff for the kind attention extended very selflessly. I am grateful for this opportunity to speak before this assembly and am certain that this Conference will be able to resolve effectively, no matter how difficult the process, the many critical issues before it."

1.8 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Portugal, speaking on behalf of the Minister of Public Works and Communications, made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, Secretary-General, Distinguished Delegates, I should like to apologize for the absence of His Excellency, the Minister of Public Works and Telecommunications of Portugal, who was unable to come owing to the death of his father. For this sad reason, I shall speak in his name and in the name of the Portuguese Delegation.

Mr. Chairman, I would first of all like to assure you of the warmest congratulations of the Portuguese Delegation on your election to the chairmanship of this important Conference. We are convinced, Mr. Chairman, that your competence and your qualities will ensure that the work of the Conference will lead to a strengthening of the ITU, which is necessary in the new environment of telecommunications and which should concern the legal bases, the structural principles and the operation of the Union, all factors which are essential for a more effective fulfilment of its important missions. I would like to take this opportunity to greet all the other delegations and to thank France for its hospitality and the facilities provided, which have greatly enhanced the organization of the Conference and are making the stay of all participants in this wonderful city of Nice most enjoyable.

In recent years the world economy has undergone major changes, in which telecommunications have played an increasingly decisive role, with respect either to the homogeneity of the social and economic fabric, or the structuring of development. In this context, we see the following tendencies developing: the growing role of the service sector in the economy, where telecommunications occupy a fundamental place, especially with regard to employment and the creation of wealth, dynamic world growth due to the gradual opening up of markets for products and services, and the importance of information technologies as the basis of integrated development. In this respect, I should like to point out that in Portugal the contribution of telecommunications to the gross domestic product stands at present at around 2 per cent, which is equivalent to the average for all EEC countries, and that, from the year 2000 onwards, the proportion will increase to around 7 per cent, a level which is also expected for the countries of the European Community. The significance of this reference framework will tend to vary according to the degree of development of different economies, but it does represent a world trend. Aware of this reality, Portugal is investing in this sector substantial human, technical and financial resources, thanks to which it has already managed to reduce significantly the gap between itself and the more developed countries. Regarding this tendency, we would like to stress the following aspects: firstly, Portugal is now the country in the Community investing the greatest percentage of its gross fixed capital investments in communications, which has produced a growth rate comparable only to that of France in the 1970s. Secondly, in 1989, the growth of telephone services will be three main lines per 100 inhabitants, while in data switching, expansion is already equal to the average for the EEC. There has been a parallel development, moreover, of advanced services.

Further profound changes have been taking place at the political and organizational levels, among which I might mention, firstly, legislative changes based on the principles of the exclusive operation of basic services, the access to competition of supplementary and added-value services, and the liberalization of terminal equipment. Secondly, regulatory and supervisory functions will be separated from operational and commercial functions and attributed to a new body, the Portuguese Institute of Communications. Thirdly, the separation of postal activities from

telecommunications. Lastly, the private sector's capital investment in telecommunication operators. All these measures are currently under discussion and are to be implemented by 1991. Portugal considers this Conference to be essential for the integrated development of telecommunications world-wide. To that effect, we believe that the ITU's work should be strengthened through the remodelling and modernization of its instruments and mode of operation, without disregarding the promotion of development, the full participation of all its Members and the rationalization of management. The structural function of telecommunications, in our view, justifies strengthening the Union's work as an organization fostering world economic development and social cohesion among all peoples - alongside the other specialized agencies of the United Nations. In this field, it is a question of finding means of action which are realistic and unambiguous. Solutions will not be easy to find, but they should not be delayed. Portugal is prepared to play a more active role in applying appropriate solutions to the activation of cooperation.

With regard to full participation in the operation of the Union, the inadequacy of certain mechanisms of the Convention has to be recognized. There are circumstances, in fact, which prevent the full participation of all countries in the management organs of the Union. The vitality and creativity of an organization require its renewal, with caution, undoubtedly, in order to avoid any sharp breaks which could have negative consequences for management, yet renewal all the same, which would entail a greater commitment by and, subsequently, greater responsibility for all the Member countries. In this connection, Portugal has submitted a proposal concerning the rotation of Members of the Administrative Council, which we would like to see adopted at this Conference.

With regard to the general running of the ITU, Portugal considers that measures should be taken to adapt our organization to the new environment of telecommunications and to rationalize its management. These measures could include: (a) the need to reformulate the Basic Instrument in order to give greater stability to the main core of the provisions; and (b) the need to make the operation of the Union more effective and more expeditious, especially the system for the approval of Recommendations. In this respect, we consider that the Union's regulatory and standardization functions should not be entrusted to other regional organizations. The system should be coordinated by the ITU, which should adapt and become more flexible in line with the evolution and convergence of technologies, ensuring the full development of information systems within the interrelated environment of telecommunications. At the same time, there is a need to rationalize administrative conferences, which should be specialized according to certain priorities. We would also like to set up procedures for rationalizing the Union's expenditure in accordance with profits/results.

In conclusion, I would like to express our highest esteem and all our sympathy to the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, whose efforts in a particularly difficult period for the progress of world telecommunications has contributed greatly to strengthening the role of the ITU. We would also like to extend our best wishes to all participants for the success of the work of this Conference. Thank you."

1.9 The Director-General of the National Office of Posts and Telecommunications of Chad made the following statement:

"Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you on your well-deserved election to the chairmanship of this important Conference, which is the supreme organ of our Union. Through you I should also like to thank the French Government and people for the warm and friendly welcome extended to my Delegation and myself.

Chad, which is one of the forty-two least developed countries in the world, has been disrupted for more than twenty years by a series of unfortunate events, which have not only exacted a high price in terms of both human life and damage to what was already a very limited telecommunication network, but have also prevented us from attending certain international telecommunication meetings, in particular the previous Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union held in Nairobi in 1982. Despite our absence, that Conference showed its concern for my country's situation by adopting Resolution No. 32 entitled "Assistance to the people of Chad". You will find an account of the implementation of that Resolution in the report submitted to you by the Administrative Council. As you will realise, it gives us great pleasure and satisfaction once again to take our place among you here in Nice and, in this short statement, to make our modest contribution to your deliberations.

The International Telecommunication Union is the main international organization responsible for regulating and planning world telecommunications, developing standards for systems equipment and operation, coordinating and disseminating the information required for planning and operating telecommunication services, and promoting the development of world telecommunications.

The telecommunication environment has been subject to very rapid change in recent years. The application of new technologies has led to the creation of new products, new services, new user requirements and new telecommunication suppliers, obliging the developing countries to turn more and more frequently to the International Telecommunication Union for advice and making it necessary to review the organization's role and activities in order to enable it to fulfil its historic mandate, namely, the development of world telecommunications.

A little earlier I alluded to the damage and losses sustained by our telecommunication networks during the events. However, since 7 June 1982, the authorities and officials of the Third Republic under the leadership of the Founder President of the National Union for Independence and the Revolution (UNIR), His Excellency, President Al-Hadj Hussein Habre, aware of the crucial importance of telecommunications for safeguarding peace and promoting social and economic development in all countries, have given a high priority to this sector, with the result that today the network has largely been restored and the country is no longer isolated.

These restoration and rehabilitation operations, which are still under way, have been made possible by both national endeavour and international technical cooperation. That is why at this stage, Mr. Chairman, I should like to emphasize the importance of encouraging and strengthening technical cooperation and assistance activities in order to promote the development of telecommunication networks and services in the developing countries.

Acting on the recommendations of the report of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development and the Arusha Declaration relating to the development of telecommunications in the developing countries, the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union, in Resolution No. 929 adopted at its 40th session (1985), set up the Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) to help the developing countries in the development of their telecommunication networks. The Secretary-General was instructed to make the necessary arrangements for the Centre to become operational as soon as possible.

Has the Centre, which has now existed for four years, become operational? We have seen no sign of this in our Administration. While it is true that the Centre was set up with a view to mobilizing additional resources in order to step up assistance to the developing countries, it is nevertheless clear that its objectives are very similar to those pursued by the Technical Cooperation Department of the General Secretariat of the International Telecommunication Union. As far as the utilization of resources is concerned, therefore, we consider that particular care should be taken to avoid a duplication of work.

We hope that this important Plenipotentiary Conference will take courageous decisions, which will enable the changing telecommunication environment to be brought under control and settle the question of the Centre for Telecommunications Development's future. Faced with these challenges, the ITU will have to make the necessary adjustments to its strategy and adopt the appropriate operational structures."

1.10 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Chile made the following statement:

"Speaking for the first time at this Plenipotentiary Conference, we in the Delegation of Chile wish to greet you cordially, Mr. Chairman, and through you, all the Conference authorities, and to say how eager we are to get down to work and cooperate with them in the delicate and important responsibilities they have undertaken. We should also like to greet in the same way all the delegates here present, with whom, as members of the international telecommunication community, we will work together to achieve positive results over a wide range of matters, with the aim of achieving better and greater efficiency for the Union in its role as the supreme body coordinating international telecommunications. In this context we have to review as a matter of priority the structure of the organization, its competence and the functions of its permanent organs, together with the performance of those organs in the assignments given to them by the Nairobi Conference. Our task is a complex one, but at the same time it is a genuine professional challenge for those of us who have faith in this century-old institution, and we have no doubt that the work we shall be doing and its results will be commensurate with the effort made by our governments to enable such distinguished delegates to attend, and at the same time this collective professional contribution will constitute the best possible demonstration of international cooperation, a subject which the ITU has recommended should be emphasized during this year, especially for the developing countries, of which Chile is one. To take part in ITU activities is important and very necessary, since it means, first of all, helping to draw up the regulations, standards and Recommendations necessary for the planning and development of national telecommunications and, secondly, it means receiving a variety of reports which enable countries to keep abreast of technological progress, which has been particularly striking in this decade. Together with the advantages of participating, it is necessary to bear in mind the fact that it entails a considerable effort. We are therefore obviously anxious that the Union should give us support in all those areas where our national capacity is insufficient. We are making this point because we consider it relevant for a better understanding of the content of the contributions that developing countries have submitted to this Conference.

We consider that all the subjects to be dealt with at this Conference are important. Nevertheless, we wish to draw the attention of the distinguished delegates to some which seem to us likely to have a major influence on the success of the activities programmed in the period up to the next Plenipotentiary Conference, such as, for example, the purposes of the Union, that is, the definition of its areas of

activity, which will enable us to concern ourselves in a more flexible way with the whole range of subjects deriving from these areas of activity, which must obviously be consistent with the objective set. The Union's present Convention is appropriate for the needs of international cooperation and technical assistance in the structuring of international telecommunications. Nevertheless, we should reflect on what some experts have called the changing telecommunication environment, so as to determine whether or not it is necessary to extend the Union's purposes into areas of activity which will give rise to recommendations for better understanding of the impact of telecommunications on development processes or to cooperate with countries in formulating their telecommunication development policies. If in the matter of the structure of the Union and its permanent organs we seek greater efficiency at lower cost, we must bear in mind that structural changes give rise to intermediate periods of disorganization and increased costs - the more so the more radical they are. Accordingly, we consider that while giving thought to structural changes we should also exhaust the opportunities for securing better coordination within the present system and improving its methods of work. Genuine application of the principle of universality established in Article 1 of the Convention, which declares it desirable that all countries should participate in the Union's activities, leads us to reflect on the need to establish procedures which, without infringing the rights of Members as established in Article 2 of the Convention, will make possible adequate rotation both of elected officials and of Members of the Administrative Council. In line with this way of thinking, we have submitted a contribution relating to the Administrative Council, namely, Document 19, which we hope will provide a basis for discussion of the subject.

We should also like to draw attention to the implications of a correct evaluation of international cooperation. We believe that all Members of the Union require international cooperation in order to achieve their development goals in making telecommunications available to users. Consequently, we must not think that this international cooperation effort flows just from our organization to its Members; it must also flow from its Members back to the organization, an effort in which everyone contributes what he can, including of course the professional skills of our specialists in obtaining better results in the international events that are programmed.

With regard to the separation of the present Convention into two basic instruments, we are in favour of the Conference approving this proposal, but we believe the decision will serve its purpose insofar as due account is taken of resolves 1 of Nairobi Resolution No. 62, i.e. the Constitution should basically cover matters that are likely to remain permanent, such as the Union's principles, areas of competence and general structure, leaving to the Convention all those provisions that may be modified in accordance with the development of telecommunications brought about by new technology or the development requirements of the world community. We shall be paying close attention to the work of Committee 9 with a view to making a contribution to that end.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, in addition to informing this distinguished audience of our thinking on some matters that will be discussed, we should also like you to remember that our Delegation represents a Government and a national administration which have great faith in the Union's work and attach great importance to its Members' cooperation in its activities. Hence its interest in contributing the skills of our specialists to help the Administrative Council discharge its lofty responsibilities. We have never had the honour of serving as a Member of the Council although we believe we have the professional qualifications for doing so.

Finally, we should like to express our recognition and gratitude for the work done by Mr. Richard E. Butler as Secretary-General of the ITU, and also by the Deputy Secretary-General, the Directors of the Consultative Committees, the Members of the IFRB and the distinguished delegates of the countries which make up the Administrative Council. We believe that despite all the modifications it may be necessary to approve at this Conference, they have been able to raise the Union to a level of efficiency making it an international organization that is respected and appreciated in the United Nations system.

Before ending this first statement by the Delegation of Chile, in addition to expressing our assurance that the Conference will be a success, we should like to convey similar gratitude and recognition to the Administration of France for its excellent contribution to the organization of this event and through it to the whole French community for the cordial welcome we have received here in the beautiful city of Nice."

1.11 The Head of the Delegation of the Netherlands made the following statement:

"Like all other speakers before me I want to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this meeting of Plenipotentiaries of the International Telecommunication Union. But at the same time I should like to wish you strength and wisdom in accomplishing the enormous task you face.

Mr. Chairman, the ITU is fulfilling its task towards the international telecommunications society in a rapidly changing environment not only technological but also political.

As far as the changing political environment is concerned I can inform you that in our country the legal and political post and telecommunication environment has been drastically changed. As from 1 January this year, new legislation has come into force. Under this legislation, the Netherlands PTT Organization, previously part of the Ministry of Transport and Public Works, has been transformed into a private enterprise. Simultaneously, a new service was formed inside the Ministry of Transport and Public Works which is responsible for the formulation of the Government's policy in the field of post and telecommunications for the questions connected with frequency management and for the formulation of national standards for type approval.

As a consequence the monopolistic market situation with which the PTT had carried out its task until the beginning of this year was changed; changed into an environment where, in principle, a climate of competition prevails.

This means that telecommunication services with the exception of public telephone, telex, telegraph and basic data transport services which are considered in our country as having a social significance, a public interest, are open for competition for the supply of value-added services in our country, no licences of any kind. The market for equipment to be connected to the network has been equally liberated under the condition that it has been type-approved on the basis of conditions formulated by the Government.

Why have those changes been introduced? It is the conviction of the Netherlands Government that an economic environment which is characterized by competition offers the best opportunities for our national telecommunication enterprises and not least our national PTT Organization to develop the technological possibilities available today. To develop them in the interest of the consumers of telecommunication services and also in the interest of our country, as a whole, which has a long-standing tradition in the services industries in Europe and in the world.

Mr. Chairman, our belief in an economic environment which is characterized by competition does not stop at the boundaries of our small country. We are convinced that the world telecommunication society should not be dominated by a mass of rules and regulations. We think that there too, an organized liberalism enables the development of telecommunication services in the interest of both developing and developed countries. And in that respect I fully agree with the words of the Secretary-General when he stated that the results of the WATTC Conference in Melbourne last year were an elegant combination of the wish to organize the telecommunication policies of nations on the basis of national sovereignty and the necessity of global telecommunications arrangements.

Mr. Chairman, many, if not all, of the questions related to the ITU today and its development have to do with money, I am afraid to say. Important tasks lie ahead of the Union. The financial resources of the Union and its Members are limited, as are the possibilities of the Member countries, the majority of which is gradually recovering from the worst economic crisis in 50 years.

This implies that choices have to be made. We can do A and then as a consequence we cannot do B at the same time. In this respect the Netherlands chooses for the substance in the Union. The main tasks of the organization are standardization matters, frequency management and technical cooperation. In this perspective of formulating priorities, my Delegation cannot agree with the proposals which have, as a consequence, that the administrative secretariat and organizational costs will increase. On the contrary, Mr. Chairman, we believe that in principle the ITU is an organization, like there are many more and in any organization with long-standing procedures, specific habits in dealing with problems are possibilities for streamlining and economizing.

These possibilities should be properly investigated. Optimal cooperation and coordination between the main bodies of the Union must be possible and are in any case a necessity. Reflection on the number of meetings, their character and preparation could be, in our mind, very rewarding. Mr. Chairman, with this process of streamlining and efficiency improvement it must be possible to increase the functions available for the main tasks of the Union.

First the standardization where the process of formulation and acceptance of global standards has to be speeded up if the ITU wants to maintain its position as the only international organization providing for world scale standardization in this field. Secondly, to meet the requirements of the developing countries, they should be given due consideration and approached with a positive spirit not only within the ITU but in all appropriate multilateral and bilateral relationships.

Now as to whether the necessary streamlining and economizing process requires a complete restructuring of the organization - we have serious doubts. During its long history the ITU and its constituting bodies: the IFRB, the CCIR and the CCITT have always been able to adapt themselves to the changing environment and the specific provisions it required. The arguments for complete restructuring have not convinced us yet. On the contrary, we should like to tackle the problem from the other side - What are our priorities? - What funds are available? - What possibilities for streamlining, procedural and efficiency improvement are able under the actual organization?

If this type of discussion proves that important terms can be made available by restructuring we are open to discuss this restructuring, but along the lines as described and not the other way around.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, my Delegation will support the adoption during this meeting of a new basic instrument. We think that a change of the actual Convention into a Constitution and a Convention is wise and that it will help the organization to adapt itself to the requirements of the rapidly changing telecommunication environment.

To conclude my contribution under this agenda item I would like to thank, on behalf of the Netherlands Government and the new Netherlands PTT Organization, Mr. Butler, as Secretary-General for his efforts and more than outstanding contributions to the work of the ITU and the telecommunication community in general, and we wish him many happy years together with his family in his retirement. Thank you very much."

1.12 The Director-General, Iraqi Posts and Telecommunications made the following statement:

"IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE MERCIFUL, THE COMPASSIONATE

Allow me first of all to congratulate Mr. Grenier most sincerely on his election as Chairman of the Conference. I should also like to congratulate the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees on their election, and wish them every success in accomplishing the tasks entrusted to them, in order to steer the Conference to a successful outcome.

In the seven years which have elapsed since the Nairobi Conference in 1982, the Union has been extremely active in many areas. In particular, a whole series of world administrative conferences have been held, the most recent of them being the WATTC Conference. Iraq has participated in the Union's various activities during that period, and in particular the different administrative conferences. It has always endeavoured to make an effective and constructive contribution to the success of the conferences.

We today have the opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation for the efforts deployed by the Union, guided by the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, and by the Directors of the International Consultative Committees and the Chairman of the IFRB.

The importance of the Union is growing daily, particularly on account of the rapid development of technologies in the various fields of telecommunications, changes in the telecommunication administrations' infrastructures and the emergence of new regional standardization organizations, obliging the Union to step up its efforts still further in order to meet the challenges placed before it and maintain its pre-eminent position.

We believe that the Union, with its present structure, has served the international community admirably in the field of telecommunications. However, we also feel that the time has come to make some changes to the ITU's structure and working methods, which need to be improved and made more flexible in order to cope with the ever faster pace of technological progress in telecommunications. Merging the CCIR and CCITT to form a single body, at least at the senior level, constitutes one of the possible solutions to achieve that aim.

Extended use of computers in the work of the IFRB and the possibility of direct connections with administrations' terminals will reduce the volume of documentation to be processed, whilst at the same time strengthening the IFRB's capacity and giving it faster access to available data.

We do not adhere to the proposals for radical changes in the IFRB's structures, and are in favour of maintaining its independent character, in view of the important role it plays and its influence on the use of the frequency spectrum, which require that its decisions continue to be taken on the basis of unanimity.

Mr. Chairman, as you know, and as many of the speakers who have taken the floor before me have highlighted, every day sees a widening of the gap between the developing countries and the industrialized countries in all spheres of telecommunications.

In our opinion, this calls for an additional assistance effort on the part of the Union in order to close the gap. In general terms, we approve the thrust of the Report "The Missing Link" in this regard, and consider that it is necessary to strengthen the programme of international technical cooperation for the developing countries and peoples struggling for freedom and independence, including the Palestinian people, so that they may improve their communications and make their voice heard throughout the world. In this connection, I take the opportunity to applaud the uprising of the Palestinian people who are struggling to exercise their right to self-determination, and I greet the creation of the State of Palestine, which we hope will play a full role in our Union.

In concluding, I should like to extend my thanks to the French Government for hosting the Conference in Nice, which is a beautiful city, and to wish the Conference every success in its work.

Thank you for your attention.

May the peace, mercy and grace of God be with you."

1.13 The Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Korea made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Delegation of the Republic of Korea, I would like to express my deep gratitude to the Government of the Republic of France for hosting this Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union and for extending its kind invitation to our Administration.

I also congratulate Mr. Grenier on his election as Chairman of this august Conference.

I think it very significant that this Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union be held in France where its founding Conference was held in 1865.

It is my view that the Union has worked greatly to fulfil the purposes specified in the International Telecommunication Convention adopted at the last Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi.

For the first time in the history of the ITU, it has stipulated it as its main purpose to extend technical cooperation to developing countries and it has consequently organized many projects for the realization of this goal. The ITU has thus made a big step forward towards the establishment of a world-wide integrated telecommunications network.

In particular, the ITU has made enormous endeavours to carry out the decisions adopted at the Conference held in Arusha, Tanzania in 1985, and has attained great success by actively conducting various kinds of technical cooperation activities for the African countries and other developing countries.

At the same time, it has made great progress in expanding and strengthening telecommunication networks of all Member countries of the Union. It has provided its Member countries with the tools necessary for the introduction and operation of these networks by organizing many world and regional conferences and seminars (such as the HFBC Conferences and the ORB Conferences - organized at the request of developing countries for planning high-frequency bands for broadcasting) and equitably utilizing the geostationary orbit in a planned way.

Such measures have been achieved entirely thanks to the full enhancement of the spirit of close international cooperation among Mr. Butler, the Secretary-General, and the Member countries.

In the past, our country has closely cooperated with the Union in expanding and strengthening telecommunication networks and broadcasting of the country into a higher stage.

Under the very difficult condition under which all communication equipment and facilities were utterly destroyed during the Korean War, and the country's territory covers a great part of mountainous area, we have achieved great successes in the modernization of our telecommunication and broadcasting including the televisation of the whole country and meeting the increasing economic and population requirements for telecommunication under the wise leadership of the great leader, Comrade Kim Il Sung and the dear leader, Comrade Kim Jong Il.

In particular, on the occasion of the 13th World Youth and Students' Festival to be held for the first time in Asia in Pyongyang, the Capital of the Republic of Korea, from 1 July to 8 July this year, our people have conducted their powerful activities to expand the capacity of telecommunication for various functions of the Festival, of international network and the transmission of the TV programme and other broadcasting programmes.

Thus, we are able to successfully provide communication and transmission of broadcasting related to the Festival.

By so doing, the 13th World Youth and Students' Festival, with participants of youth delegates and many prominent figures as guests from all regions of the world, will make a great contribution to ensuring world peace and strengthening friendship and solidarity among the world's peoples, also to further increasing international relations in many fields of social life including informatics media.

While making every effort to bring our telecommunications into the more up-to-date stage by ourselves, we will actively encourage international cooperation with the ITU and Member countries, thus adapting our telecommunications to the ever changing telecommunication environment of the world.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, as shown in the past, we hope that this Conference will once again witness good cooperation spirit, one of the ITU's traditions, and all of the Union's future work will most effectively contribute to the rapid development of the telecommunications of the developing countries and all other countries with full consideration of the proposals made by administrations concerned with restructuring the Union and reviewing the Union's Basic Instrument.

In conclusion, I would like to express my conviction that all mankind the world over will have a free and easy access to telecommunications by early in the next century, as discussed and decided in the Arusha Conference by successfully finalizing this Conference with an increasing spirit of cooperation among all Members."

1.14 The Head of the Delegation of New Zealand made the following statement:

"First, on behalf of the New Zealand Delegation, I too, Sir, should like to sincerely congratulate you on your election and also to thank the Government of France for its generosity in hosting this Plenipotentiary Conference.

The International Telecommunications environment presents a real challenge both to national policy makers and also to delegations here charged with reviewing the international framework for cooperation and regulation. As previous distinguished speakers have pointed out, telecommunications technology and services are characterized by rapid change, the emergence of new services and service providers, as well as the convergence of telecommunications and other services such as broadcasting; national responses to these factors have led to an increasing diversity in domestic regulatory regimes yet there also remains a pressing need for the extension of the most basic telecommunication services within many countries.

The state of telecommunications within New Zealand and the South Pacific area reflects many of the same changes and needs arising at the global level.

New Zealand itself has been fortunate in having built up a strong basic infrastructure for telecommunications and has been able over the last two years to embark on comprehensive liberalization of markets for telecommunications equipment and services. This programme culminated on 1 April this year with the deregulation of network services (including public switched telephone services) subject only to certain constraints on the provision of international toll services. This followed already the separation of commercial activities from policy and the residual regulatory activities. Under a further new law, entry restrictions on the adjacent market of broadcasting services are being largely removed, with effect from 1 July this year.

Liberalization of telecommunications and broadcasting markets puts pressure on conventional approaches to radio frequency spectrum allocation and management. Accordingly, the New Zealand Minister of Commerce has announced that new radiocommunications legislation will also be introduced into the New Zealand Parliament shortly in order to provide for a new regime for the efficient allocation of spectrum.

In making these changes, the New Zealand Government recognizes, and indeed relies upon, the existence of formal and effective international frameworks provided by the ITU. Express provision is being made within New Zealand legislation and its administrative policies for New Zealand to continue to give full effect to its international regulatory obligations.

New Zealand is a comparatively developed country. However, many of our immediate neighbours in the South Pacific area face the same sort of development needs in telecommunications which the Plenipotentiary Conference will be addressing over the next few weeks. We therefore have direct experience of these problems within our own subregion, but we also have experience of practical solutions. In this regard, New Zealand cooperates closely with its Pacific neighbours and with regional ITU representatives to develop solutions which are both cost effective and responsive to the individual country's telecommunications needs.

The issues facing the ITU at this Conference are, of course, far more complex than those facing any single Member country. The Basic Instrument of the Union, which will emerge from this Conference will need to embody not only the future direction and purposes of the Union, but also ensure the effective organizational structures and procedures are in place to carry these out.

At the same time, the new Constitution and Convention will need sufficient breadth and flexibility to accommodate the diversity of Members' national sovereign telecommunications policies and aspirations.

Finally, it will need to focus the Union's activities in such a way as to achieve the best results for Members within the limited resources; with increasing demands on those resources in the Union to undertake a growing range of tasks, this Conference will need to look critically at priorities for the future. As far as New Zealand is concerned, New Zealand considers that the ITU must continue to build on its basic essential role, that is of providing the international regulatory, technical and operational guidelines which enable the global network to function for the benefit of all countries.

New Zealand is confident that the ITU is well able to meet these challenges. The experience of WATTC in Melbourne last year demonstrates the ability of the Union and its Members to develop and evolve solutions to problems and to respond to opportunities presented by a changing telecommunications environment. As other speakers have already commented, the international telecommunications regulations which resulted from WATTC represent a balance both between national aspirations and global needs. That same pragmatism and cooperation should assist this Conference in reaching an equally effective outcome.

There is one final element of change facing this Conference, of course, of which we are all conscious and to which previous speakers have referred, namely the fact that the Secretary-General, Mr. Richard Butler, has announced that he will not be standing again for this office. New Zealand would like to join with other delegations in commending very sincerely the great and valued service of Mr. Butler that he has given to the ITU as well as to the global telecommunications community during his term of office."

1.15 The Secretary-General of the Arab Telecommunication Union made the following statement:

"At the beginning please allow me to add my voice to those who preceded me to present my warm congratulations for your election as the Chairman of this Conference. We are confident that this Conference will achieve the expected results because of your experience and wisdom. I would like also to greet the Plenipotentiary Conference and the international delegates participating in it.

I am also honoured to be invited to participate as an observer in the work of this important Conference which we hope will contribute effectively to the development and regulation of telecommunications on the national and international level. There is no doubt that the ITU during its long history has played and is still playing an important role in the regulation of telecommunications with the objective of developing it and achieving peace and international cooperation between nations through regulating, developing telecommunications and drafting appropriate specifications and standards.

We in the ATU, as a regional organization specialized in the field of telecommunications, realize the importance of this stage in the history of the ITU as an international organization concerned with telecommunication affairs and also the importance of this stage in the development and expansion of telecommunications due to the development and diversification in the telecommunication technologies, the services presented, and the means and policies for management and investment in telecommunications, in addition to the enormous expansions in the services and the increasing demands and the growing importance that telecommunications is having.

All this put an extra coordination load on this international organization in addition to the other objective associated with parallel development in various parts of the world. We are therefore hoping very much that your respectful Conference will address all their problems in a manner that serves the interests of the international community and achieves integrated telecommunication development and our aspirations in having the telephone within easy reach of all, and that telecommunications be an effective tool for achieving peace for mankind.

The Arab countries whose activities the ATU is honoured to coordinate, by virtue of their special nature and their special regional situation and the linguistic, cultural, hereditary and historical ties that join them, in addition to being developing countries, have their special requirements and wishes which they hope this international Conference will be able to address and fulfil. One of the important requirements that the Conference should stress in its Resolutions is that the ITU should play a greater role in achieving parallel and just development of telecommunications in various parts of the world, in addition to its present important functions in regulating and laying down specifications and standards and urging administrations to comply with them internationally. We also see that it is time that the Arabic language be adopted as a working language in the ITU to enable 22 ITU Members to maximize their benefits from opportunities that are made available by the ITU and to contribute effectively in its activities through Arab experts in this field.

We must insist here on guaranteeing the rights of the oppressed and nations which are struggling for freedom and independence. We specially mention here the heroic Palestinian people. Your Conference, therefore, has to guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people to freely develop and use their telecommunications in their occupied land, which were cut by the occupier in order to block the news of the uprising of the Palestinian people. The Conference has also to guarantee their rights in the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary orbit. The international community and the ITU should play a greater role towards achieving this until the Palestinian people are able to liberate their homeland.

The Arab Telecommunication Union, while praising the achievements of the ITU in the fields of telecommunication development and regulation of international relations and international cooperation, must also praise the constructive and fruitful cooperation between the ATU and the ITU in implementing a number of joint activities in the Arab region during the last period. We also praise the role played by Mr. R.E. Butler, the ITU Secretary-General and the staff of the General Secretariat for their achievements and cooperation and the constructive joint activities that have been achieved, hoping that the next period will witness similar fruitful cooperation and similar joint activities.

At the end of my speech I can only wish for your respectful Conference every success in achieving its expected noble objectives."

The meeting rose at 1240 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

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PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH PLENARY MEETING

Friday, 26 May 1989, at 0940 hrs

Chairman: Mr. GRENIER (France)

Subjects discussed:

1. General policy statements (continued)
 - 1.1 Statement by the Minister of Transport and Communications, Lesotho
 - 1.2 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, the Republic of Guinea
 - 1.3 Statement by the Deputy Head of the Delegation of Suriname
 - 1.4 Statement by the Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Posts, Malaysia
 - 1.5 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Côte d'Ivoire
 - 1.6 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Liberia
 - 1.7 Statement by the Deputy Minister for Communications, Philippines
 - 1.8 Statement on behalf of the Minister of Public Works and Communications, Portugal
 - 1.9 Statement by the Director-General, National Office of Posts and Telecommunications, Chad
 - 1.10 Statement by the Deputy Head of the Delegation of Chile
 - 1.11 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of the Netherlands
 - 1.12 Statement by the Director-General, Iraqi Posts and Telecommunications
 - 1.13 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
 - 1.14 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of New Zealand
 - 1.15 Statement by the Secretary-General of the Arab Telecommunication Union

1. General policy statements (continued)

1.1 The Minister of Transport and Communications, Lesotho made the following statement:

"I would like first of all to express my gratitude to the Government and people of France, for the hospitality accorded to me and my Delegation since our arrival. We feel that the Government of France has indeed created for us an atmosphere in which we can successfully address the important question of cooperation in telecommunications.

The value of information systems, and particularly of telecommunication services to development, needs no debate and is fully understood by us. In pursuit of our desire to facilitate creative activity in this connection, the Kingdom of Lesotho believes that the Plenipotentiary Conference accords an appropriate international forum to address this all important question of cooperation in telecommunication. More closely, an opportunity is accorded in this forum to review the cooperation between and among Member States of the Union. In this regard, projects such as the AFRALTI (African Advanced Telecommunications Institute), which was initiated in Nairobi, we view with satisfaction and as signs of what can be done.

It is again in this regard that we feel that, to facilitate the increasingly important role of the ITU as a development agency, the move towards harmonization of roles with other development agencies should be enthusiastically supported. On the question, Mr. Chairman, of performing the role of a development agency, the issue of technical assistance becomes important. Here, we are calling on the function of technical assistance to encompass manpower development, and we are defining manpower development to mean the development of a cadre that can adapt and create technology and not simply to exploit existing technologies. The creation of such a capability is a priority in many developing countries, and certainly in the Kingdom of Lesotho. The technological imbalance between the industrialized and developing countries was highlighted at the Nairobi Conference in 1982, and was emphasized in the Maitland report entitled the Missing Link. It would appear that the situation in this regard has not improved, because in the report to the Administrative Council, we are advised that the gap in services available between the industrialized and developing countries continues to widen. At present, over two-thirds of the world population remains without access to telecommunication services. This is undoubtedly disturbing.

It is against this background that my Delegation sincerely requests the Conference to pay special attention to the following important matters: (a) the special needs of the developing countries including technology transfer. Here perhaps, we should charge the Committee on Technical Cooperation with the responsibility to make clear and implementable recommendations; (b) the need to assist developing countries to establish their own network frequency administration and monitoring units; and (c) the principle of equitable regional and subregional representation in the various offices of the ITU, especially to accept the principle of rotation for all elected officials of the Union, that is to say, not more than two successive terms in office.

For our part, since the last Plenipotentiary Conference in 1982, the Kingdom of Lesotho embarked on an ambitious programme to develop its telecommunications network. The commissioning of a satellite earth station at Ha Sofonia in 1984 was a significant technological landmark for Lesotho because for the first time it had direct access to the outside world. During the same year a digital telex exchange and a digital

international/national switch were commissioned, offering international subscriber dialling facilities to the subscribers to more than 100 countries all over the world. The declaration of 1983 as World Communications Year, served as a springboard which enabled us to review our national policies on telecommunications as an instrument for economic development and growth. In 1985 all major towns of Lesotho were linked by the commissioning of a wide-band backbone microwave system, and this drastically improved the quality of trunk traffic as witnessed today. By the end of 1987 eight fully-fledged digital telephone exchanges and three remote subscriber switches were operating. By the end of 1989 two more will be operating and this means that penetration of digital exchanges will be such that 95% of all Lesotho subscribers will have access to this type of exchange. Digital microwave and optic fibre cable systems will be introduced on the main national routes during the 1989/1990 timeframe, and intermediate data rate will be introduced at the earth station during 1991. It is planned that by 1993 all exchanges will be automatic. We believe that we are well positioned for introduction of the Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) as and when it becomes standard. In general, we are taking measures to introduce and widen the various subscriber services.

Our policy is to expand and extend telecommunications services into rural areas, so as to reach the majority of our people by the year 2000. The strides that we have taken have been possible through cooperation with the ITU and Member States. These efforts become increasingly more effective when the specific geo-political circumstances of our country are borne in mind.

I am advised that Mr. Butler will not be available for re-election to the office of Secretary-General. It is appropriate therefore, at this point, to express our appreciation of the dedicated manner in which Mr. Butler discharged his responsibilities. My Delegation takes this opportunity to wish him well in his retirement.

In conclusion, I wish all delegations to this Conference healthy deliberations, particularly to our various committees, which have the onerous task of shaping the programme of work of the Union."

1.2 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of the Republic of Guinea made the following statement:

"Circumstances beyond our control meant that we were unable to be present at the official opening of our Conference, but fortunately we have now been able to join you.

Mr. Chairman, the way we have been welcomed here is no surprise, since it was here, in France, in 1865 that the Plenipotentiaries of 20 States met to decide on the harmonization and coordination of communication media, fully aware of the difficulties created by the frontiers separating them. That was how the Union was born.

Today, when our Union is celebrating 124 years of existence and telecommunications have developed prodigiously, the 166 Member countries are once again meeting in France, not just to compare experiences, but also to determine the Union's policies and principles with a view to harmonization, to compatibility in telecommunication technology. Our Delegation invites you, worthy representatives of communications, that you are to consider further what the future structure of our Union should be.

The Republic of Guinea, my country, conscious of the great gap between the rich and the developing countries, expects much from our organization and from the present Conference in the face of the scientific and technological innovations we are witnessing today. It is with that specifically in mind that I should like to inform the Conference, on behalf of my Delegation, of the efforts already made by my Government in the field of telecommunication development, efforts which have enabled part of my country to come out of its isolation and will shortly do the same for the rest. Since last December, my country has provided itself with a new telex exchange and two transit exchanges, national and international, through the cooperation and aid of a considerable number of countries with which my Government maintains good relations. Thus, under the dynamic leadership of the President of the Republic, Guinea has included telecommunications among the priority development activities to promote the essential recovery of our economy.

What we should like, and we hope the Conference will agree, though we do not underestimate the efforts already made by the ITU, is that international cooperation should be further strengthened so as to enable developing countries like ourselves to meet the needs they have today in this particular field of communications.

We already cherish the hope that the work of this Conference and the discussions that will follow will enable you, as the eminent personalities you are, and the technical specialists who are assisting us, to achieve an appreciable improvement across the whole range of our shortcomings and inequalities today in the field of telecommunications.

Mr. Chairman, my Delegation welcomes most sincerely your election as Chairman of this Conference and hopes that under your guidance bold decisions can be taken to enable our respective countries to contribute to the expansion of telecommunications in the world in general and in the developing countries in particular.

I should like, on behalf of my country, my Government and the Delegation I head, and with your permission, Mr. Chairman, to extend our heartiest congratulations to Mr. Richard Butler, who after working for nearly twenty years to give the Union the character it has today has decided to retire. We believe that despite his retirement he will continue to give us the benefit of his wisdom and experience."

1.3 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Suriname made the following statement:

"Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to extend to you on behalf of the Delegation of Suriname our warmest congratulations on your election as Chairman of the Conference. Our congratulations go also to the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees. We are confident, Mr. Chairman, that under your excellent guidance this Conference will meet the goals set for this most important event of the Union. We would like to take this opportunity to express our profound thanks to the Government and Administration of France for the tremendous efforts and meticulous arrangements they have made for this Conference. Our thanks also go to the personnel of the Secretariat for their best endeavours in preparing this Conference.

The past seven years since the last Conference have seen rapid developments in science and technology in telecommunications. More and more developing countries have become aware of the importance of telecommunications as a part of the social and economic infrastructure of all countries. During this period, the ITU has made great efforts to strengthen international cooperation and to promote the development of international telecommunications. In this respect we would like to pay a special tribute to the Secretary-General, Mr. Richard Butler, who has dedicated the last 20 years to the promotion and harmonization of international telecommunications and who has always given our Administration full support. Mr. Butler has been a good friend of the developing countries and we do wish him all the best for the future.

Suriname is located on the north-east coast of South America and has borders with the Federal Republic of Brazil to the south, with French-Guyana to the east and with Guyana to the west; to the north we have the Atlantic Ocean. Due to our location on the northern coast of South America, we form a part of the Caribbean. Being a developing country, we realise that it is a basic undeniable fact that the developing countries make up more than 80 per cent of the Member countries of the Union and still have less than 20% of the telecommunications facilities in the world. As in most of the developing countries, one of our Administration's purposes is to improve our level of telecommunication services in accordance with ITU regulations, Recommendations and standards. It is worth noting that the percentage of faults in basic telecommunications in our country is less than ITU standards.

We can report that in the year 1990 we will have doubled the number of telephone lines in our country; we will then have telephone facilities in the isolated interior of Suriname. However, we have to face the fact that the developing world continues to be increasingly dependent on the developed countries in the field of technological know-how. In our experience, telecommunications equipment, which is for and mostly produced in the developed countries, does not always quite meet the requirements of our countries. The Union therefore has an important role in assisting the developing countries in formulating their telecommunication needs, and also in stimulating in every possible way the continuous growth of telecommunications in order to enhance the level of development. A very important issue of developing countries is how to structure technical cooperation programmes in the sense that they may achieve optimal results in order to minimize dependence. We are of the opinion that further strengthening of the ITU regional presence will stimulate further development in telecommunication networks sectorally, regionally and internationally.

This Plenipotentiary Conference faces the huge task of guiding ITU's future work, identifying the further trends which the work of the ITU should follow in a field of technical assistance and determining the strategies of an international, regional and subregional nature which are to be followed in the next few years, particularly taking into account the changing telecommunication environment, which will require the ITU to adjust its structure and the organization of its work to the new circumstances. Of great importance, therefore, is the further democratization of ITU executives, the selection of personnel on the basis of equitable geographical representation of all regions, increased efficiency of the ITU's permanent organs and economic use of the resources of Union Members.

After studying the matter of the legal bases of the Union, we are of the opinion that the adoption of a permanent basic instrument, namely a constitution supplemented by a convention, would be an important step towards achieving the purposes of the Union and for the maintenance of the required stability within the Union.

In conclusion, I would like to say, on behalf of the Government of Suriname, that my Administration would welcome the opportunity to be able to make a useful contribution to the lofty causes of the Union by being allowed by election to have a seat on the Administrative Council.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we all hope to complete this meeting successfully and will do our utmost to give you all the necessary support to achieve this objective."

1.4 The Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Posts of Malaysia made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Malaysian Delegation I would like firstly to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election as Chairman of this Conference. I would also like to record, through you, our appreciation to the Government of the Republic of France, for hosting this Conference and for making our stay in this beautiful city of Nice a very pleasant one indeed.

Listening to the various speakers in the last few days, one is impressed with the similar concerns that are being expressed. The issues are not new but they have become more urgent and, in terms of international cooperation, more complex. There is the concern with the glaring disparity in the type of telecommunication development in the developed as compared to the developing countries. There is the challenge posed by the rapid change in telecommunication technology. There is the question of spreading the location of telecommunication industry. More fundamental to this Conference is the question as to how best the ITU, in terms of organization and structure, should prepare itself to serve the cooperative needs of the telecommunication community of the 1990s and beyond. There is the question of spreading the location of the telecommunication industry.

The disparity in the level of telecommunication facilities between the developed and developing countries is in itself serious enough, but more seriously it encourages further widening of the economic gap that already exists between these two sets of countries. The telecommunication network has long been recognized as a vital infrastructure in the modern economy. In a number of developed countries the network has matured and is fully developed; more than half the population has private telephones. The rest have access to public ones. They are able to develop new services and to introduce innovative systems. This trend will continue as the human mind and the human spirit will always aspire to progress. In these countries the cumulative effect of technological change will expand the boundaries of services that are offered - in terms of voice, data transmission, images, electronic offices and so on. All these no doubt impact on social life, but they also change the way businesses are run and the way the economy is operated. Distance no longer has relevance. Certainly, countries equipped with these facilities will have a competitive advantage in terms of trade and in terms of overall international relations.

Malaysia shares similar challenges that are faced by other developing countries. The provision of telecommunication services cannot be isolated from the overall question of the national economy in which equally pressing demands for education, health services, basic transportation and so on must compete for allocations within a limited budget. Within the telecommunication sector there is the twin objective of providing a universal basic telephone service while at the same time introducing new facilities to meet the requirements of the Government and modern business. The Malaysian economy has traditionally been dependent on rubber, palm oil, tin, cocoa and petroleum; these are subject to the volatile uncertainty of international commodity prices. We believe we have to restructure and push the development of industries. In this we encourage foreign investment by offering a package of incentives. The provision of efficient modern telecommunication infrastructure is central to this industrialization programme. In order to address these needs we have restructured our telecommunications entity. A skeleton version of the original Department of Telecommunications is retained, functioning as a regulatory body responsible for type approval, standard setting, frequency allocation and so on. A commercial entity has

been set up under the Companies Act and is being licensed to operate and manage the telecommunication network and services. This company, initially owned by the Government, will later be privatized. This restructuring exercise is intended to address the fundamental questions: firstly, to provide a flexible organizational structure that can respond to new demands; secondly, to facilitate the injection of private capital in the provision of telecommunication facilities. The Malaysian network is still small and it is felt prudent to retain a monopoly on the basic network - but competition exists in the supply of terminal equipment, and is being gradually introduced into the sphere of value-added services. This restructuring was implemented in early 1987. Two years ago we had five telephones per 100 population. Now we have eight per 100. The urban centres of business are served with modern digital facilities. Packet-switched networks are available for those who need them. We have a nation-wide coverage of a cellular network that combines mobile services with a fixed station capability which has enabled us to provide rural community telephones to a number of rural villages.

In restructuring our telecommunication entity in Malaysia we have been guided by questions of practicality. I am equally impressed by the collective practicality of the Members of the ITU, in respect to the International Telecommunication Regulations, formulated at the WATTC Conference in Melbourne last December. Malaysia welcomes that decision. In this context I would like to caution against any over-enthusiastic move towards uncontrolled deregulation in international telecommunications. The argument of free trade in telecommunication technology and services in the context of the glaring disparity that now exists in these matters between the north and the south will further widen the very disparity that all Members of the ITU should seek to narrow. In international trade, as in other spheres of international relations, the countries that are strong tend to dominate those that are not as strong. A completely deregulated telecommunication sector will have the effect of restricting the ability of countries of the south to control their telecommunication network, which is of so strategic an importance in terms of their economic growth and in terms of their national security. The ITU has to be forever alert to the risk of being an instrument either consciously or unconsciously of further widening the gap between the countries of the north and the countries of the south. Instead, the ITU should give special attention to the special problems and the special needs affecting developing countries.

Let me now turn to some of the issues with which this Conference is directly concerned, firstly, with regard to universal standards. The existence of a widely accepted standard will enhance connectivity and in terms of telecommunication equipment will serve to lower prices. The Union should continue to act as a catalyst for the formulation of widely acceptable standards. Secondly, with regard to the proposals to reform the Basic Instrument of the Union. The telecommunication environment of the 1990s and beyond is going to be totally different, even from that of the 1980s. ISDN now still in its infancy will become fully grown. Radio and satellite transmission will become increasingly prominent. The speed in which new technology and new services are introduced will move at an exponential rate. All this demands a flexible and dynamic structure. On the other hand there are countries that will still struggle to provide basic services to their people. They will look for stability; they will need continuity. The proposal for a flexible Convention based on a more permanent Constitution we believe will partly address this necessary requirement.

In addition, the operating mode of the ITU Secretariat may need to be examined. Some delegates have already questioned the need for voluminous documentation. Another question - cannot the activities of the Union be more regionalized? By so doing the Union will encourage a wider involvement of participants from Member countries at the regional level. We know that Geneva is a very pleasant city, but so are the other regional centres of the countries of the world.

Earlier I had mentioned Malaysia's success in combining our mobile cellular service with fixed station capability. In drawing up the technical configuration for that we were assisted by experts from the ITU. I would like to place on record our appreciation for that support. Indeed the technical cooperation that the ITU can contribute to Member countries must continue to be given top priority in terms of allocation of resources. I am thinking for example of one area that will require such attention - that is in the field of frequency-spectrum management which will become important as the use of radiocommunication increases. There must also be balanced participation of ITU Members in its activities. Such exposure will enhance the support of the ITU to those countries which need it most. In this context, Malaysia has decided to offer herself as a candidate of the Administrative Council.

I would also like to join in recording our appreciation to Mr. Butler for the contribution he has made to the workings of the ITU in his capacity as Secretary-General and before that as Deputy Secretary-General. Mr. Butler has shown himself to be a diplomat of the highest order and has provided the ITU with pragmatic leadership. He has been responsible in convincing Member States to give the highest priority to telecommunication development, to treating telecommunications as a catalyst for economic growth. He has now alerted the ITU on the urgent need to restructure itself to meet the challenges of the 1990s and beyond. On behalf of the Malaysian Delegation we wish you, Mr. Butler, a happy retirement and I would like to take this opportunity of assuring you that you will always be welcome to visit us."

1.5 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Côte d'Ivoire made the following statement:

"Let me first of all add Côte d'Ivoire's voice to those of the delegations that have preceded me in expressing our sincere thanks to France for its cordial welcome and for all the kind attentions we have received at this Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union here in the beautiful city of Nice, whose generous hospitality is in keeping with the great values of liberty, equality and fraternity. I should like next, on behalf of my Delegation, to congratulate you very warmly on your election as Chairman of our Conference. Your wide experience of international relations and your intrinsic qualities augur well for the success of our work. Our thanks also go to Mr. Butler, the outgoing Secretary-General, for the quality and consistency of the work he has done at the head of our Union for years.

The world today is characterized by breathtakingly rapid development in the techniques of communication, at a time when the gap between developed and developing countries is widening day by day because of the economic recession, the effects of which weigh hard on those who have the least. Our Conference, the importance of which is obvious to everyone, has every reason to ponder the strategies to be adopted in order to ensure that the benefits of this technological development are shared universally in accordance with the charter of our Union, whose fundamental aim is to encourage through international cooperation the development of means of telecommunication in all countries of the world. To make means of communication available to the whole of mankind would undoubtedly promote mutual understanding among peoples and strengthen collaboration and solidarity between nations, ideals which are at the foundation of my country's policy. For that reason Côte d'Ivoire will continue to make its contribution, however modest, to the successful operation of our common institution.

Being aware of the importance of telecommunications for a country's economic and social development, we have made substantial efforts in Côte d'Ivoire to extend and modernize our telecommunication network. For example, an electronic time-division switch was put into service in our country in 1978. Having thus made the right choice, we have been able since then to digitize 52% of the switching and 31% of the transmission in our network. All this has been achieved as a result of the priority given by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to developing telecommunications, following the action taken by the Union to make countries aware of this question. For further harmonious development of its network, my country places great hopes in the Union's assistance and considers that the Union's technical cooperation activities should be supported by adequate financing. The Centre for Telecommunications Development set up in 1985 under Resolution No. 20 of the Nairobi Conference remains an excellent instrument for giving assistance to the least developed countries in their development efforts. While we welcomed the birth of this institution, we are sad to note that it has not grown as it was expected to because of financial difficulties. We would therefore formulate the wish that this Conference should be the starting point for a vigorous new approach which will enable the Centre to achieve the noble aims for which it was set up. The Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development recommended in its report that the States Members of the ITU should envisage allocating a percentage of receipts from international telecommunications to financing telecommunications in developing countries. This recommendation was analysed successively by the VIIIth and IXth CCITT Plenary Assemblies and by the WATTC-88, and this Conference should find the way to put it into effect; that would be proof of the triumph of international solidarity.

With that very much in mind, I should like to conclude my statement by wishing the Conference once again every success in its work."

1.6 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Liberia made the following statement:

Mr. Chairman, permit me firstly to convey warm fraternal greetings to you, to the distinguished delegates to this Conference and, through you, to the Government and great people of France from my President, His Excellency Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe, the Government and people of Liberia and myself. I should also like to express to the Government of France, and in particular the friendly and hospitable people of this historic city of Nice, profound thanks and appreciation on behalf of my Delegation and in my own name, for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to us since our arrival and for the very meticulous and excellent organization put into this Plenipotentiary Conference. Indeed, the Delegation of Liberia is not the least surprised, because the tremendous reception accorded to delegates and the excellent organization which is evident in this hall symbolize France's ideals within the committee of sovereign nations as eloquently reflected in its motto, namely, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Permit me, too, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you and the various Vice-Chairmen on your election, and to pledge to you personally the full cooperation and support of the Liberian Delegation as you steer the affairs of this important Plenipotentiary Conference to a successful conclusion. I and the members of my Delegation are convinced that with the rich diversity of your knowledge and experience both as a professional engineer and as an active participant in the activities of the ITU for more than two decades, this Nice Plenipotentiary will record an equal success in the resolution of many of the thorny issues that have seemed to elude this august body.

We are meeting here in Nice, France, at a particularly crucial period in the world today. For the International Telecommunication Union, it is a critical time - a time of monumental challenges and ever-increasing opportunity. The opportunities for change in this important world organization and within our individual nation States, as well as their relationships one with another have never been so great. At the institutional level, the ITU's structure, which has been subjected to only minor, virtually cosmetic changes since the organization's founding, must now be examined with the view of making it leaner, more cost-efficient, more responsive and more dynamic. My Government therefore joins those other nations which at this Conference have advocated the restructuring of the Union. Accordingly, the Government of Liberia wishes to make the following proposals for the restructuring of the ITU: (1) that the Government of Liberia is opposed to calls for the integration of the CCIR and CCITT. However, while allowing these two Committees to retain their individualities and autonomy, it is imperative that the authority of the General Secretariat be strengthened to allow it to coordinate and harmonize their activities within the framework of the Union's programmes and objectives; (2) when His Excellency the Federal Minister of Communications of Nigeria, the Honourable Mr. D.A. Mark, addressed this assembly yesterday, he called attention to the unfair manner in which seats in the various organs of the Union are distributed. My Government fully shares the sentiments of the distinguished Nigerian Delegation and asks that this Conference initiates measures to redress this apparent imbalance; (3) a proposal is before this Conference for the review and adoption of the Convention and Constitution of the Union. The Government of the Republic of Liberia endorses the decision to separate these two organic instruments and further registers its support for their adoption; (4) a proposal has also been advanced for the restructuring of the Technical Cooperation Department with the aim of enlarging its authority and scope. My Government fully endorses this proposal, but more than this, the Government of Liberia believes that the subject of technical cooperation is one that touches the core of this Conference and needs more elaboration.

It is common knowledge that telecommunications technology is capital-intensive, and more often than not countries which wish to acquire it are prohibited by the high cost. In addition, as we enter the twenty-first century, there will be a greater need for south-south cooperation and collaboration as well as north-south cooperation. It is therefore the position of the Government of Liberia that the creation of a Technical Cooperation Division within the ITU with the rank of a director or a comparable senior level supervisor will underscore the importance the Union attaches to this area and hence enable it to attract more resources. The hard fact is that technical assistance or technical cooperation is the way of the future; for those of us in the Third World, faced with the rapid pace of technological change, who must routinely make difficult choices between acquiring new technologies and providing the basic needs of our people, technical cooperation remains the one hope and the medium through which the transfer of appropriate technical knowledge, skills and technology can occur between the north and the south. There is another reason why the Government of Liberia supports the creation of a Technical Cooperation Division within the Union: with this Division, the ITU could more actively encourage and assist in telecommunications development at the subregional, regional and continental levels. One of the tragic legacies of colonialism has been the physical and psychological barriers erected to keep the Third World, and particularly developing countries in Africa, divided by the establishment of communication links that ignore ethnic, social and national identities. One of the challenges facing the ITU, in the view of my Government, is to help Africa dismantle all such communication systems, and thus remove the potentials for subregional and regional conflicts.

We are assembled in Nice at a particularly unique time in the history of France. This year, the hardworking and courageous people of France will celebrate the bicentennial of their Revolution. This ITU Plenipotentiary must take note of the gains of the great French Revolution. More importantly, our Conference must not fail to be influenced by the impact of the French Revolution and take decisions that will forever transform the character and the content of the Union. The Liberian Delegation therefore challenges the ITU to go forth from Nice committed to solve the problem of interconnectivity and standardization of telecommunication technologies and equipment which continues to hamper a number of important telecommunication projects, including of course the Pan African telecommunications link project. The Liberian Delegation challenges the ITU to go forth from Nice, deepened in its resolve to assist Third World countries, particularly those in Africa, in the formulation of national telecommunications policies that genuinely reflect their socio-political, economic and cultural experiences. The Liberian Delegation challenges the ITU to go forth from Nice to become a catalyst in the transfer of appropriate technical and managerial skills for telecommunications development in the Third World.

The Government of Liberia wishes to register its appreciation for the tremendous benefits it has received and continues to receive from the International Telecommunication Union in the areas of training and consultancy. Thanks also to Mr. Richard E. Butler, the ITU is assisting my Government in the formulation of our national telecommunications development plan, which will be the first comprehensive telecommunications plan in the history of Liberia. In my travels around the world, I have often encountered three categories of people: those people who had never heard of Liberia nor ever met Liberians; those people who had heard of Liberia, but had never met Liberians; and those people who had heard of Liberia and had met Liberians. Therefore, for the benefit of all of us, a very brief statement of Liberia and the strides our Government has made in telecommunications development seems in order. Liberia is a small country in West Africa with an area of about 43,000 square miles, it is bordered by the Republics of Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Côte d'Ivoire in the west, north, and east, respectively. The country was carved out of a special partnership between returned freed slaves from North America and indigenous people who inhabited the West African coast. Until 12 April 1980, the country was effectively ruled by the settler minority from North America who institutionalized a western-style democracy. However, on 12 April 1980, 17 young non-commissioned officers of the armed forces of Liberia staged a revolution that led to the overthrow of the minority settler Government. Since 1980, the Government of the President, His Excellency Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe, has consistently pledged and demonstrated its support of the ITU and the Union's various programmes as well as the development, expansion, and improvement of our national telecommunication infrastructures, facilities, and services. In 1986, for instance, our Government embarked on the construction of a standard "A" satellite earth station and a new international digital switching centre, at a cost of approximately 19 million dollars. Both the station and centre were commissioned recently by the President of Liberia. We have also undertaken the rehabilitation of our coastal telecommunications link which, when completed, will provide microwave links to the rest of the country. In spite of this progress, our Government is far from being satisfied. In fact, the President in 1988 declared telecommunications as a priority area of his Government's national development programme and has repeatedly reaffirmed his personal commitment to ensure that the ITU requirement that one telephone set be made available to every 100 inhabitants by the year 2000 is met in Liberia.

As I speak to you today, the Liberian Delegation, indeed all of Liberia, is saddened by the news that Mr. Richard E. Butler, eminent scholar, humanist, world citizen, erudite statesman, excellent organizer, administrator and civil servant, who

for nearly seven years has steered the affairs of this Union to a place of global acclaim and envy as its Secretary-General, is retiring. We are further informed that Mr. Butler has said that his decision is unequivocal. The Government of Liberia therefore wishes to express its profound thanks and appreciation to Mr. Richard E. Butler for the many important and lasting contributions he has made to the International Telecommunication Union, both as its Deputy Secretary-General and now Secretary-General, and in particular for the special place he accorded Africa throughout his tenure. As we bid you goodbye, Mr. Butler, my President, Dr. Samuel Kanyon Doe, would have me convey to you his sentiments of esteem and regard and his best wishes. I should further like to inform you that the Government and people of Liberia will always reserve a place of honour for you in their hearts, and that you are welcome to visit us any time you desire. We in Liberia entertain the hope that the new Secretary-General, when elected, will press forward with the Butler policy which has encouraged active participation of Third World countries in the activities of the International Telecommunication Union and accorded priority to our RASCOM and PANAFTEL projects.

We meet here in Nice at a very difficult time. The tasks confronting this assembly are no less difficult. From the election of the Secretary-General and Members of the Administrative Council; the election of the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the CCIR and CCITT, the members of the IFRB; the restructuring of the ITU to include the draft Convention and draft Constitution; the development of new programmes and policies that will take the Union into the twenty-first century; to important issues relating to technology transfer, national sovereignty and technical cooperation, each of our delegations in this hall will be challenged to summon the courage to make tough choices and hard decisions. But, it is in moments as unique as this that man demonstrates his ability and capacity to soar to meet the challenge. Today, it is our challenge to rebuild the Union, to restructure it to meet the exigencies of the coming decade and beyond. In this effort, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, you will find the Delegation of the Republic of Liberia squarely with you and by your side."

1.7 The Deputy Minister for Communications of the Philippines made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, the Philippines Delegation wishes to join previous speakers in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of this important Conference. Under your guidance, we can be assured of success. I would also like to express our gratitude to the Honourable Secretary-General, for his excellent and dedicated stewardship through all these years of the organization. Likewise, our deep gratitude is being extended to the Government of France for hosting this Conference in this beautiful Mediterranean city of Nice.

Our country has been an ardent and active supporter of the ITU for a long time, in spite of our limited resources and heavy load of domestic priorities. At the outset may I state that some real soul-searching may indeed be needed in view of the rapidly changing telecommunications environment in order to find out whether the present structures within the ITU framework, which have helped us achieve our goals in the past will continue to serve us well in attaining our objectives for the future. The peaceful revolution of 1986 has not only served to remind the Philippines of its role as a member of the world's democracies; it has given new life and purpose to economic development and social transformation. In these three short years, many new programmes have sprung up, and many older ones have been revitalized. Telecommunications is no exception, for it is more than just another element of a country's economic infrastructure, it is in fact the infrastructure of infrastructures. All other sectors benefit from improved telecommunications.

The Philippines is currently undergoing a rejuvenation programme in telecommunications. Last year, our President established the National Telecommunications Development Committee in which Government departments and industries can explore the many issues facing us and recommend new policies and programmes. In fact telecommunications was given a presidential mandate of priority for economic recovery and development, and it was within the purview of this critical directive that our Department has undertaken developmental projects of no mean dimension, and has embarked on the very painstaking work of rationalizing a very complex sector of the country. A new policy and regulatory framework will lead in the near future to a rationalization of our strategic planning process. At the same time, specific projects are being carried out to provide services rapidly to rural and remote communities. Our National Telephone Programme which aims to establish nation-wide telephone accessibility has been reviewed and given new impetus by the Department of Transportation and Communications, and plans are underway to privatize it as soon as possible. Likewise, we intend to revitalize our domestic satellite entity and to expand its mandate so that it can take full advantage of new technology and better serve the growing needs of the country in terms of nation-wide broadcasting, data networks and service to the very inadequately served areas of our island archipelago.

In the field of international telecommunications, Philcomsat has recently commissioned its fourth earth station and, because of its strategic location, the Philippines is at the crossroads of a number of new fibre optic submarine cable undertakings, which give us the critical connectivity to the rest of the world. In the long term, we are committed to the Integrated Services Digital Network, being a member of the Asian ISDN Council, and have started to lay the necessary infrastructure for ISDN. Many countries perhaps know by now that the Philippines has been chosen as the host country for a UNDP/ITU sponsored Senior Telecommunications Management Training Programme for the Asia Pacific region, the tenure of which may be five years, possibly a decade, and even more. I should like to stress that endeavours of this nature should be strongly encouraged.

Since 1982, the Philippines has served on the Administrative Council, and together with forty other countries, has helped carry through the spirit and the mandates of the Plenipotentiaries manifested in Nairobi in 1982. Our country has been highly privileged and honoured to have been a part of the many significant developments in world telecommunications, as an active participant in many of the historic decisions of the ITU in the last six years. It is our sincere hope, through the ITU electoral process, to assume the same responsibility and privilege, within the ensuing seven years.

We are but a small Delegation but what we lack in numbers, we make up in enthusiasm. We identify fully with the emerging world-wide trend towards global interconnectivity and interoperability. As can be seen our country is moving forward, and it is on this note of optimism that we join our sister nations at this all-important Conference of what has been very aptly referred to by the Honourable Minister from Kenya, as the large ITU family. There are all the signs for the Conference's veritable success in being able to cope with the extremely significant dynamism of the telecommunications environment and the complexity of its implications. May I at this point thank the excellent Secretariat and staff for the kind attention extended very selflessly. I am grateful for this opportunity to speak before this assembly and am certain that this Conference will be able to resolve effectively, no matter how difficult the process, the many critical issues before it."

1.8 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Portugal, speaking on behalf of the Minister of Public Works and Communications, made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, Secretary-General, Distinguished Delegates, I should like to apologize for the absence of His Excellency, the Minister of Public Works and Telecommunications of Portugal, who was unable to come owing to the death of his father. For this sad reason, I shall speak in his name and in the name of the Portuguese Delegation.

Mr. Chairman, I would first of all like to assure you of the warmest congratulations of the Portuguese Delegation on your election to the chairmanship of this important Conference. We are convinced, Mr. Chairman, that your competence and your qualities will ensure that the work of the Conference will lead to a strengthening of the ITU, which is necessary in the new environment of telecommunications and which should concern the legal bases, the structural principles and the operation of the Union, all factors which are essential for a more effective fulfilment of its important missions. I would like to take this opportunity to greet all the other delegations and to thank France for its hospitality and the facilities provided, which have greatly enhanced the organization of the Conference and are making the stay of all participants in this wonderful city of Nice most enjoyable.

In recent years the world economy has undergone major changes, in which telecommunications have played an increasingly decisive role, with respect either to the homogeneity of the social and economic fabric, or the structuring of development. In this context, we see the following tendencies developing: the growing role of the service sector in the economy, where telecommunications occupy a fundamental place, especially with regard to employment and the creation of wealth, dynamic world growth due to the gradual opening up of markets for products and services, and the importance of information technologies as the basis of integrated development. In this respect, I should like to point out that in Portugal the contribution of telecommunications to the gross domestic product stands at present at around 2 per cent, which is equivalent to the average for all EEC countries, and that, from the year 2000 onwards, the proportion will increase to around 7 per cent, a level which is also expected for the countries of the European Community. The significance of this reference framework will tend to vary according to the degree of development of different economies, but it does represent a world trend. Aware of this reality, Portugal is investing in this sector substantial human, technical and financial resources, thanks to which it has already managed to reduce significantly the gap between itself and the more developed countries. Regarding this tendency, we would like to stress the following aspects: firstly, Portugal is now the country in the Community investing the greatest percentage of its gross fixed capital investments in communications, which has produced a growth rate comparable only to that of France in the 1970s. Secondly, in 1989, the growth of telephone services will be three main lines per 100 inhabitants, while in data switching, expansion is already equal to the average for the EEC. There has been a parallel development, moreover, of advanced services.

Further profound changes have been taking place at the political and organizational levels, among which I might mention, firstly, legislative changes based on the principles of the exclusive operation of basic services, the access to competition of supplementary and added-value services, and the liberalization of terminal equipment. Secondly, regulatory and supervisory functions will be separated from operational and commercial functions and attributed to a new body, the Portuguese Institute of Communications. Thirdly, the separation of postal activities from

telecommunications. Lastly, the private sector's capital investment in telecommunication operators. All these measures are currently under discussion and are to be implemented by 1991. Portugal considers this Conference to be essential for the integrated development of telecommunications world-wide. To that effect, we believe that the ITU's work should be strengthened through the remodelling and modernization of its instruments and mode of operation, without disregarding the promotion of development, the full participation of all its Members and the rationalization of management. The structural function of telecommunications, in our view, justifies strengthening the Union's work as an organization fostering world economic development and social cohesion among all peoples - alongside the other specialized agencies of the United Nations. In this field, it is a question of finding means of action which are realistic and unambiguous. Solutions will not be easy to find, but they should not be delayed. Portugal is prepared to play a more active role in applying appropriate solutions to the activation of cooperation.

With regard to full participation in the operation of the Union, the inadequacy of certain mechanisms of the Convention has to be recognized. There are circumstances, in fact, which prevent the full participation of all countries in the management organs of the Union. The vitality and creativity of an organization require its renewal, with caution, undoubtedly, in order to avoid any sharp breaks which could have negative consequences for management, yet renewal all the same, which would entail a greater commitment by and, subsequently, greater responsibility for all the Member countries. In this connection, Portugal has submitted a proposal concerning the rotation of Members of the Administrative Council, which we would like to see adopted at this Conference.

With regard to the general running of the ITU, Portugal considers that measures should be taken to adapt our organization to the new environment of telecommunications and to rationalize its management. These measures could include: (a) the need to reformulate the Basic Instrument in order to give greater stability to the main core of the provisions; and (b) the need to make the operation of the Union more effective and more expeditious, especially the system for the approval of Recommendations. In this respect, we consider that the Union's regulatory and standardization functions should not be entrusted to other regional organizations. The system should be coordinated by the ITU, which should adapt and become more flexible in line with the evolution and convergence of technologies, ensuring the full development of information systems within the interrelated environment of telecommunications. At the same time, there is a need to rationalize administrative conferences, which should be specialized according to certain priorities. We would also like to set up procedures for rationalizing the Union's expenditure in accordance with profits/results.

In conclusion, I would like to express our highest esteem and all our sympathy to the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, whose efforts in a particularly difficult period for the progress of world telecommunications has contributed greatly to strengthening the role of the ITU. We would also like to extend our best wishes to all participants for the success of the work of this Conference. Thank you."

1.9 The Director-General of the National Office of Posts and Telecommunications of Chad made the following statement:

"Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you on your well-deserved election to the chairmanship of this important Conference, which is the supreme organ of our Union. Through you I should also like to thank the French Government and people for the warm and friendly welcome extended to my Delegation and myself.

Chad, which is one of the forty-two least developed countries in the world, has been disrupted for more than twenty years by a series of unfortunate events, which have not only exacted a high price in terms of both human life and damage to what was already a very limited telecommunication network, but have also prevented us from attending certain international telecommunication meetings, in particular the previous Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union held in Nairobi in 1982. Despite our absence, that Conference showed its concern for my country's situation by adopting Resolution No. 32 entitled "Assistance to the people of Chad". You will find an account of the implementation of that Resolution in the report submitted to you by the Administrative Council. As you will realise, it gives us great pleasure and satisfaction once again to take our place among you here in Nice and, in this short statement, to make our modest contribution to your deliberations.

The International Telecommunication Union is the main international organization responsible for regulating and planning world telecommunications, developing standards for systems equipment and operation, coordinating and disseminating the information required for planning and operating telecommunication services, and promoting the development of world telecommunications.

The telecommunication environment has been subject to very rapid change in recent years. The application of new technologies has led to the creation of new products, new services, new user requirements and new telecommunication suppliers, obliging the developing countries to turn more and more frequently to the International Telecommunication Union for advice and making it necessary to review the organization's role and activities in order to enable it to fulfil its historic mandate, namely, the development of world telecommunications.

A little earlier I alluded to the damage and losses sustained by our telecommunication networks during the events. However, since 7 June 1982, the authorities and officials of the Third Republic under the leadership of the Founder President of the National Union for Independence and the Revolution (UNIR), His Excellency, President Al-Hadj Hussein Habre, aware of the crucial importance of telecommunications for safeguarding peace and promoting social and economic development in all countries, have given a high priority to this sector, with the result that today the network has largely been restored and the country is no longer isolated.

These restoration and rehabilitation operations, which are still under way, have been made possible by both national endeavour and international technical cooperation. That is why at this stage, Mr. Chairman, I should like to emphasize the importance of encouraging and strengthening technical cooperation and assistance activities in order to promote the development of telecommunication networks and services in the developing countries.

Acting on the recommendations of the report of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development and the Arusha Declaration relating to the development of telecommunications in the developing countries, the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union, in Resolution No. 929 adopted at its 40th session (1985), set up the Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) to help the developing countries in the development of their telecommunication networks. The Secretary-General was instructed to make the necessary arrangements for the Centre to become operational as soon as possible.

Has the Centre, which has now existed for four years, become operational? We have seen no sign of this in our Administration. While it is true that the Centre was set up with a view to mobilizing additional resources in order to step up assistance to the developing countries, it is nevertheless clear that its objectives are very similar to those pursued by the Technical Cooperation Department of the General Secretariat of the International Telecommunication Union. As far as the utilization of resources is concerned, therefore, we consider that particular care should be taken to avoid a duplication of work.

We hope that this important Plenipotentiary Conference will take courageous decisions, which will enable the changing telecommunication environment to be brought under control and settle the question of the Centre for Telecommunications Development's future. Faced with these challenges, the ITU will have to make the necessary adjustments to its strategy and adopt the appropriate operational structures."

1.10 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Chile made the following statement:

"Speaking for the first time at this Plenipotentiary Conference, we in the Delegation of Chile wish to greet you cordially, Mr. Chairman, and through you, all the Conference authorities, and to say how eager we are to get down to work and cooperate with them in the delicate and important responsibilities they have undertaken. We should also like to greet in the same way all the delegates here present, with whom, as members of the international telecommunication community, we will work together to achieve positive results over a wide range of matters, with the aim of achieving better and greater efficiency for the Union in its role as the supreme body coordinating international telecommunications. In this context we have to review as a matter of priority the structure of the organization, its competence and the functions of its permanent organs, together with the performance of those organs in the assignments given to them by the Nairobi Conference. Our task is a complex one, but at the same time it is a genuine professional challenge for those of us who have faith in this century-old institution, and we have no doubt that the work we shall be doing and its results will be commensurate with the effort made by our governments to enable such distinguished delegates to attend, and at the same time this collective professional contribution will constitute the best possible demonstration of international cooperation, a subject which the ITU has recommended should be emphasized during this year, especially for the developing countries, of which Chile is one. To take part in ITU activities is important and very necessary, since it means, first of all, helping to draw up the regulations, standards and Recommendations necessary for the planning and development of national telecommunications and, secondly, it means receiving a variety of reports which enable countries to keep abreast of technological progress, which has been particularly striking in this decade. Together with the advantages of participating, it is necessary to bear in mind the fact that it entails a considerable effort. We are therefore obviously anxious that the Union should give us support in all those areas where our national capacity is insufficient. We are making this point because we consider it relevant for a better understanding of the content of the contributions that developing countries have submitted to this Conference.

We consider that all the subjects to be dealt with at this Conference are important. Nevertheless, we wish to draw the attention of the distinguished delegates to some which seem to us likely to have a major influence on the success of the activities programmed in the period up to the next Plenipotentiary Conference, such as, for example, the purposes of the Union, that is, the definition of its areas of

activity, which will enable us to concern ourselves in a more flexible way with the whole range of subjects deriving from these areas of activity, which must obviously be consistent with the objective set. The Union's present Convention is appropriate for the needs of international cooperation and technical assistance in the structuring of international telecommunications. Nevertheless, we should reflect on what some experts have called the changing telecommunication environment, so as to determine whether or not it is necessary to extend the Union's purposes into areas of activity which will give rise to recommendations for better understanding of the impact of telecommunications on development processes or to cooperate with countries in formulating their telecommunication development policies. If in the matter of the structure of the Union and its permanent organs we seek greater efficiency at lower cost, we must bear in mind that structural changes give rise to intermediate periods of disorganization and increased costs - the more so the more radical they are. Accordingly, we consider that while giving thought to structural changes we should also exhaust the opportunities for securing better coordination within the present system and improving its methods of work. Genuine application of the principle of universality established in Article 1 of the Convention, which declares it desirable that all countries should participate in the Union's activities, leads us to reflect on the need to establish procedures which, without infringing the rights of Members as established in Article 2 of the Convention, will make possible adequate rotation both of elected officials and of Members of the Administrative Council. In line with this way of thinking, we have submitted a contribution relating to the Administrative Council, namely, Document 19, which we hope will provide a basis for discussion of the subject.

We should also like to draw attention to the implications of a correct evaluation of international cooperation. We believe that all Members of the Union require international cooperation in order to achieve their development goals in making telecommunications available to users. Consequently, we must not think that this international cooperation effort flows just from our organization to its Members; it must also flow from its Members back to the organization, an effort in which everyone contributes what he can, including of course the professional skills of our specialists in obtaining better results in the international events that are programmed.

With regard to the separation of the present Convention into two basic instruments, we are in favour of the Conference approving this proposal, but we believe the decision will serve its purpose insofar as due account is taken of resolves 1 of Nairobi Resolution No. 62, i.e. the Constitution should basically cover matters that are likely to remain permanent, such as the Union's principles, areas of competence and general structure, leaving to the Convention all those provisions that may be modified in accordance with the development of telecommunications brought about by new technology or the development requirements of the world community. We shall be paying close attention to the work of Committee 9 with a view to making a contribution to that end.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, in addition to informing this distinguished audience of our thinking on some matters that will be discussed, we should also like you to remember that our Delegation represents a Government and a national administration which have great faith in the Union's work and attach great importance to its Members' cooperation in its activities. Hence its interest in contributing the skills of our specialists to help the Administrative Council discharge its lofty responsibilities. We have never had the honour of serving as a Member of the Council although we believe we have the professional qualifications for doing so.

Finally, we should like to express our recognition and gratitude for the work done by Mr. Richard E. Butler as Secretary-General of the ITU, and also by the Deputy Secretary-General, the Directors of the Consultative Committees, the Members of the IFRB and the distinguished delegates of the countries which make up the Administrative Council. We believe that despite all the modifications it may be necessary to approve at this Conference, they have been able to raise the Union to a level of efficiency making it an international organization that is respected and appreciated in the United Nations system.

Before ending this first statement by the Delegation of Chile, in addition to expressing our assurance that the Conference will be a success, we should like to convey similar gratitude and recognition to the Administration of France for its excellent contribution to the organization of this event and through it to the whole French community for the cordial welcome we have received here in the beautiful city of Nice."

1.11 The Head of the Delegation of the Netherlands made the following statement:

"Like all other speakers before me I want to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this meeting of Plenipotentiaries of the International Telecommunication Union. But at the same time I should like to wish you strength and wisdom in accomplishing the enormous task you face.

Mr. Chairman, the ITU is fulfilling its task towards the international telecommunications society in a rapidly changing environment not only technological but also political.

As far as the changing political environment is concerned I can inform you that in our country the legal and political post and telecommunication environment has been drastically changed. As from 1 January this year, new legislation has come into force. Under this legislation, the Netherlands PTT Organization, previously part of the Ministry of Transport and Public Works, has been transformed into a private enterprise. Simultaneously, a new service was formed inside the Ministry of Transport and Public Works which is responsible for the formulation of the Government's policy in the field of post and telecommunications for the questions connected with frequency management and for the formulation of national standards for type approval.

As a consequence the monopolistic market situation with which the PTT had carried out its task until the beginning of this year was changed; changed into an environment where, in principle, a climate of competition prevails.

This means that telecommunication services with the exception of public telephone, telex, telegraph and basic data transport services which are considered in our country as having a social significance, a public interest, are open for competition for the supply of value-added services in our country, no licences of any kind. The market for equipment to be connected to the network has been equally liberated under the condition that it has been type-approved on the basis of conditions formulated by the Government.

Why have those changes been introduced? It is the conviction of the Netherlands Government that an economic environment which is characterized by competition offers the best opportunities for our national telecommunication enterprises and not least our national PTT Organization to develop the technological possibilities available today. To develop them in the interest of the consumers of telecommunication services and also in the interest of our country, as a whole, which has a long-standing tradition in the services industries in Europe and in the world.

Mr. Chairman, our belief in an economic environment which is characterized by competition does not stop at the boundaries of our small country. We are convinced that the world telecommunication society should not be dominated by a mass of rules and regulations. We think that there too, an organized liberalism enables the development of telecommunication services in the interest of both developing and developed countries. And in that respect I fully agree with the words of the Secretary-General when he stated that the results of the WATTC Conference in Melbourne last year were an elegant combination of the wish to organize the telecommunication policies of nations on the basis of national sovereignty and the necessity of global telecommunications arrangements.

Mr. Chairman, many, if not all, of the questions related to the ITU today and its development have to do with money, I am afraid to say. Important tasks lie ahead of the Union. The financial resources of the Union and its Members are limited, as are the possibilities of the Member countries, the majority of which is gradually recovering from the worst economic crisis in 50 years.

This implies that choices have to be made. We can do A and then as a consequence we cannot do B at the same time. In this respect the Netherlands chooses for the substance in the Union. The main tasks of the organization are standardization matters, frequency management and technical cooperation. In this perspective of formulating priorities, my Delegation cannot agree with the proposals which have, as a consequence, that the administrative secretariat and organizational costs will increase. On the contrary, Mr. Chairman, we believe that in principle the ITU is an organization, like there are many more and in any organization with long-standing procedures, specific habits in dealing with problems are possibilities for streamlining and economizing.

These possibilities should be properly investigated. Optimal cooperation and coordination between the main bodies of the Union must be possible and are in any case a necessity. Reflection on the number of meetings, their character and preparation could be, in our mind, very rewarding. Mr. Chairman, with this process of streamlining and efficiency improvement it must be possible to increase the functions available for the main tasks of the Union.

First the standardization where the process of formulation and acceptance of global standards has to be speeded up if the ITU wants to maintain its position as the only international organization providing for world scale standardization in this field. Secondly, to meet the requirements of the developing countries, they should be given due consideration and approached with a positive spirit not only within the ITU but in all appropriate multilateral and bilateral relationships.

Now as to whether the necessary streamlining and economizing process requires a complete restructuring of the organization - we have serious doubts. During its long history the ITU and its constituting bodies: the IFRB, the CCIR and the CCITT have always been able to adapt themselves to the changing environment and the specific provisions it required. The arguments for complete restructuring have not convinced us yet. On the contrary, we should like to tackle the problem from the other side - What are our priorities? - What funds are available? - What possibilities for streamlining, procedural and efficiency improvement are able under the actual organization?

If this type of discussion proves that important terms can be made available by restructuring we are open to discuss this restructuring, but along the lines as described and not the other way around.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, my Delegation will support the adoption during this meeting of a new basic instrument. We think that a change of the actual Convention into a Constitution and a Convention is wise and that it will help the organization to adapt itself to the requirements of the rapidly changing telecommunication environment.

To conclude my contribution under this agenda item I would like to thank, on behalf of the Netherlands Government and the new Netherlands PTT Organization, Mr. Butler, as Secretary-General for his efforts and more than outstanding contributions to the work of the ITU and the telecommunication community in general, and we wish him many happy years together with his family in his retirement. Thank you very much."

1.12 The Director-General, Iraqi Posts and Telecommunications made the following statement:

"IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE MERCIFUL, THE COMPASSIONATE

Allow me first of all to congratulate Mr. Grenier most sincerely on his election as Chairman of the Conference. I should also like to congratulate the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees on their election, and wish them every success in accomplishing the tasks entrusted to them, in order to steer the Conference to a successful outcome.

In the seven years which have elapsed since the Nairobi Conference in 1982, the Union has been extremely active in many areas. In particular, a whole series of world administrative conferences have been held, the most recent of them being the WATTC Conference. Iraq has participated in the Union's various activities during that period, and in particular the different administrative conferences. It has always endeavoured to make an effective and constructive contribution to the success of the conferences.

We today have the opportunity to express our thanks and appreciation for the efforts deployed by the Union, guided by the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, and by the Directors of the International Consultative Committees and the Chairman of the IFRB.

The importance of the Union is growing daily, particularly on account of the rapid development of technologies in the various fields of telecommunications, changes in the telecommunication administrations' infrastructures and the emergence of new regional standardization organizations, obliging the Union to step up its efforts still further in order to meet the challenges placed before it and maintain its pre-eminent position.

We believe that the Union, with its present structure, has served the international community admirably in the field of telecommunications. However, we also feel that the time has come to make some changes to the ITU's structure and working methods, which need to be improved and made more flexible in order to cope with the ever faster pace of technological progress in telecommunications. Merging the CCIR and CCITT to form a single body, at least at the senior level, constitutes one of the possible solutions to achieve that aim.

Extended use of computers in the work of the IFRB and the possibility of direct connections with administrations' terminals will reduce the volume of documentation to be processed, whilst at the same time strengthening the IFRB's capacity and giving it faster access to available data.

We do not adhere to the proposals for radical changes in the IFRB's structures, and are in favour of maintaining its independent character, in view of the important role it plays and its influence on the use of the frequency spectrum, which require that its decisions continue to be taken on the basis of unanimity.

Mr. Chairman, as you know, and as many of the speakers who have taken the floor before me have highlighted, every day sees a widening of the gap between the developing countries and the industrialized countries in all spheres of telecommunications.

In our opinion, this calls for an additional assistance effort on the part of the Union in order to close the gap. In general terms, we approve the thrust of the Report "The Missing Link" in this regard, and consider that it is necessary to strengthen the programme of international technical cooperation for the developing countries and peoples struggling for freedom and independence, including the Palestinian people, so that they may improve their communications and make their voice heard throughout the world. In this connection, I take the opportunity to applaud the uprising of the Palestinian people who are struggling to exercise their right to self-determination, and I greet the creation of the State of Palestine, which we hope will play a full role in our Union.

In concluding, I should like to extend my thanks to the French Government for hosting the Conference in Nice, which is a beautiful city, and to wish the Conference every success in its work.

Thank you for your attention.

May the peace, mercy and grace of God be with you."

1.13 The Head of the Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, I would like to express my deep gratitude to the Government of the Republic of France for hosting this Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union and for extending its kind invitation to our Administration.

I also congratulate Mr. Grenier on his election as Chairman of this august Conference.

I think it very significant that this Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union be held in France where its founding Conference was held in 1865.

It is my view that the Union has worked greatly to fulfil the purposes specified in the International Telecommunication Convention adopted at the last Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi.

For the first time in the history of the ITU, it has stipulated it as its main purpose to extend technical cooperation to developing countries and it has consequently organized many projects for the realization of this goal. The ITU has thus made a big step forward towards the establishment of a world-wide integrated telecommunications network.

In particular, the ITU has made enormous endeavours to carry out the decisions adopted at the Conference held in Arusha, Tanzania in 1985, and has attained great success by actively conducting various kinds of technical cooperation activities for the African countries and other developing countries.

At the same time, it has made great progress in expanding and strengthening telecommunication networks of all Member countries of the Union. It has provided its Member countries with the tools necessary for the introduction and operation of these networks by organizing many world and regional conferences and seminars (such as the HFBC Conferences and the ORB Conferences - organized at the request of developing countries for planning high-frequency bands for broadcasting) and equitably utilizing the geostationary orbit in a planned way.

Such measures have been achieved entirely thanks to the full enhancement of the spirit of close international cooperation among Mr. Butler, the Secretary-General, and the Member countries.

In the past, our country has closely cooperated with the Union in expanding and strengthening telecommunication networks and broadcasting of the country into a higher stage.

Under the very difficult condition under which all communication equipment and facilities were utterly destroyed during the Korean War, and the country's territory covers a great part of mountainous area, we have achieved great successes in the modernization of our telecommunication and broadcasting including the televisization of the whole country and meeting the increasing economic and population requirements for telecommunication under the wise leadership of the great leader, Comrade Kim Il Sung and the dear leader, Comrade Kim Jong Il.

In particular, on the occasion of the 13th World Youth and Students' Festival to be held for the first time in Asia in Pyongyang, the Capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from 1 July to 8 July this year, our people have conducted their powerful activities to expand the capacity of telecommunication for various functions of the Festival, of international network and the transmission of the TV programme and other broadcasting programmes.

Thus, we are able to successfully provide communication and transmission of broadcasting related to the Festival.

By so doing, the 13th World Youth and Students' Festival, with participants of youth delegates and many prominent figures as guests from all regions of the world, will make a great contribution to ensuring world peace and strengthening friendship and solidarity among the world's peoples, also to further increasing international relations in many fields of social life including informatics media.

While making every effort to bring our telecommunications into the more up-to-date stage by ourselves, we will actively encourage international cooperation with the ITU and Member countries, thus adapting our telecommunications to the ever changing telecommunication environment of the world.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, as shown in the past, we hope that this Conference will once again witness good cooperation spirit, one of the ITU's traditions, and all of the Union's future work will most effectively contribute to the rapid development of the telecommunications of the developing countries and all other countries with full consideration of the proposals made by administrations concerned with restructuring the Union and reviewing the Union's Basic Instrument.

In conclusion, I would like to express my conviction that all mankind the world over will have a free and easy access to telecommunications by early in the next century, as discussed and decided in the Arusha Conference by successfully finalizing this Conference with an increasing spirit of cooperation among all Members."

1.14 The Head of the Delegation of New Zealand made the following statement:

"First, on behalf of the New Zealand Delegation, I too, Sir, should like to sincerely congratulate you on your election and also to thank the Government of France for its generosity in hosting this Plenipotentiary Conference.

The International Telecommunications environment presents a real challenge both to national policy makers and also to delegations here charged with reviewing the international framework for cooperation and regulation. As previous distinguished speakers have pointed out, telecommunications technology and services are characterized by rapid change, the emergence of new services and service providers, as well as the convergence of telecommunications and other services such as broadcasting; national responses to these factors have led to an increasing diversity in domestic regulatory regimes yet there also remains a pressing need for the extension of the most basic telecommunication services within many countries.

The state of telecommunications within New Zealand and the South Pacific area reflects many of the same changes and needs arising at the global level.

New Zealand itself has been fortunate in having built up a strong basic infrastructure for telecommunications and has been able over the last two years to embark on comprehensive liberalization of markets for telecommunications equipment and services. This programme culminated on 1 April this year with the deregulation of network services (including public switched telephone services) subject only to certain constraints on the provision of international toll services. This followed already the separation of commercial activities from policy and the residual regulatory activities. Under a further new law, entry restrictions on the adjacent market of broadcasting services are being largely removed, with effect from 1 July this year.

Liberalization of telecommunications and broadcasting markets puts pressure on conventional approaches to radio frequency spectrum allocation and management. Accordingly, the New Zealand Minister of Commerce has announced that new radiocommunications legislation will also be introduced into the New Zealand Parliament shortly in order to provide for a new regime for the efficient allocation of spectrum.

In making these changes, the New Zealand Government recognizes, and indeed relies upon, the existence of formal and effective international frameworks provided by the ITU. Express provision is being made within New Zealand legislation and its administrative policies for New Zealand to continue to give full effect to its international regulatory obligations.

New Zealand is a comparatively developed country. However, many of our immediate neighbours in the South Pacific area face the same sort of development needs in telecommunications which the Plenipotentiary Conference will be addressing over the next few weeks. We therefore have direct experience of these problems within our own subregion, but we also have experience of practical solutions. In this regard, New Zealand cooperates closely with its Pacific neighbours and with regional ITU representatives to develop solutions which are both cost effective and responsive to the individual country's telecommunications needs.

The issues facing the ITU at this Conference are, of course, far more complex than those facing any single Member country. The Basic Instrument of the Union, which will emerge from this Conference will need to embody not only the future direction and purposes of the Union, but also ensure the effective organizational structures and procedures are in place to carry these out.

At the same time, the new Constitution and Convention will need sufficient breadth and flexibility to accommodate the diversity of Members' national sovereign telecommunications policies and aspirations.

Finally, it will need to focus the Union's activities in such a way as to achieve the best results for Members within the limited resources; with increasing demands on those resources in the Union to undertake a growing range of tasks, this Conference will need to look critically at priorities for the future. As far as New Zealand is concerned, New Zealand considers that the ITU must continue to build on its basic essential role, that is of providing the international regulatory, technical and operational guidelines which enable the global network to function for the benefit of all countries.

New Zealand is confident that the ITU is well able to meet these challenges. The experience of WATTC in Melbourne last year demonstrates the ability of the Union and its Members to develop and evolve solutions to problems and to respond to opportunities presented by a changing telecommunications environment. As other speakers have already commented, the international telecommunications regulations which resulted from WATTC represent a balance both between national aspirations and global needs. That same pragmatism and cooperation should assist this Conference in reaching an equally effective outcome.

There is one final element of change facing this Conference, of course, of which we are all conscious and to which previous speakers have referred, namely the fact that the Secretary-General, Mr. Richard Butler, has announced that he will not be standing again for this office. New Zealand would like to join with other delegations in commending very sincerely the great and valued service of Mr. Butler that he has given to the ITU as well as to the global telecommunications community during his term of office."

1.15 The Secretary-General of the Arab Telecommunication Union made the following statement:

"At the beginning please allow me to add my voice to those who preceded me to present my warm congratulations for your election as the Chairman of this Conference. We are confident that this Conference will achieve the expected results because of your experience and wisdom. I would like also to greet the Plenipotentiary Conference and the international delegates participating in it.

I am also honoured to be invited to participate as an observer in the work of this important Conference which we hope will contribute effectively to the development and regulation of telecommunications on the national and international level. There is no doubt that the ITU during its long history has played and is still playing an important role in the regulation of telecommunications with the objective of developing it and achieving peace and international cooperation between nations through regulating, developing telecommunications and drafting appropriate specifications and standards.

We in the ATU, as a regional organization specialized in the field of telecommunications, realize the importance of this stage in the history of the ITU as an international organization concerned with telecommunication affairs and also the importance of this stage in the development and expansion of telecommunications due to the development and diversification in the telecommunication technologies, the services presented, and the means and policies for management and investment in telecommunications, in addition to the enormous expansions in the services and the increasing demands and the growing importance that telecommunications is having.

All this put an extra coordination load on this international organization in addition to the other objective associated with parallel development in various parts of the world. We are therefore hoping very much that your respectful Conference will address all their problems in a manner that serves the interests of the international community and achieves integrated telecommunication development and our aspirations in having the telephone within easy reach of all, and that telecommunications be an effective tool for achieving peace for mankind.

The Arab countries whose activities the ATU is honoured to coordinate, by virtue of their special nature and their special regional situation and the linguistic, cultural, hereditary and historical ties that join them, in addition to being developing countries, have their special requirements and wishes which they hope this international Conference will be able to address and fulfil. One of the important requirements that the Conference should stress in its Resolutions is that the ITU should play a greater role in achieving parallel and just development of telecommunications in various parts of the world, in addition to its present important functions in regulating and laying down specifications and standards and urging administrations to comply with them internationally. We also see that it is time that the Arabic language be adopted as a working language in the ITU to enable 22 ITU Members to maximize their benefits from opportunities that are made available by the ITU and to contribute effectively in its activities through Arab experts in this field.

We must insist here on guaranteeing the rights of the oppressed and nations which are struggling for freedom and independence. We specially mention here the heroic Palestinian people. Your Conference, therefore, has to guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people to freely develop and use their telecommunications in their occupied land, which were cut by the occupier in order to block the news of the uprising of the Palestinian people. The Conference has also to guarantee their rights in the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary orbit. The international community and the ITU should play a greater role towards achieving this until the Palestinian people are able to liberate their homeland.

The Arab Telecommunication Union, while praising the achievements of the ITU in the fields of telecommunication development and regulation of international relations and international cooperation, must also praise the constructive and fruitful cooperation between the ATU and the ITU in implementing a number of joint activities in the Arab region during the last period. We also praise the role played by Mr. R.E. Butler, the ITU Secretary-General and the staff of the General Secretariat for their achievements and cooperation and the constructive joint activities that have been achieved, hoping that the next period will witness similar fruitful cooperation and similar joint activities.

At the end of my speech I can only wish for your respectful Conference every success in achieving its expected noble objectives."

The meeting rose at 1240 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

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PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTH PLENARY MEETING

Friday, 26 May 1989, at 1440 hrs

Chairman: Mr. J. GRENIER (France)

Subjects discussed:

1. General policy statements (continued)
 - 1.1 Statement of behalf of the Minister for Transport and Communications, Ethiopia
 - 1.2 Statement by the Minister for Post and Telecommunication, Cameroon
 - 1.3 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Singapore
 - 1.4 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of the United Kingdom
 - 1.5 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Lebanon
 - 1.6 Statement by the Observer for the Pan-African Telecommunication Union (PATU)
 - 1.7 Statement by the Observer for the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)
 - 1.8 Statement by the Observer for the African Postal and Telecommunications Union (UAPT)
 - 1.9 Statement by the Observer for Palestine
2. Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference (First part - sections 1.1 - 1.3.5; Second part - sections 2.1 - 2.2.3.4; Third part - sections 3.1 - 3.4)

1. General policy statements (continued)

1.1 The delegate of Ethiopia made the following statement on behalf of the Minister for Transport and Communications:

"It is a great pleasure and indeed a unique privilege for me to address this distinguished assembly of eminent telecommunications personalities representing all regions of the world.

Allow me first to convey to the ITU and the distinguished delegates the best wishes of the people and Government of Ethiopia for a successful and fruitful outcome of this Plenipotentiary Conference. I wish also to join all the delegations who spoke before me in expressing my appreciation and gratitude to the people and Government of France for hosting this Plenipotentiary Conference in this beautiful city of Nice and also for the warm welcome and excellent arrangements to make our stay in Nice as memorable and comfortable as possible.

I would like to associate myself with those eminent speakers who have preceded me, to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman on your unanimous election as Chairman of the 1989 Plenipotentiary Conference which surely will draw the strength of its success from your wise and able guidance. We are confident of your success in the challenging task entrusted to you as Chairman of the Conference.

Today there is a greater understanding and appreciation of the crucial role telecommunication plays in the development of the national economy, and the effectiveness that can be attained in administering the political and social needs of the people. No wonder, therefore, that telecommunication is being recognized as a significant sector of the infrastructure and is increasingly gaining the attention of national policy makers. In the developed world the focus is to a greater extent on those new, innovative and value added services dictated by market driven forces. For many developing countries, however, the primary concern is one of achieving a major expansion of the basic traditional services - telephone and telex. Even these basic services which are taken for granted nowadays are provided to few of the main cities only and leave out the rural areas where 85-90% of the population live with virtually no telephone service. If developing countries are to alleviate this deplorable situation they should not be satisfied with a gradual approach for the development of the telecommunication infrastructure, but should strive for attaining a short-cut for rapid progress.

If I could for a moment relate briefly the situation in my own country, the need of formulating a short-cut and taking decisive measures for the development of telecommunication infrastructure would be apparent. My Government has taken several economic, social and political measures which have created very favourable conditions for the development and expansion of communication facilities. The first, and the most fundamental action is the successful organization of the people including the establishment of mass organizations, implementation of villagization programmes and launching of the literacy campaign. In a short period of time, it was possible to organize over 20,000 peasant associations to establish 15,000 villages and to reduce the illiteracy rate from 97% to 37%. The impact of these measures on the investment for telecommunications for a scattered population is not very difficult to imagine.

In telecommunications the Ethiopian Telecommunications Authority has within a very short period expanded its national network bringing in modern telecommunications systems to the majority of the main urban centres. The Authority has adopted digital technology in its network. The other side of the coin of these endeavours is that there has not been any significant growth in the penetration of telephone services - it is only 0.3 per 100. Important administrative towns, 110 in all, have either poor services

or no connection to the national network. The encouraging result achieved on the reduction of the illiteracy in our society, the villagization and cooperative association, has however called for extra and added efforts on the development of our network. These are some of the reasons why I said that short-cut methods have to be devised, to meet, without taking much time, these challenges for an expanded and effective telephone and telex service.

In order to respond to many of the demands outlined above, the 7th Five-Year Development Programme has now been prepared and consultation is now under way with financial institutions and donor countries to secure the capital required. The programme includes expansion of basic telephone service networks to the rural areas, to improve urban services and to strengthen international and regional services through effective participation in PANAFTEL and RASCOM projects. The necessary priority will also be given to such important areas as improvement of organizations and management, strengthening of training, expansion of maintenance capabilities and development of high technology industry. By the end of 1993 when this programme is to be completed, the penetration rate to be expected is only 0.4 per 100 and the local telephone services of some eight of the main regional cities will remain on a manual basis, and yet during this period all the 32 regional capitals will be provided with high quality transmission links and the number of main lines to be added in the network would be equivalent to those in service today. There will be 220,000 main lines connected by the end of 1993 and our population will have grown to 53 million.

This scenario, I believe, is not unique to my country alone but portrays many of the situations in a number of developing countries. With such forces at play, the lack of adequate finance and skilled manpower on one hand and the provision of the basic universal service of a telephone just trickling down to the people on the other hand, create great concern regarding the slow progress in the expansion of the telecommunication network to satisfy the real demand.

Mr. Chairman, it is often and sensibly remarked that the world has become a smaller place. Swift means of travel and efficient telecommunications have transformed the old concepts of distance and time. Sometimes we tend to take these things for granted, but for the leaders of nations, great and small or indeed for men in any walk of life, facilities for rapid access or immediate dialogue can be of critical importance. Good communications or the lack of them might mean the difference between making friends or enemies, between winning or losing order, between the success or failure of some great economic enterprise. In this respect, the dramatic strides taken by the computer and telecommunications technologies in recent years and their declining unit cost have already profoundly revolutionized telecommunications in all developed countries. The emergence of advanced digital technologies holds promise of a more efficient flow of communication and information within and between nations. The developing countries need to evolve appropriate strategies in order to benefit from these advances in pursuance of their socio-economic and cultural development needs. However, as you are aware, developing countries are severely constrained by limited financial resources and lack of basic skills. In order to implement an efficient telecommunications programme these countries have had to borrow from abroad and import technology as well. The problem of indebtedness of developing countries which is aggravated by inequitable and unstable commodity prices has been articulated in other fora. But I must emphasize that these are real problems which require more understanding from developed countries and international organizations such as the ITU

In view of this, the sustained assistance of developed countries to developing ones, particularly in the development of skilled manpower, in permitting effective transfer of technology and in allowing adequate flow of resources is only fair and mutually beneficial. In this respect I find it pertinent to quote some lines from the Report of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development:

"An expanded world telecommunications network would bring immense practical benefits not only to the developing world but also to industrialized countries. Decisions by telecommunications operators in developing countries to improve and expand their networks will create a major market for the owners of telecommunications technology and expertise, and the manufacturers of equipment. More comprehensive world systems will mean an increase in international traffic from which all operators will benefit. Where information flows so does commerce. A growth in world trade and other contacts will increase understanding among peoples. Effective and expanded telecommunications within and between countries will make the world a better and safer place."

The ITU in this respect will have to be strengthened to meet its institutional obligation to play a major role in the promotion and development of the telecommunication networks and services. It will have to renovate its working methods and extend its services to support the developing world to acquire the urgently needed trained and skilled manpower that the present change of technology greatly demands. It should formulate strategies which would assist the developing world to mobilize all resources, financial and human, with a view to identifying possible options for accelerating the expansion of the networks and services in the developing world, and the participation of the industrialized world in the design and manufacture of the most appropriate equipment and systems.

With regard to the resources of the Union, we realize that all administrations and especially those of developing countries are obliged to follow strict budgetary limits. Indeed, the Third-World countries, which are facing major debt problems and are perennially short of foreign currency, cannot be expected to contribute substantial funds to the ITU budget despite their keen interest. Nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, we are firm believers of international solidarity and within our possibilities ready to share the burden. We urge that the approach to the budget of the Union should be fixed on the basis of what functions we want it to accomplish. And then we should provide it with the necessary resources.

We should not start out with a pre-fixed budgetary target, as we often heard in the sessions of the Council, and then limit the functions of the Union.

At this juncture, I would like to call your attention again to what we have already noted, that for many developing countries the primary concern is one of achieving a major expansion of the basic traditional services. However, in recent years, the advancement of telecommunications technology into a complex assortment of facilities and service options, is putting pressure on many developing countries not only with regard to visions of the future but also to coping with the present. This situation is also demanding too much from the developing countries in terms of being capable of inter-operating with the developed world.

To be able to cope with the fast and complex changes in telecommunications, developing countries require advice on economic, financial, managerial, regulatory and policy issues of telecommunications. Assistance should be sought from a forum which could harmonize the actions of nations in matters of telecommunications. ITU is the logical forum.

We have to recall that the ITU has as yet not provided a sufficient input from its own resources for the development function. The need of the majority of its Members is so great that adequate budgetary provisions need to be made for technical cooperation and development activities.

In the field of standardization, the world community will be better serviced with one, strong and effective global standard. All the regional standards-making

bodies are best placed to provide the necessary input to perpetuate the motion of the world standards-making process. The developing world, having very little option to create regional standards of their own for the production of equipment as in the other regions of the world, would advocate the strengthening of the ITU in its role as the world standards-making body. This would enhance the initiation of the development of systems which would meet the performance quality in the prevailing environment, and the type and volume of services in the rural areas of the developing world.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, the achievement of the ITU is attributed to the active support of its 166 Members, its elected officials and the professional staff who have totally committed themselves to the work of the Union. The ITU has, therefore, been able to maintain its primacy in the standard-setting and regulatory functions. Interconnectivity and interoperability of the world network has been greatly facilitated. In this changing environment of technologies, the ITU should continue to establish new approaches and strategies to maintain its leadership in these very functions which are of great importance to the industrialized and developing world. It will also have to be strengthened to enable it to discharge its duties in the promotion and development of world telecommunication networks and services. Through its active role in this area, the ITU is best placed to play a significant role in creating the basis for mobilizing human and capital resources to accelerate development of telecommunications all over the world.

I cannot close my concluding remarks without paying tribute to the distinguished Secretary-General of the ITU, Mr. Butler, who has navigated the ITU through turbulent times since 1983 as Secretary-General and who, up to this moment, is a voice calling to prepare the ITU for the times to come. We have always been proud of your visions and achievements of the ITU, Mr. Butler."

1.2 The Minister for Post and Telecommunication of Cameroon made the following statement:

"It is affords me genuine pleasure to take part in this Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union, held for the second time in France, in a year when this great and beautiful country is celebrating the bicentenary of its Revolution.

The French Revolution embodies noble ideals which run parallel with those upheld by the International Telecommunication Union, namely, the promotion of the well-being of peoples.

I should like, Mr. Chairman, to offer my congratulations on your election to the chairmanship of our Conference. Your vast experience, coupled with your conscientiousness, affability and skill, are clearly a guarantee of the success of the work of this Conference.

My congratulations likewise go to the highly distinguished Vice-Chairmen of the Conference, to the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees and Working Groups, which will have the difficult and delicate task of preparing the ground for the important decisions which the Conference will be called upon to adopt.

I should also like, Mr. Chairman, to express the delight felt both by myself and by the delegation accompanying me at being here in Nice, capital city of one of the most beautiful coastlines in the world. The warmth of welcome and the high level of organization are certain to produce a beneficial effect on the progress of these deliberations.

This is why I should like to ask you, Mr. Chairman, to convey to Mr. François Mitterrand, President of the French Republic, and to the French Government and people the friendly and cordial greetings of Mr. Paul Biya, President of the Republic of Cameroon, Head of Government, and those of the Cameroonian people as a whole, together with the deep-felt gratitude and sincere thanks of the Cameroonian Delegation for the welcome we have received here.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Plenipotentiary Conference of Nice is taking place at a particularly important juncture in the evolution of international telecommunications, marked essentially by a number of outstanding features, to two of which I would draw your attention.

The first concerns the emergence of new services and the imminent advent of the network of the twenty-first century, commonly known as the integrated services digital network. These two elements will, on the one hand, alter the habits and socio-economic behaviour of peoples and, on the other hand, entail innovations with regard to standards both for equipment manufacture and for network operation.

The second predominant feature of this evolution is without any doubt the deregulation of telecommunication network management introduced by several developed countries in particular. While it means progress for some, it should nevertheless be prevented from frustrating the development efforts being made in our younger States. Attention should likewise be drawn here to the recognized sovereign right of each country to regulate its telecommunications, as enshrined in the preamble of our basic text - the Convention.

I would also point out that, despite the enormous sacrifices made by the developing countries in order to modernize their telecommunication networks, in this period of economic crisis, which hits those countries particularly hard, the gap between the developed and the developing countries in the field of telecommunications infrastructures is steadily widening.

In this connection, the Nice Conference should serve as a supreme forum for discussion and, why not, decision, concerning one of the basic objectives of the Union, namely, "to promote the development of telecommunications in the developing countries by every means at its disposal".

Since the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi, 1982, the Cameroon telecommunications network has undergone considerable changes: the overall strategy of the network development has been mapped out up to the year 2010. As part of this strategy, the existing telephone exchanges and networks have undergone, or will undergo by 1991, extension to maximum capacity, with the exception of those in the main towns, Douala and Yaoundé, which will be replaced in 1990-1991 by high-capacity digital exchanges. At the conclusion of all these operations, the stock of telephone lines will have been raised to 140,000 lines, against 35,000 lines in 1982.

So far as international telecommunication facilities are concerned, at the beginning of 1987 Cameroon installed a new complex comprising a standard A earth station, a new telex centre and a new international digital telephone transit exchange. This plant, installed in Douala, supplements the range of our facilities for communication with the outside world.

Furthermore, the commissioning of the national television network has made it possible to renovate completely and extend the radio-relay transmission network from 4,000 km to 4,950 km.

Internationally, Cameroon has pursued its previous policy of taking an active part in all conferences and meetings of the Union to the extent allowed by its modest resources. The ITU can and must arouse in its richer Members the will to provide greater assistance in order to enable its less privileged Members to develop their national networks further. The above-mentioned gap between the telecommunication infrastructures of developed and developing countries could thus be narrowed, making for a better harmonization of the world network.

Aware of the Union's importance as a medium of international cooperation, Cameroon is ready to assume its share of responsibility in putting into effect the recommendations of the Maitland Commission, which I should like once more to congratulate on the quality of its work.

Among the host of problems confronting this Conference, I should like here to emphasize one which, for some time to come, will remain a major concern of most Member countries, and particularly those of the Third World. I am referring here to technical cooperation. For us, this represents the best means of transferring know-how and technology.

In the past, the Union has provided appreciable assistance to our countries in all areas to promote and develop our telecommunication networks.

As the representative of a developing country which has benefited from such assistance, I am glad to pay a well-deserved tribute to the Union, to all its permanent organs and to all those who, through their contribution to the budget, have succeeded in creating, maintaining and rendering effective this mutually beneficial cooperation in an exceptionally difficult international economic situation.

Despite these praiseworthy efforts, the resources assigned to aid still fall short of the real needs. I should therefore be glad, Mr. Chairman, if you would bear with me while I quote some statistics. For example, for annual requirements in excess of 25 million Swiss francs, the Union allocated to technical cooperation and assistance an expenditure of about 5.8 million Swiss francs in 1988 (i.e. just over 5% of its budget), 6.5 million Swiss francs in 1989 (or 6% of the budget), and it plans an expenditure of 6.8 million Swiss francs in 1990 (or 6% of the budget). Furthermore, these very modest sums are spread very thinly over a number of the ITU's sectors of activity, which helps to complicate the implementation of projects which are already inadequate. Since the actual contribution of the developing countries to the ITU's operating budget, need I remind you, currently represents more than 20% of the total, it would appear right and proper for a special effort to be made to reconsider and adjust assistance resources and procedures significantly adapting them to the new world emerging on the eve of the twenty-first century. A rate of 20% would seem a reasonable and acceptable figure to start with.

My Delegation remains convinced that suitable solutions are available to deal with the problems which are arising today, if the haves genuinely desire to cooperate with the have-nots. We are firmly convinced this is the only path to salvation for all and that everybody will gain, developed and developing countries alike. It is therefore up to this Conference to find the ways and means of attaining this praiseworthy objective.

Now, Mr. Chairman, allow me, through you, to pay Mr. Richard Butler the tribute which is due him for the many services which, through the Union, he has rendered the international telecommunication community in general and to the developing countries in particular. We wish to tell him that we shall remember him as a man with a lofty view of the tasks assigned to the Union, as a tireless and eager professional who has

succeeded in communicating his faith to all circles he has moved in, as an exemplary manager and, finally, as the man whose sheer hard work has persuasively conveyed the message that international cooperation is above all a matter of men and peoples.

We therefore wish to say a simple and sincere "thank you" for all his work in the service of the development of telecommunications.

A new team will be called upon to carry on this formidable undertaking. There is no doubt that, with its expected vigour, its confirmed experience, its firm determination to succeed and with the assured support of all Member States, its task will be considerably lightened and its success certain. To this future team we wish both courage and resolution, and we promise our full collaboration and our total readiness to help. I should like to say a word more to this team.

It was the International Telecommunication Union that taught developing countries to take their first steps. They well know what benefits they derive from the Union for the welfare of their peoples. They are perfectly aware of the difficult environment the Union finds itself in and the varied competition it will have to meet in achieving its objectives. Our countries appreciate at its true worth the irreplaceable contribution of the Union as the organization standardizing telecommunication equipment. In our view, this role should be strengthened in the interest of all.

We therefore affirm, loud and strong, the deep conviction of the developing countries of the imperative need to assign to the ITU a pre-eminent role as the official source or guardian of the telecommunication equipment standardization.

We are aware of the fact that, in less than 10 years, enormous strides have been made in technology and that, to keep pace with it, the eventual restructuring of our Union should definitely be contemplated. However, structural reforms will yield no returns in our case unless they are designed to stimulate technical cooperation further and to promote the orderly interworking of the global system, that is, as I have just stated, unless the special role and place of the international organization in standardization is preserved.

Assuredly, even the partial achievement of these aims would permit the interconnection and interworking of networks and hence the transformation of the world into a "great village" in which mankind will have complete freedom of movement (without, thanks to telecommunications, having to move!), share in everything and feel united. For we all belong to the same world.

Finally, I express my most heartfelt wish for the full success of the work of this Plenipotentiary Conference, Nice, 1989. I thank you."

1.3 The Head of the Delegation of Singapore made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Singapore Government and my Delegation, I congratulate you on your election as Chairman of this Conference. May I also take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the Government of France for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to us, and the excellent facilities provided for this Conference.

We in Singapore are fully aware of the strategic importance of telecommunication to a country's progress and development. We are steadily moving towards the Information Age. Our country is intensifying its efforts in promoting the use of computers and telecommunication technologies. Our policy of investment in telecommunication is intended to provide the infrastructure necessary to support business and to enhance the quality of life of the people. We aim at providing excellent telecommunication services

by international standards at the lowest possible costs. This will benefit all users, particularly those having to communicate a great deal with their overseas counterparts or business associates.

With our accumulation of experience in telecommunication, we are now in a position to share our limited resources in the international market. We have also played a modest role in the contribution in kind to CTD and the provision of training in response to requests received from international and regional organizations.

It is my pleasure to report here on our initiative in response to Opinion No. 3 of the last Plenipotentiary Conference in 1982. We have since contributed by hosting two regional TELECOM exhibitions and forums, namely, Asia TELECOM 85 and Asia TELECOM 89. Both events were well attended and widely participated in by Member countries. From feedback that we received, the telecommunication infrastructure was able to support the objective in demonstrating the benefits of applying telecommunication services and technology. As part of our contribution to the objectives set out in Opinion No. 3, we are committed in our effort to organizing similar exhibitions in the future.

The acceleration of technology and the merging of telecommunication and computers pose a great challenge to the Union. We do not believe that this will cause a major change to the three principal functions of the ITU in standardization, regulation and development of telecommunication. Nevertheless, a reassessment of the priority of the three principal functions will be necessary to meet the changing needs. The organization structure and the working methods should be reviewed and streamlined to meet the new challenges ahead and at the same time to be cost-effective in terms of ITU's resources. Part of the organization review should consider how the permanent organs and the key officials should be held accountable for the performance of their functions. Performance can be measured in terms of relevant factors and reviewed periodically. To keep pace with the rapid technological advancement, the process of standardization and regulation should be undertaken at a faster pace. On the question of the desirability of a more permanent instrument, I believe that it would be counterproductive to subject the entire instrument for revision at each Plenipotentiary Conference. The work of the Conference should be more efficiently organized for the benefit of all parties. This would allow more time for the Conference to deal with the important policy issues and options.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the deliberation and decisions of this Conference as the supreme organ of the ITU will have a far-reaching effect on the future of the Union. It is the spirit of international cooperation and mutual understanding that drives the Members to achieve their common goals. It has also given the ITU the strength to make it effective. I feel certain that we will all contribute to the best of our ability to secure a fruitful Conference. I am confident that under your able guidance, this Conference will succeed in carrying out the tasks assigned to us. May I also take this opportunity to express our appreciation to Mr. R.E. Butler, the Secretary-General, for his contribution and wish him many years of happy and well-earned retirement.

Thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kind attention."

1.4 The Head of the Delegation of the United Kingdom made the following statement:

"It gives me great pleasure to address this session of the Conference on behalf of the United Kingdom Delegation. This Delegation includes representatives of Government, of the operating companies, British Telecom, Mercury and Cable & Wireless, and of telecommunication users. The breadth of this Delegation reflects the importance we attach to the Conference and to the work of the Union. The Union plays a crucial role in the development of telecommunications and there can be few matters more

important to the welfare and prosperity of Union Members. The United Kingdom strongly endorses the basic purposes of the Union, which emphasize cooperation between Members, the promotion of technical facilities and their most effective operation. We congratulate you, Sir, on the election to the presidency of our meetings, and we pledge our support to your efforts to guide our deliberations to a successful conclusion.

The key purpose of this Conference is to consider the tasks that need to be undertaken in pursuit of Union objectives, the priorities to be attached to them, the most efficient way of carrying them out, and the resources to be devoted to them. That is easy to say - it may be less easy to achieve. I do not underestimate the difficulties we may face in reaching an agreed outcome. But I come here in an atmosphere of mutual respect and I am confident that we shall certainly be able to work constructively together in these excellent surroundings made available to us by the French Government. For my own part, I have already gained important understandings from the contributions made by the distinguished Heads of Delegation.

The challenge faced by the ITU is this: in the changing circumstances so ably identified by the Secretary-General and his advisers, how best can we preserve the effectiveness of the Union in its role of regulation and standards-making, while at the same time ensuring that it is able to respond appropriately to growing expectations in relation to technical cooperation? All three functions are of importance to all Members. The passions of the WATTC Conference show the importance we all attach to the right forms of regulation. Concern has already been voiced here about regional standards-making and the need to re-assert the pre-eminence and effectiveness of the ITU as the global standards authority, not least in order to minimize costs for users. These traditional functions must be safeguarded alongside the newer priorities.

Important Resolutions about speeding up the adoption of standards Recommendations were passed at the CCITT Plenary Assembly last November. The United Kingdom has submitted two proposals to this Conference which are intended to consolidate this work: an amendment to Article 69 of the present Convention on the duties of the CCI Plenary Assemblies; and a Resolution inviting the next Plenary Assembly of the CCIR to adopt procedures similar to those of the CCITT.

We need to go further and consider whether a more fundamental structural reform is needed. The objective is to ensure that the structures and working methods we employ to discharge the tasks of the CCITT and CCIR give us optimum results in terms of speed, effectiveness and efficiency. We in the United Kingdom start this debate with an open mind. Independent and impartial analyses should guide us. We have submitted a Resolution to this effect. We have also submitted a number of proposals on the work of the IFRB. We believe that the number of Board members of the IFRB should remain at five - for the reasons given by the Panel of Experts.

I should like now to say a word about technical cooperation. I well understand the priority that many countries attach to this subject. The Convention was amended accordingly in Nairobi. We, in the ITU, share our responsibility in this matter with a number of other organizations. Bilateral aid programmes properly respect the priorities of the recipient governments and, at their discretion, channel aid to telecommunications projects. Individual operators make contributions on a bilateral basis, for example, by making technicians available in developing countries and by developing new systems in those countries. The Centre for Telecommunications Development, though not yet functioning as effectively as many of us hoped, is another route to technical cooperation which we would be foolish to abandon.

We shall need to consider here also those activities in this area which fall directly to the ITU itself. Ambitious proposals for change have been voiced. In considering those proposals, we shall have to face up to questions of priority. As we all recognize, the Conference is faced by a large number of proposals which call for

considerable extra expenditure by the Union. I have not heard any delegation suggest that resources should be made available to meet all these demands. Many smaller contributors are already anxious about their ability to finance their contribution to the existing budget. As each Committee goes about its work, it will need to seek to establish, as clearly as possible, the budgetary implications of any proposals it wishes to advance. It will not do to work on the assumption that others can be counted upon to reduce their demands sufficiently to release funds for ambitious new commitments. If, after independent scrutiny, changes in the existing structure or patterns of work are in due course agreed upon, and prove to lead to resource savings, that will be the time to determine the transfer to other areas of activity of the funds released.

Our own proposals have been devised with the budgetary consequences very clearly in mind. One such area is the future programme of conferences and meetings. We need to plan a modest programme of financially disciplined conferences for the period after 1989, based on clear operational needs and a realistic appraisal of the chances of each conference reaching a successful conclusion. Priority should be given to holding a World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) in 1992 in order to determine frequency allocations for various new and established radio services.

I turn now, Mr. Chairman, to the work of the Group of Experts on the proposed split of the current Convention into a permanent Constitution and a Convention. We believe such a split to be desirable in principle, and the Group of Experts has done an excellent preparatory job. The ITU is unique among UN agencies in not having a permanent Constitution. My one concern is that this is a potentially lengthy and complex task. We should ask Committee 9 to seek to make rapid progress in the early stages of the Conference, reporting back to the Plenary Meeting that its basic work is done and that it stands ready to accommodate changes arising from the work of the other Committees of this Conference.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, the United Kingdom is a major contributor to the ITU budget and is a long-standing member of the Administrative Council. We have a particularly strong commitment to the work of the Union. We join others in paying tribute to the dedication of our Secretary-General in his work for the Union. We approach this Conference determined to ensure that the Union emerges strengthened in its role as the specialized agency responsible for telecommunications."

1.5 The Head of the Delegation of Lebanon made the following statement:

"Allow me to congratulate you as a friend, Mr. Chairman, on your election to the head of this important Conference, which is the supreme organ of the International Telecommunication Union.

I should also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to France for inviting us to Nice.

Since the last Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi, major changes have taken place in the telecommunication environment, particularly as a result of the introduction of digital systems in the vast majority of developed countries and in some developing ones.

Despite all the difficulties besetting our country, our Administration has been able to keep the national and international telecommunication network constantly in operation, thanks to the assistance and cooperation of friendly countries, including your country in particular, Mr. Chairman. Over 50% of our national network is digitized and it is our firm intention that the ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network) should be gradually introduced, including data transmission, packet switching, telefax and value-added services. The telephone density per inhabitant is over 20%.

We also plan very shortly to introduce fibre-optic cables alongside the satellite earth stations in our international network.

A great effort is being made by our Ministry to apply and comply with the Maitland Report.

Mr. Chairman, Lebanon has made great efforts to take part in ITU activities and has contributed the services of an expert in implementing the important Resolutions of the Nairobi Convention, such as Resolution No. 62 (Basic Instrument of the Union); the draft Constitution and Convention we submitted to the Group of Experts was used as a basis for discussion. We also participated, through an expert, in the implementation of Resolution No. 68 (Review of the Long-Term Future of the IFRB) and of Resolution No. 69 (Extended Use of the Computer).

It is our hope, Mr. Chairman, that the Nice Plenipotentiary Conference will adopt the new basic instrument, namely, a Constitution and a Convention.

We also believe that this Conference should study and plan the future structure of the Union as a whole, covering:

- a) the Secretariat;
- b) the merger of the two CCIs;
- c) the IFRB, and
- d) most importantly, technical cooperation and assistance.

We have played a very active role in all the Union's activities, particularly in the Administrative Council, to which we are standing for re-election, in conferences and in Plenary Assemblies.

Lebanon and India were the sponsors of Resolution No. PL/3 (Apportionment of revenues between developed and developing countries) submitted to WATTC-88 in Melbourne.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we wish to thank our Secretary-General, Mr. Richard Butler, for the outstanding efforts he has unfailingly deployed in the service of the Union, as Australian delegate, as Deputy Secretary-General and as Secretary-General.

It will be recalled that in 1966 he was deservedly elected Chairman of the Working Group to develop a new Instrument for the Union. While we deeply regret that he is not seeking a new term of office, we wish him a quiet and peaceful retirement with all our hearts and we hope to see him often among us.

We appeal to all the Member countries present here today to apply and observe the Convention, particularly as regards ensuring the safety of the telecommunication network for all users.

Lebanon joins with all those who have expressed solidarity with the people of Palestine and with all those in favour of peace, freedom and prosperity for all countries without exception.

1.6 The Observer from the Pan-African Telecommunication Union (PATU) made the following statement:

"May I first of all congratulate you Mr. Chairman, on your brilliant election as Chairman of this important Conference. I am sure that your wealth of experience and intimate knowledge of telecommunications will enable you to steer the Conference to a successful conclusion.

Secondly, allow me to thank the Secretary-General on behalf of my organization, the Pan-African Telecommunications Union, its Member States and on my own behalf, for inviting my organization to participate as observer in this very important Conference and to convey PATU's message to the world telecommunications community. My thanks also go to the French Government and people not only for accepting to play host to this Conference but also for the warm welcome and wonderful hospitality accorded to us since our arrival in this beautiful tourist city of Nice. France Telecom, the host administration, deserves special praise for the excellent organizational arrangements and conference facilities, which no doubt will greatly facilitate the work of the Conference.

My presence here today is not just symbolic but is a duty to my organization which, as you may be aware, is responsible for coordinating the orderly development of telecommunications in our Continent.

My presence also symbolizes the excellent relations that exist between ITU and PATU, relations which, thanks to your positive action, Mr. Secretary-General, have continued to grow from strength to strength over the past years, since you assumed the office of Secretary-General.

I would be failing in my duty if I did not mention the useful activities that ITU has undertaken in Africa since the Nairobi Conference, and which I can say today have enabled many African countries to develop the most crucial aspects of their telecommunication networks and services, namely technical and financial management through appropriate reorganization, manpower development through technical assistance, training of staff at all levels and reinforcement of training institutions both at national and subregional levels.

The various cooperation activities undertaken by the ITU are a result of the objectives clearly defined by the Nairobi Conference which decided to set up the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development.

The delegates present at the Nairobi Conference recognized "the fundamental importance of communications infrastructure as an essential element in the economic and social development of all countries", particularly the developing countries, most of which are situated in our Continent. Is not the weakest - not to say the missing link - in the world telecommunications network situated in Africa? One only needs to look objectively at the world telecommunications statistics to be convinced of this.

You yourself, Mr. Secretary-General, have already understood the situation as you have taken into account the observation made by the Independent Commission in the introduction to its report, and I quote "In the industrialized world telecommunication is taken for granted as a key factor in economic, commercial and social activity and as a prime source of cultural enrichment. Moreover, in these countries telecommunications have come to be regarded as an engine of growth and a major source of employment and prosperity. The pace of technological innovation is such that inhabitants of the industrialized world look forward to enjoying the full benefits of the so-called 'information society' by the end of the century.

The situation in the developing world is in stark contrast. In a majority of developing countries the telecommunications system is inadequate to sustain essential services. In large tracts of territory there is no system at all. Neither in the name of common humanity nor on grounds of common interest is such a disparity acceptable."

You have, through your actions, translated your convictions into reality. Africa is most grateful to you for that. You also understood early enough that Africa's role in developing telecommunications could only be more effective if there was stronger cooperation between our two organizations. You have, since the African Telecommunications Conference held in Tunis in 1987, remarkably strengthened relations between our two organizations by strictly applying Recommendation No. 5 which "recommends that ITU spares no effort in involving PATU and other subregional and regional organizations in the implementation of technical cooperation projects with a view to possible transfer of the responsibility for such activities to those organizations". You have within this framework undertaken concrete actions whose results, I am pleased to say before this august assembly, are reassuring and encouraging to all African Telecommunications Administrations. It is, thanks to this understanding, that PATU, on behalf of the African Governments, for the first time, signed jointly with ITU and UNDP the two PANAFTEL Project Documents for the 4th UNDP Programming Cycle. The immediate objectives of the Projects include developing the expertise of some 240 staff from PATU, subregional organizations involved in telecommunications development and African administrations through programmes of attachment to the activities of the two Projects. These programmes of attachment have already started, the ultimate objective being to prepare these organizations, particularly PATU, to progressively assume responsibility for the coordination activities needed for operating and developing the PANAFTEL Network.

With regard to the RASCOM Project, PATU has been playing a supervisory role in a certain number of countries and has within this framework coordinated all the feasibility studies of the countries under its jurisdiction.

In addition, an expert to study the setting up of Management Information System at PATU Headquarters and Member Administrations was sent to our headquarters in September 1988. Also a senior management consultant will shortly complete a two-month mission in Kinshasa, aimed at recommending the most appropriate structure which will be more responsive to the new challenges and responsibilities facing PATU. Through your efforts we have just received our first micro-computer, an indispensable modern tool for the improvement of our management functions. The computer will also give us the possibility to collect the necessary information for our future coordination activities and advisory role in the development of African telecommunications. Never before has there been such positive and tangible cooperation between PATU on the one hand and ITU and UNDP on the other in the development of telecommunications in Africa. Nevertheless, very much more remains to be done to improve telecommunications on the Continent both in terms of quality and accessibility. To achieve this we look forward to the continual cooperation of the international community both on a bilateral and a multilateral basis.

Turning now to the work of the Conference, the issues to be addressed are varied and complex. They range from the election of the top officials of the Union, and its specialized Secretariats, the Members of the Administrative Council; Reorganization of the Union; Technical Cooperation Programme and Regional Presence; the possible adoption of the Basic Instrument of the Union consisting of two parts, namely the Constitution and the Convention; and the long-term future of the IFRB, to name but a few.

The decisions of the Conference on these and other crucial issues will have a profound influence on the future of the ITU. This is particularly so as the Conference

is taking place at a time when the telecommunications environment has undergone and is still undergoing such rapid change as to make outmoded some of the working processes of the ITU. Change is not only needed but necessary. The emergence of national and regional standards organizations for example does threaten the role of the ITU as a world standard-setting organization and, unless the Union responds to the need for a more dynamic and effective standardization process, interconnectivity and interoperability of the global network would be put into jeopardy as would world trade in telecommunications equipment and services. The IXth Plenary Assembly of the CCITT and WATTC-88 which met at Melbourne in November/December 1988 have squarely addressed these issues and adopted appropriate Resolutions which will be the subject of consideration by this Conference.

Africa and the other developing regions of the world need to develop their telecommunications networks and services and, to do this, we look to the ITU to provide technical assistance as one of the purposes of the Union enshrined in the Nairobi Convention. It is for this reason that we consider the ITU Technical Cooperation Programme of paramount importance to us. It is very important therefore that the Conference recognizes the role of the Union in this regard and allocates more funds to technical cooperation activities in order to increase the share allocated for training, as well as training equipment and aids to promote human resources development. The technical cooperation programme should be defined within the framework of a long-term action plan for world-wide telecommunications development to be drawn up as a practical way of implementing Resolution No. 34 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference.

You will now understand the reasons why I had earlier paid special tribute to Mr. Richard Butler, the outgoing Secretary-General, for his determined and incessant efforts to assist developing countries develop their telecommunication networks and services. My fervent hope, and I am sure I am expressing the sentiments of all developing countries Members of the ITU, is to see these efforts and actions not only continued but also expanded so that together we can work to bridge the missing links and build a viable world telecommunications network for the mutual benefit of all nations - developed and developing.

Mr. Butler, while we very much regret your departure we have no choice but to respect your decision not to seek re-election, which decision as variously reported you have taken in your personal and family interests. I am sure that your name will go down in the annals of history as the ITU Secretary-General, who more than ever before has clearly understood the communications problems and needs of the developing countries and has therefore strongly advocated a balanced and harmonious development of telecommunications world-wide for the benefit of all the peoples of the world.

We wish you long life, good health and happiness in your well earned retirement.

I wish the Conference every success."

1.7 The Observer for the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) made the following statement:

"It is a great honour and privilege for the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) to be represented and to take part for the first time in this important Plenipotentiary Conference, the supreme body of the ITU. On behalf of the APT, I would like to express our sincere thanks and great appreciation firstly to the ITU Secretariat for inviting APT to attend this body as an observer, and secondly to the Government of the Republic of France, particularly the French Telecommunication Administration for hosting this ITU supreme body in this beautiful city of Nice in conjunction with the bicentennial of the great French Revolution. As France is one of the ITU founder Members and a world leader in telecommunications, famous for its research and development experience in new

technologies, for manufacturing and industry potential and for its own pioneering ability toward the next century of the Information Age, we are really proud of France's great efforts and contributions for the Third World telecommunication development, and are very grateful for the warm welcome, the superb arrangements and excellent traditional hospitality extended to all of us here in Nice.

Mr. Chairman, let me join previous distinguished speakers in formally congratulating you for your election as Chairman of this historic and important Conference. In spite of difficult tasks and responsibilities, I am fully confident that under your able chairmanship and guidance assisted by all distinguished Vice-Chairmen, whom I wish also to congratulate, this Conference will be concluded with great success.

It is gratifying to note that the ITU and APT have enjoyed and maintained a close relationship since its inception in 1979. The APT itself was established under the umbrella and full support of the ITU which always, like the mother organization, helps the APT in building up and strengthening its technical ability and potential to assist the Member countries to develop their own national and regional telecommunication networks and services. Different from the ITU, as the world telecommunication organization, the APT does not regulate telecommunication operations and services and does not set up any standardization. Both organizations have common goals and grounds in developing technical cooperation activities for their own Members in the Asia-Pacific region. The APT, which is going to celebrate its 10th anniversary next July, actually provides its technical assistance to Members by making full use of over 50% of funds directly from its annual budget, together with some additional extra budgetary contributions offered by Members and other organizations. It is also noteworthy that effective cooperation has been developed between the ITU and APT in organizing last March a joint CTD, ITU/ESCAP/UNDP and the APT seminar on Modern Planning Methods and a workshop on Application of Data Base. Another joint ITU/APT/INMARSAT seminar on mobile satellite communication will be organized next September in Singapore. Moreover, APT also provides host facilities with three staff members to the ITU/UNDP project on assistance in telecommunication networks planning. More contact and coordination, as well as an exchange of information have been promoted with great satisfaction. All of this fruitful cooperation, Mr. Chairman, is due to the leadership of Mr. R.E. Butler, the present Secretary-General of the ITU, to whom I would like to pay great tribute. We are deeply impressed and grateful to him for his timeless effort, among other things, in taking part twice by himself in the APT General Assemblies and Management Committee Meetings in Seoul in 1984 and also in Sydney in 1987. We do appreciate his great contribution to the whole world telecommunity by his experience, his wisdom, his dynamism and his devotion.

Now, Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates and Ladies and Gentlemen, in responding to your request for remarks and views of delegates and observers as well, I would like to submit to you some of our considerations.

Firstly, we do greatly appreciate and fully support any action ever taken by the different organs of the ITU with a view to pursuing the ultimate objectives of the Union since the last Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi in 1982, particularly the two eminent reports. The first one is "The Missing Link", the Report of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development published in 1985. The APT has endorsed and taken into account the recommendations for formulating subsequent activities in our annual work programme. The other report is "The Changing Telecommunication Environment" of the Advisory Group on Telecommunication Policy recently issued in March 1989. This report will be greatly helpful for the developing countries in preparing themselves to meet the challenges and opportunities in the next decade toward the Information Age of the next century. Nevertheless, we would like to propose that follow-up measures on the implementation of those recommendations contained in the two reports be further pursued.

Secondly, we are most concerned with the future development of technical cooperation activities, particularly those to be undertaken by the ITU and the regional telecommunication organizations like the APT, PATU or CITELE etc. According to our experience in the past, in spite of good relationships and close cooperation, duplication of work and overlapping activities still exist. We, therefore, propose that better and more effective coordination be explored to avoid such a waste of time, energy and money. Due consideration should be given to establish some mechanism for such cooperation and coordination in the regulatory framework. Any regional telecommunication organizations established by intergovernmental arrangement and by virtue of Article 32 of the ITU Convention should be allowed to attend the Administrative Council as observers during the deliberation on technical assistance and international cooperation matters. Another option can also be made with the possibility of setting up a separate Coordination Committee between the ITU and the above-mentioned regional telecommunication organizations. The terms of reference of this Coordination Committee is to explore the total need, for all kinds of technical assistance, of the developing countries, the availability of funds in a common pool deriving from different resources as direct or indirect contributions, the optimum criteria for allocating and, particularly, distributing technical assistance of any kind to requesting Member countries and submitting recommendations to the Administrative Council for further consideration. This Coordination Committee may also serve as advisory body to any issues of technical assistance and international cooperation.

Thirdly, we fully support the creation of the Centre for Telecommunications Development and its activities as so far organized and developed until now, and are of the view that this Centre should be maintained for a period of at least five years before any further review on its performances and achievements be made by the Administrative Council. Any final decision on the fate of the CTD can be entrusted to the Administrative Council without waiting for the next Plenipotentiary Conference.

Fourthly, last but not least, Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, we also support the idea and proposal to establish in the long-term an organization "WORLDTEL" to coordinate the development of telecommunications world-wide and agree to a recommendation for further action to be taken by the Secretary-General.

In concluding, Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to reiterate our gratitude and sincere congratulations to the ITU for inviting us, to the French Telecommunication Administration for their excellent hospitality and also finally for giving us opportunities to voice our concern for the future of international cooperation which is one of the fundamental factors of regional and world-wide telecommunication development for the service of mankind.

May I wish you every success for the 13th ITU Plenipotentiary Conference and hope to see all of you at the next Plenipotentiary Conference in our region. I thank you for your kind attention.

1.8 The Observer for the African Postal and Telecommunications Union (UAPT) made the following statement:

"The Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union, besides considering questions of structure and conventions, also prepares the Union's main administrative conferences and meetings.

The Union is thus widely recognized as an appropriate forum to debate matters concerning the coordination, harmonization and integration of the telecommunication networks of our different Member countries.

This is why this beautiful city of Nice has, since 23 May and for another five weeks, become the capital of world telecommunications, and it is not surprising to see large administrations and small regional and subregional organizations all imbued with the will to cooperate and to follow your debates with the closest attention.

In the long history of the ITU, Nairobi 1982 provided a fertile meeting between North and South for the further expansion of technical cooperation and assistance activities. It was in a spirit of consensus that Nairobi, on African soil, set out the landmarks of a gradual and appropriate incorporation of the cooperation component in favour of the least developed countries. We hope that Nice 1989 will prove to be a suitable prolongation of the achievements of Nairobi 1982.

Mr. Chairman, our subregional organization, the African Postal and Telecommunications Union, which is certainly the oldest institution in Africa south of the Sahara, bridging the gap between West and Central Africa, would like to seize this solemn opportunity to greet and to thank the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, who has encouraged fruitful relations between the ITU and the UAPT.

The Member countries of our organization have appreciated the personal participation of Mr. Butler at the last Council of Ministers in Bamako in March 1989. On that occasion, in fact, the Council paid him a well-deserved tribute for all he has done for the African countries within the framework of technical cooperation.

I would also like, Mr. Chairman, to welcome through you the excellent relations maintained by your country with the General Secretariat of the UAPT. Like most developing countries, the Member countries of our subregional organization have achieved spectacular progress since Nairobi in modernizing their networks. Each year, the Council of Ministers of the UAPT comes together to strengthen their cooperation links around projects of common interest.

The last Council of Ministers in Bamako organized a forum for consultation between suppliers, financial backers and administrations to debate and discuss together their means, their resources and their know-how. Our faith in the International Telecommunication Union is expressed in the effective participation of engineers and senior officials of Member countries of the UAPT in the important work of ITU bodies.

The Member countries of the UAPT request your support for the integrated development of their telecommunication networks, either directly or through regional and subregional organizations, and more in particular through technical cooperation.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, in order not to abuse your time, I would like on behalf of the General Secretariat of the UAPT to reaffirm before all the delegations here present our will to cooperate in accordance with the spirit of the Lagos Conference on the integrated step-by-step development of Africa. As a final word, Mr. Chairman, I would like to congratulate you on your brilliant election at the head of the Nice Plenipotentiary Conference. Under your authority and competent guidance, Mr. Chairman, let us hope that Nice will be a landmark in the history of telecommunications, to enable people to understand each other despite frontiers and conflicts. I wish every success to the Nice Plenipotentiary Conference. Thank you."

1.9 The Observer for Palestine made the following statement:

"I wish at the outset to thank the Chairman, Mr. Jean Grenier, for allowing me to address this Conference. Permit me, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you on your election to the chairmanship of this Conference; I wish also to thank Mr. Richard Butler for all the efforts he has made in the service of the Union for more than twenty years and for the steady and unremitting labours in which he has been engaged with the members of his Administration to secure the progress of the Union.

I wish also to thank the French Government for inviting this Conference, as well as for its hospitality and the facilities offered to all the members of the participating delegations.

Mr. Chairman, this Conference, which is the supreme authority of the Union, is meeting at a time when the entire world aspires towards a just and total peace.

Modern communications and their multi-faceted role in all fields are playing an active part in facilitating the transfer of information, knowledge and services, thus bringing the peoples of the world closer together and promoting a better understanding between them. It is for this reason that we hope that the Union will accomplish its primary task in the following fields:

1. According particular importance to technical cooperation and exerting the necessary efforts to provide more effective and more comprehensive assistance to the developing countries in order to enable them to keep pace with the increasing speed of technological progress.
2. To secure coordination with the manufacturing countries in order to standardize the technical specifications and bring them into line with development programmes, particularly in the developing countries, whose financial capacity does not allow them to replace their equipment by the new plant produced throughout the world, thus enabling them to complete their development plans in telecommunications and to generalize the introduction of communication facilities among their peoples.
3. To strengthen the role of the Centre for Telecommunications Development, set up under a Resolution of the Nairobi Conference, 1982, to enable it to play the important part assigned to it and to achieve the objective for which it was established by integrating it into the Union programme, as I have just stated.

Our Palestinian people resolutely aspire to take part in these activities and to cooperate with all peoples in all fields, through its scientists. Looking forward to the day when it can play this role, it hopes to achieve in the near future participation as a full Member of our Union.

The daily struggle of our people, waged with the eyes of all the peoples of the world upon them, and its glorious rising, has now entered upon the eighteenth month. Our people are pitting themselves against a proud foe who possesses all the means of repression and destruction, who flouts all the United Nations resolutions, who fights women and children with fire and flame, and who invents new types of rubber, plastic and rubber-coated metal projectiles, causing fractures, permanent maiming and death.

The so-called peace plan, in the shadow of the spears of the occupation forces which threaten all the members of the liberation organization whom our Palestinian people have unanimously appointed to represent it on all occasions, can only lead to an escalation of death and destruction and to a departure from the essential objectives of our people, who aspire to freedom, to the achievement of their national rights and to the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on their national soil.

We are in favour of elections, but not under the spears of occupation. We are in favour of a just peace under the aegis of a global international conference, on a footing of equality with all the other parties concerned.

The demands for telecommunication development in the occupied territories, allowing for the years of occupation, since 1967 up to the current year, represent a perfectly normal phenomenon, and it is the right of our people who pay the taxes and charges from which the occupying authorities benefit. The income which Palestinians in

the countries of emigration to our people in the occupied territories is capable of bringing about a much faster pace of development of telecommunications than that achieved by the occupation authorities. Our people are moreover known for their scientific progress and the quality of their scientists.

Moreover, how can the occupation authorities justify the repeated interruptions of communications, the closing of the occupied territories on the West Bank and the Ghaza strip and their isolation from the world, or the destruction of the broadcasting stations belonging to the liberation organization, on three occasions in 1982 and 1989?

I do not wish to dwell upon examples and figures, but I would request the Conference to send a mission to observe all these activities and to hear about all the crimes committed against the inhabitants of these territories from their own lips.

The Israeli practices were condemned at the Nairobi Conference in 1982. The policy of cutting off telecommunications, the bombing and the destruction of broadcasting stations, daily murders and permanent injuries suffered by our people in the occupied territories surely call for an attitude similar to that adopted by the Union towards the South African authorities. I confirm here the content of the three documents submitted by Saudi Arabia, Syria and Qatar.¹

The French Minister of Telecommunications, Mr. Paul Quilès, proposed a motto for the Conference which is the motto of the French Revolution of which France is commemorating the bicentenary this year. On the threshold of a XXIst century, we join our own voice to that of the French Minister to say:

"Liberté-Egalité-Fraternité".

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, peace be with you.

2. Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference
(First Part - sections 1.1 - 1.3.5, Second Part - sections 2.1 - 2.2.3.4,
Third Part - sections 3.1 - 3.4)

2.1 The Chairman of the Administrative Council, Mr. F.C. Kasambala (United Republic of Tanzania) submitted the above-mentioned parts of the Report of the Administrative Council for the years 1982 to 1989 for consideration by the Plenipotentiary Conference pursuant to provisions Nos. 37 and 272 of the Nairobi Convention.

The First Part of the Report contained a general description of the development of telecommunications, a reference to the increase by nine in the Membership of the Union since 1982, and a breakdown of significant institutional matters which would be further dealt with in the various committees.

The Second Part of the Report dealt with the activities of the Administrative Council over the last seven years whereby the principle of rotation throughout the five regions of the Administrative Council had been duly observed. In respect of section 2.2.2, the Report on the Activities of the Union covered the years 1983 to 1987. The Report for 1988 had been approved by the Council and would be published by the General Secretariat in due course. Under section 2.2.3.1, eight Resolutions of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference (Resolutions Nos. 36 to 43) were dealt with in this Part.

¹ (Translator's note: Only the first letter of the name appears in the Arabic text. Since it is a Q, it presumably refers to Qatar.)

The Third Part of the Report concerned conferences and meetings covered by Resolutions Nos. 1 to 15 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference. The Secretary-General pointed out that there were a number of Resolutions covered in Part 3 which the Conference might wish to retain in due course, but that these were not covered elsewhere nor assigned to any committees.

2.2 The Chairman of the Administrative Council expressed his appreciation to administrations for their contributions and to the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Directors of the CCIs and the members of the IFRB, as well as his Vice-Chairman, for their support.

2.3 The delegate of Spain, commenting that due to time constraints and the magnitude of the work it was possible that the Report did not completely reflect the Council's decisions, indicated that the last sentence in the first paragraph of item 3 (GATT) under section 2.2.3.3 should be deleted.

2.4 The Secretary-General agreed and suggested that any further errors that came to light could be brought to the attention of the Secretariat. He added that the Report was intended for consideration and not approval.

In connection with GATT, he added that the ITU had since been admitted as an observer to GATT negotiations on telecommunications insofar as service negotiations were concerned.

2.5 The Chairman suggested that note could be taken of the Parts of the Report as presented by the Chairman of the Administrative Council.

It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 1730 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 138-E

26 May 1989

Original: English

COMMITTEE 6

Kingdom of Tonga

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

ITU REGIONAL PRESENCE

The question of an ITU regional presence dates back to the early 1970s when it became evident that it would better assist countries in promoting their telecommunication networks, as well as in providing on-the-spot assistance when required.

In this context, the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, 1982, adopted Resolution No. 26 which resolved that "... a stronger presence of the Union is required to increase the efficacy of its assistance to Member countries and especially the developing ones".

In this regard, Senior Regional Representatives have been posted in four regions where they liaise with telecommunication administrations, international organizations and financing institutions, and represent the ITU.

The ITU presence in the field has and continues to benefit the development of activities in the regions, particularly in the developing countries, and we therefore wish to associate the countries of the region with others who have expressed their appreciation of the usefulness of such presence. So far, the countries in the South Pacific have not been benefitting from this presence.

As you are aware, the South Pacific comprises of 15 developing island countries (the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa), eight of which are ITU Members.

With small widely scattered island populations, limited land areas, few natural resources and with common culture and traditions, which they wish to preserve, these countries have a pressing need for adequate telecommunications and advice for the ITU to help to bind them together into a more cohesive social and economic unit.

For many of these isolated countries exposed to cyclones and other weather hazards, telecommunications is a priority not only for the provision of emergency aid, but also to support the development activities in other areas of the economy such as crops, fisheries, water systems, transport and education. However, in spite of considerable progress made during the last decade, investment in telecommunications, especially for the development of rural areas, is still inadequate and the countries look to the ITU for advice and assistance in planning new services, building and strengthening operations and maintenance organizations, identifying inter-island telecommunication needs, upgrading management activities, as well as in developing engineering standards and instructions.

These needs call for ITU regional representation in the South Pacific which, apart from complying with the day-to-day advisory needs of the countries, could serve as a focal point for stimulating adequate cooperation between countries in the area.

TON/138/1

Hence this proposal to the Plenipotentiary Conference for its kind consideration of the posting of an ITU representative in the South Pacific.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 139-E

26 May 1989

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PLENARY MEETING

Note by the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith to the Conference the attached letter received from the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of Japan for information.

R. E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

Annex: 1

Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications

3-2 Kasumigaseki 1-chome
Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100, JAPAN

MPT/CPB No.7
Tokyo, 18 May 1989

Mr.R.E.Butler
Secretary-General of ITU
Palais Acropolis 06058
Nice / FRANCE

Sir,

On behalf of the Government of Japan, I have the honour to formally invite the Conference to consider holding the next Plenipotentiary Conference in Japan.

I would be grateful if you would transmit this invitation to the Conference at present meeting in Nice.

Since the foundation of the International Telegraph Union in 1865, more than a century has passed. No country in Asia or the Pacific region, however, has had the honour of welcoming the Plenipotentiary Conference, the supreme organ of the Union, in spite of the universal character of the ITU.

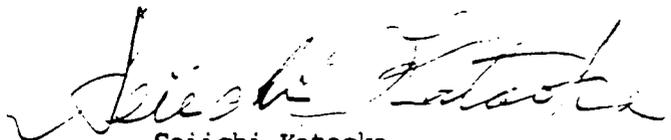
It must be pointed out that various international organizations have chosen our country as the place of their meetings. It is also worthwhile noting that the Congress of the Universal Postal Union, our sister organization, has already been held in Japan in 1969.

Furthermore, when the Conference considers our invitation, I would be pleased if it could take into consideration the contribution which we have made for the development of the Union, since our admission in 1879, through the participation in the conferences and other meetings of the Union. Japan has also taken a great interest in the Union's technical cooperation activities.

Therefore, the Government of Japan would be greatly honoured if this invitation meets with the approval of the Conference.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours faithfully,



Seiichi Kataoka
Minister of Posts and Telecommunications

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

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26 May 1989

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PLENARY MEETING

United States

PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

USA/140/1

The United States proposes to the Plenipotentiary Conference that, in considering the programme of future conferences to be convened in the period of the Nice Plenipotentiary cycle, it is essential that the needs of long-range space exploration and development programmes be addressed. There is no intention to treat space services in general, but only those required for the manned and unmanned exploration and establishment of temporary and permanent installations in space as well as on or around the moon and/or other bodies of the solar system.

The Conference designated to treat these needs should be competent to make allocations of spectrum above 20 GHz and define new space services necessary to support such long-range programmes in space. As the necessary studies to be performed in the CCIR are ongoing and will not result in Recommendations until the XVIIIth Plenary Assembly in 1994, this treatment should not be scheduled prior to that time; as the requirements to be satisfied are being actively planned even today, the designated conference should be convened soon thereafter.

Reasons: The existing allocations are inadequate to the needs of the future in several respects: There is insufficient total bandwidth; many of the bands used to date are allocated on a secondary basis; many are subject to the provisions of Article 14; many are allocated to the Space Research Service, the definition of which is no longer adequate in an age of commercial and ongoing operations in space, and which lacks the safety-of-life recognition needed in manned operations. These shortcomings can be solved by new, carefully developed, service definitions and by new allocations in the bands above 20 GHz, where other services will be minimally or not at all affected, so that mankind can fulfill his destiny to explore, develop and inhabit the solar system.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

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26 May 1989

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COMMITTEES 6, 7, 8 & 9

Republic of Iraq

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Iraq is participating in the Plenipotentiary Conference in the full hope and confidence that a stronger and more efficient Union will emerge from its deliberations and discussions.
2. Iraq believes that the International Telecommunication Union has served the international community very well since its establishment 124 years ago. It is in fact, difficult to envisage how global telecommunications could have developed to their present level without the ITU.
3. The ITU has become all the more important at the present time not only on account of the immense technological development and advances taking place in the field of telecommunications, which themselves make even greater demands on the ITU, but also in view of the changing attitudes towards organizational aspects of the infrastructure, and operation of telecommunications in many countries of the world and the emergence of many standardization bodies in the same field.
4. The widening gap between the developed and developing countries also presents another challenge that makes it even more important to strengthen the ITU and prepare it to cope with the tasks ahead in a more efficient and flexible manner.

IRQ/141/1

5. Iraq supports the view that the ITU should have both a Constitution and a Convention. Such a system will put the ITU objectives and functions on a sounder and firmer basis and will facilitate the easier and speedier introduction of such changes as may prove necessary from time to time to cope with new developments.

IRQ/141/2

6. The merging of the CCITT and CCIR in one body, whether immediately or in stages over a period of time, is one possible step that could lead to an improvement in the overall efficiency of the Union and increasing flexibility and speed in solving problems common to both their fields.

IRQ/141/3

7. The subject of the structure and the running of the IFRB is a very important and to some extent sensitive issue that should be addressed carefully by the Conference. The right balance should be struck between the need to retain the full independence of the IFRB in its technical decision-making on the one hand and to introduce whatever measures are necessary to improve the working of the ITU as a whole on the other hand. It should not be overlooked, however, that the IFRB has been very successful and

effective with its present structure and Iraq therefore strongly supports the general conclusions of the panel of experts on the long-term future of the IFRB and proposes that the present structure of the IFRB be retained without any change.

8. The technical cooperation activity of the ITU should also be carefully considered by the Plenipotentiary Conference and accorded its due importance. Iraq supports the Recommendations and Conclusions of the Missing Link Report and believes that technical cooperation and development should be included in the proposed new Constitution as one of the prime objectives of the Union.

IRQ/141/4

9. Iraq finally proposes that the Arabic language be given the status of full working language of the Union for many reasons to be elaborated in a separate document.
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PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

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COMMITTEE 6

Solomon Islands

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ITU REPRESENTATIVE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION

The question of an International Telecommunications Union (ITU) presence in the various regions of the world dates back to the early 1970s when it became evident that, rather than through a mainly centralized presence in Geneva, the ITU could better aid its Members, particularly those in an early stage of development, by the establishment of specialist representatives in the different regions.

With this in mind, the 1982 Plenipotentiary Conference adopted Resolution No. 26 which resolved "As a principle, that a stronger presence of the Union is required in the regions to increase the efficacy of its assistance to Member countries and especially the developing ones."

As a result, senior ITU regional representatives have been established in four regions where they work with telecommunications administrations and with financing and other international organizations.

This ITU initiative has benefitted, and indeed continues to benefit, those regions fortunate to have such representatives present. It would appear almost, that the earlier the stage of a country's development the more it might benefit from this decentralization. We do therefore wish to associate ourselves with those others who have expressed their appreciation for the usefulness of this work in as far as it has been extended.

The region we call the South Pacific is made up of fifteen, mainly small, island countries at various stages of development (Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tokolau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa). Of these, eight are Members of the Union.

With our people scattered among so many widely separated islands, with so few natural resources, in many areas with extremely difficult terrain and with cultures and traditions we wish to preserve, we have a pressing need for adequate and appropriate telecommunications services and hence advice and assistance from the ITU. We are urgently seeking to overcome some of the worst disparities so eloquently and disturbingly described in the Report of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development.

For many of our isolated islands, exposed as they are to cyclones and other natural hazards, telecommunications are a priority not only for the provision of emergency aid but, and more fundamentally, as a catalyst for economic development in those sectors that are vital for even modest future prosperity. It has to be acknowledged that in spite of considerable development over the last decade, investment in telecommunications, especially in our rural areas, has been inadequate.

We wish to seek an enhancement of the ITU presence in this region for advice and assistance in planning new services, training our staff, strengthening operations and maintenance procedures and organizations, and in upgrading management activities as well as engineering and system standards.

Without doubt there is a pressing need for an ITU Regional Representative in the South Pacific which, apart from meeting the day-to-day needs of countries, would serve as a focal point for stimulating regional cooperation and assisting relevant regional institutions.

We wish to draw the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference to the situation briefly described above and seek most sympathetic consideration and endorsement of this our proposal for the establishment of an ITU Regional Representative in the South Pacific.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 143-E

26 May 1989

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INFORMATION DOCUMENT

TENTATIVE GENERAL SCHEDULE OF THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

(As accepted by the second meeting of the Steering Committee)

First week (23 - 26 May)

Meeting of Heads of Delegations and inauguration.

Plenary Meetings :

- election of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Conference;
- establishment of Committees and election of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen;
- allocation of proposals and sections of Report of the Administrative Council to Committees, etc.;
- general policy statements and discussion.

Second and third weeks (29 May - 9 June)

- Decisions of Principle concerning policy issues by the end of the second week;
- Continuation of work in the Plenary Meetings;
- Commencement and continuation of work of the Committees;
- Committee 7 should take its main decisions by the end of the third week;
- Committee 5 should complete its work by the end of the third week.

The Conference should establish the deadlines for the submission of candidacies and the dates of the elections as well as procedures to be followed.

Fourth and fifth weeks (12 - 23 June)

Elections would commence on 12 June in the morning for the post of Secretary-General and will be followed progressively by the other elections.

Committees should meet regularly with the following priority dates for closure of their meetings :

- Committees 6 and 7 should complete their work by the end of the fourth week;
- Committees 8 and 9 should complete their work by the middle of the fifth week.

The results of the work of Committees 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, together with their financial implications, will be considered from time to time in Committee 4.

Committee 4 should complete its work by Tuesday, 20 June 1989;

Plenary Meetings will be held as required with a view to commencing the first and second readings of the texts of the Final Acts;

Final meetings of Committees 2 and 3 will be held with a view to the preparation of their reports.

Report of Committee 2 on Friday, 23 June 1989.

Sixth week (26 - 29 June)

- Tuesday 27 : - First reading by Plenary of the last texts of the Final Acts;
- Wednesday 28 : - Second reading by Plenary of the last texts of the Final Acts;
- Report of Committee 3;
- Thursday 29 : - Signing Ceremony and Closing.

Note 1 : Plenary meetings will be scheduled as necessary during each week of the Conference.

Note 2 : This schedule may be changed in the course of the work of the Conference.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 144-E
29 May 1989
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COMMITTEES 6, 7, 9

Republic of Mali

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

GENERAL COMMENTS

As a contribution to the work of this Plenipotentiary Conference, Nice, 1989, the Administration of Posts and Telecommunications of Mali wishes to bring some ideas concerning various agenda items to the attention of all participants.

I Recapitulation - Purposes of the Conference

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), as the supreme organ of the Union, is held as a rule every five years in order, inter alia:

- a) to determine the general policies for fulfilling the purposes of the Union;
- b) to consider the report by the Administrative Council on the activities of all the organs of the Union since the previous Plenipotentiary Conference;
- c) to establish the basis for the budget of the Union and determine a limit for expenditure in the period up to the next Plenipotentiary Conference;
- d) to examine the accounts of the Union and finally approve them, if appropriate;
- e) to elect the Members of the Administrative Council, the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General of the Union, the members of the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB) and, for the first time, the Directors of the International Consultative Committees (CCIs), and fix the dates of their taking office;
- f) to revise the Convention if it considers this necessary;
- g) to deal with all other telecommunication matters deemed necessary.

II Future role of the ITU

The role of the ITU is defined in Article 4 of the Nairobi Convention (1982). After consideration of the relevant provisions, it would seem necessary to reaffirm clearly this paramount role of the Union. In view of the new telecommunications environment and, particularly, the trends which may be expected in the future, particular attention should be paid to No. 20 concerning international cooperation between the Members of the Union with a view to providing technical assistance to the developing countries.

III Structure of the Union

1. General Secretariat

MLI/144/1

At present, the General Secretariat has very restricted executive powers. To enhance its efficiency and emphasize its decision-making responsibility concerning the important problems which are arising to an increasing extent owing in particular to the rapid evolution of the telecommunications environment, we consider it necessary to turn the General Secretariat into a directorate-general on the model of most of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations.

2. The CCIs

MLI/144/2

To achieve the objectives set, the Union has adopted the structure defined in Article 5 of the Nairobi Convention, which has hitherto proved effective. In view of the technological developments in telecommunications (bringing together of the activities of the CCITT and the CCIR), coupled with the substantial workloads of these organs, their merger should be contemplated. Hence a detailed study should be carried out on the future of the CCIs.

3. The IFRB

MLI/144/3

The maintenance of the IFRB and its composition of five members elected as representatives of the five Regions of the world is considered advisable. However, it is recommended that the IFRB should be established as a directorate and that the five elected members should be given a non-permanent status. Furthermore, the use of the computer by the IFRB should be continued and improved.

Particular emphasis should be given to indirect access to the computer for the purpose of the efficient operation of circuits, accompanied, however, by the continued distribution of documents in the conventional form to countries which do not use the system.

In conclusion, with regard to technical cooperation and assistance, an extension of financial aid to certain meetings of the CCIs would enable the developing countries to take a more active part in work of paramount importance for the development and profitability of the

telecommunications networks, i.e. Working Party III/7 and the GAS. A draft Recommendation on this point is attached to the present report for consideration.

IV Financing of ITU activities

Union expenditure is generally met from contributions of its Members based on the number of units corresponding to the class of contribution selected by each Member (see Article 15 of the Nairobi Convention). With regard to the ITU budget, the budget item relating solely to the "financing of the technical cooperation deficit" appears to us to be superfluous.

MLI/144/4

Hence, to clarify the budget, we recommend the simple deletion of the technical cooperation deficit item.

V Technical cooperation

MLI/144/5

1. Technical Cooperation Department

Technical cooperation and assistance constitute one of the three fundamental tasks performed by the Union. Hence the financing of technical cooperation and assistance activities should be covered by the ordinary ITU budget at a level consistent with the importance of this function among the fundamental activities of the Union.

To meet the purposes of the Union (Numbers 14A, 15B and 25) and in view of the rapid pace of development of the telecommunications environment, we consider it necessary and essential to place the Technical Cooperation Department as a directorate on a par with the CCIs and the IFRB.

MLI/144/6

2. Centre for Telecommunications Development

The Centre for Telecommunications Development set up in 1985 is also the subject of concern, particularly owing to the lack of resources and the clarification of its terms of reference in relation to those of the Technical Cooperation Department.

In the proposals made to the Plenipotentiary Conference, the Administrative Council contemplates the possibility of a merger between the Technical Cooperation Department and the Centre for Telecommunications Development.

We consider that the Technical Cooperation Department should be established as a directorate, absorbing the Centre for Telecommunications Development.

VI Instrument of the Union

This item is the subject of Document 50(Rev.1) of January 1988 submitted to the 43rd session of the Administrative Council (June-July 1988).

Under Administrative Council Resolution No. 936, the Group of Experts established under Resolution No. 62 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Nairobi, 1982), drew up a Constitution and a Convention to form the basic instrument of the Union. These documents are before the Plenipotentiary Conference for consideration and approval.

We share the views of the Group of Experts to the effect that it would be difficult, on both practical and legal grounds, to contemplate separating these two documents, which form a whole (both containing interrelated provisions governing the rights and obligations of the Members, hence the need for consistency between the two instruments for their future).

MLI/144/7

Thus the Administration of Mali proposes to take into consideration the "complementarity" and the "unitary construction" approach to the two instruments.

There are other questions such as the entry into force, the continuity of the membership of the Union, the provisional application and the amendment procedures for the new instruments, and the choice of a quorum for discussions.

All these matters, which have been studied in detail by the Group of Experts, call for attention on the part of all Members in order to secure the implementation and the durable character of these two future instruments of the Union.

Annex: 1

ANNEX

MLI/144/8

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

Financial and technical assistance

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Nice, 1989).

considering

- a) that the International Telecommunication Union has an important role to play in the development of telecommunication installations and networks in the developing countries;
- b) that the Union encourages international cooperation with a view to providing technical assistance to the developing countries by all the means at its disposal;
- c) that the Union promotes collaboration among its Members with a view to establishing rates at the lowest possible levels compatible with a good quality of service;
- d) the importance of the study of certain Questions (Study Group III - GAS) for the developing countries and the need for these countries to play an active part in the work of certain Working Parties;

recommends

that financial and technical assistance should be provided to the developing countries under Resolutions Nos. 18, 21, 25 and 28 of the Nairobi Convention to enable them to send experts to take part in the activities of Working Party III/7 of Study Group III and the GAS.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

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29 May 1989
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COMMITTEE 7

Republic of Guinea

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

DRAFT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 8

Administrative Council

GUI/145/1

While considering that the contributions from the Delegations of Senegal and Algeria are fully in accord with its own position, the Guinean Administration wishes to suggest an improvement in the procedure for electing Members of the Administrative Council, in such a way as to ensure partial rotation and equitable distribution of seats among the different regions without any increase in the number of Members.

Regions D and E include the greatest number of Members and cover the widest area of the globe. The number of seats for those regions should therefore be increased to 13 and 12 respectively.

Of 41 elected Members, 50% would then be subject to rotation midway between two Plenipotentiary Conferences and 50% would not be. Those percentages would apply within each region.

Reason: This procedure will give more countries access to the Administrative Council, without involving additional expenditure.

GUI/145/2

As part of the re-organization of the various organs of the ITU, the Guinean Delegation is in favour of merging the CCIR and the CCITT, with a view to increasing operational efficiency and reducing costs, to the benefit of Technical Cooperation, and with a view to re-invigorating the IFRB.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

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COMMITTEE 6

Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

GENERAL COMMENTS

Future of the Centre for Telecommunications Development

Pursuant to Resolution No. 20 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, 1982, the Centre for Telecommunications Development was set up in 1985 with the following main functions:

- a) collecting information about telecommunications policies and experience, including experience on the role of telecommunications in economic and social development throughout the world, and making the results available to developing countries to help them formulate policies for the evolution of their own networks;
- b) offering advice on organization and structure, planning, maintenance, training and personnel policy, procurement policy, tariff policy, financing of investment, etc.;
- c) also providing assistance for the preparation of plans, specifications for projects, and assistance with manpower planning and training.
 - The Centre has its own budget, financed by voluntary contributions under the supervision of an Advisory Board comprising financial backers and beneficiaries; as structured, the Centre should therefore allow the participation of the private sector in the field of telecommunications development.
 - Unfortunately, as a result of its lack of financial resources (owing to the fact that promised contributions have not been paid), the Centre has not so far produced the expected results.

The Nice Plenipotentiaries will have to consider the problem of merging the Centre with the Technical Cooperation Department, even though this goes against the view of its Advisory Board.

CTI/146/1

We believe that the basic problem concerns the financing of the Centre's activities; whereas originally the principle of purely voluntary finance had been accepted, the time has come to replace this with a system of stable financing in order to provide the necessary resources to finance its activities.

Any decision regarding a merger of the Centre with the Technical Cooperation Department would be premature. The objectives of the Centre are extremely useful for the development of telecommunications in Third World countries. It should therefore be given enough time to prove itself.

Nevertheless, any overlapping between the Centre's activities and those of the Technical Cooperation Department should be avoided, by identifying each clearly and listing common activities which are inevitable in view of the objectives of the Centre and the Technical Cooperation Department.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 147-E
29 May 1989
Original: French

COMMITTEE 6

⊗

Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

GENERAL COMMENTS

TECHNICAL COOPERATION

a) Introduction

The Technical Cooperation and assistance activities of the International Telecommunication Union correspond to the functions listed in Resolution No. 18 of the Nairobi Conference, mainly:

- to promote training in all activities connected with the development of telecommunications;
- to take all such action as necessary within the ambit of the Union to help countries become self-reliant;
- to provide assistance for the development of telecommunications in rural areas, etc.

To these must be added:

- implementation of projects for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
- engineering studies for possible projects.

Article 4 of the Nairobi Convention also makes technical cooperation one of the ITU's fundamental purposes.

It should therefore occupy a more prominent place in the ITU system. But what are the facts?

b) Financing of Technical Cooperation

The ITU's Technical Cooperation and assistance activities are financed as follows:

- Under section 7 of the ordinary budget: about 5.5 million Swiss francs is used every year to finance the activities described in Resolution No. 18 of the Nairobi Conference, namely:

- services of the Group of Engineers;
- logistic support for seminars;
- fellowship programme to participate in ITU seminars (e.g. IFRB seminars) and in CCI Study Group meetings;
- ITU regional presence;
- services of the Head of the Technical Cooperation Department and his office;
- special assistance for the least developed countries, etc.

Under section 21 (Technical Cooperation Special Accounts budget):

Thirteen per cent of this budget is provided by UNDP for administrative costs incurred in the execution of projects approved by that body; the remainder (87%) is financed wherever possible from savings under other items of the budget.

This 13% provided by UNDP is also used to finance activities undertaken by the ITU in its role as the United Nations agency responsible for promoting the development of telecommunication facilities, which include project engineering studies.

The cost of the staff of the Technical Cooperation Department is also financed out of this 13%.

Hence a deficit on the Special Accounts for Technical Cooperation amounting to 10.5 million Swiss francs for the years 1986-1988.

CTI/147/1 Proposals

In the light of Article 4 of the Nairobi Convention, which makes technical cooperation one of the ITU's basic purposes, the financing of technical cooperation activities should be improved and the Special Accounts budget should have its own financing, without having to wait for hypothetical savings under other items of the budget.

The staff costs at present entered under section 21 should be taken over by the ordinary budget, since the work done by these staff members is part of the ITU's activities as the United Nations specialized agency responsible for telecommunication development.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 148-E
29 May 1989
Original: French

COMMITTEE 9

Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

GENERAL COMMENTS

Basic instrument of the Union

The Plenipotentiary Conference (Nairobi, 1982) decided in Resolution No. 62 that the provisions of the International Telecommunication Convention should be separated into two instruments:

- a Constitution containing the provisions which were of a fundamental character, and
- a Convention comprising the other provisions which by definition might require revision at periodic intervals.

The Group of Experts set up therefore adopted a draft Constitution and Convention for approval by the next Plenipotentiary Conference in May 1989. But these two documents pose a number of legal problems that need to be raised.

A. Content of the two instruments

CTI/148/1 The Constitution is the Union's basic legal text. It should only contain general principles and provisions expected to be fairly permanent, which would not be revised from one meeting to the next. Accordingly, provisions such as the number of Members of the Administrative Council, which the Plenipotentiaries might wish to vary, should only be included in the Convention and not the Constitution.

B. Procedures for amending and ratifying the instruments

The principle adopted is that the Constitution, the Convention and the Administrative Regulations form a single legal whole: Article 40 states that the Administrative Regulations shall be regarded as annexed to the Constitution and the Convention and that ratification of the Constitution and the Convention constitutes also acceptance of the Administrative Regulations in force at the time of ratification.

Article 38.1 states that the Constitution and the Convention shall be ratified simultaneously by any signatory in accordance with its constitutional rules in force and in one single instrument. While the ratification of the initial instruments as such does not present any difficulty, their amendment raises a problem of how to preserve the balance.

Article 43 on the provisions for amending the Constitution states that any amendments to the Constitution adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit of instruments of acceptance with the Secretary-General by three-quarters of the Members. Elsewhere it is stated that after entry into force of any amendment, ratification or accession of the Constitution shall apply to the Convention as amended.

In practice, the Constitution can be expected to be reasonably permanent, i.e. it is not likely to be amended frequently. The Convention for its part will be subject to amendment at every Plenipotentiary Conference. If, then, the Convention is amended without the Constitution, what is the procedure for ratifying the amended Convention?

From Article 35.10 it can be deduced that ratification of the Convention is governed by the same procedure as that of the Constitution. This amounts to a legal anomaly: the procedure for ratifying a Convention cannot be the same as for the Constitution to which it is subordinate. It would therefore be desirable and practical for the procedures for approving these instruments to be differentiated according to their legal force:

- CTI/148/2 - only the Constitution should be subject to the procedure of ratification;
- CTI/148/3 - the amended Convention and the Administrative Regulations should simply be subject to acceptance by Members.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 149-E

29 May 1989

Original: Spanish

COMMITTEE 6

Republic of Colombia

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 4

CLM/149/1
ADD

- 24A h) promote with international financial organizations the establishment of preferential and favourable lines of credit to be used for the development of social projects aimed at extending the telephone service to the most isolated areas in countries.

Reasons: For developing countries such as our own, it is important that the Union should supervise the procurement of lines of credit with the various public and private international credit institutions, on preferential and favourable terms, for projects which are aimed at providing a telephone service to the many human settlements which are at present without communication.

This would be a decisive step towards the solution of one of the most serious problems to emerge from the Report of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development, known as "The Missing Link".

The Colombian Administration considers that the stage of diagnosis, determination of requirements and preparation of studies has now been completed, and that what is required at this stage is to seek financed economic resources, in particular for those countries, importers of technology, which are sponsoring telephone projects within their social development programmes with a view to overcoming the isolation of the inhabitants of remote regions.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

Document 150-E
2 June 1989

NICE, 1989

LIST OF DOCUMENTS (Documents 101 to 150)

No.	Origin	Title	Destination
101 +Corr.1 (Rev.1)	E	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Proposed amendment to the Draft Constitution	C.8
102	E	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Proposed amendment to the Draft Convention	C.9
103	TUR	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Draft Resolution relating to the Revision of the Frequency Allotment Plan for the Aeronautical Mobile (OR) Service	C.8
104 (Rev.1)	SG	Conference Secretariat	PL
105	SG	Financial aspects of the programme of major Conferences and Meetings 1990-1994	PL
106 +Corr.1	SG	Report on the implementation of WATTC-88 Resolution PL/3	C.6
107	SG	Use of the United Nations Telecommunication Network for the telecommunications traffic of the Specialized Agencies	C.8
108	D	Proposals for the work of the Conference	C.4,7,8,9
109	HOL	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Future Administrative Radio Conferences	C.8
110	GRC	Proposals for the work of the Conference	C.4,7,8,9
111	J	Proposals for the work of the Conference	C.4,6,8,9
112	CHL	Budget of the International Telecommunication Union	C.4,9
113	CHL	Technical Cooperation Activities	C.4,6
114 +Corr.1	POR	Proposal for the work of the Conference - Basic Instrument of the Union	C.7

No.	Origin	Title	Destination
115	ARG	Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union	C.4,7,8,9
116	ARG	Convention of the International Telecommunication Union	C.4,7,8,
117	-	Message from the President of the French Republic	-
118	SG	Structure of the Plenipotentiary Conference	-
119	PL	Minutes of Inaugural Meeting	-
120	-	Inaugural address by His Excellency Mr. Paul QUILES, French Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Space - Opening Ceremony	-
121	-	Address by Mr. R. E. BUTLER, Secretary-General - Opening Ceremony	-
122	PL	Minutes of the first Plenary Meeting	PL
123	PL	Minutes of the second Plenary Meeting	PL
124	IND	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Constitution and Convention	C.7, 8
125 (Rev.1)	SG	Conference Chairmanships	-
126	MRC	Proposals - Constitution and Convention	C.4,7,8,9
127	MRC	Remote access to ITU data bases	C.7
128	MRC	Technical Cooperation	C.6
129	MRC	Future Conferences of the Union	C.7
130	-	Address by Mr. J. GRENIER, Chairman at the first Plenary Meeting	-
131	SG	Report on the ITU Staff Pension Committee to the Plenipotentiary Conference	C.5
132	CTI	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Proposed amendments to the Draft Constitution	C.4,6,7,8,9
133	-	Address by the Secretary-General at the second Plenary Meeting	-

No.	Origin	Title	Destination
134	PL	Minutes of the third Plenary Meeting	PL
135 + Corr.1	PL	Minutes of the fourth Plenary Meeting	PL
136	PL	Minutes of the fifth Plenary Meeting (not yet published)	PL
137	PL	Minutes of the sixth Plenary Meeting (not yet published)	PL
138	TON	Proposals for the work of the Conference - ITU Regional Presence	C.6
139	SG	Letter from the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of Japan	PL
140	USA	Proposal for the work of the Conference	PL
141	IRQ	Proposals for the work of the Conference	C.6,7,8,9
142	SLM	Establishment of an ITU Representative in the South Pacific Region	C.6
143	SG	Information Document - Tentative General Schedule of the work of the Conference	-
144	MLI	Proposals for the work of the Conference - General Comments	C.6,7,9
145	GUI	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Draft Constitution	C.7
146	CTI	General Comments - Future of the Centre for Telecommunications Development	C.6
147	CTI	General Comments - Technical Cooperation	C.6
148	CTI	General Comments - Basic instrument of the Union	C.9
149	CLM	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Proposed modification of the Draft Constitution	C.6
150	SG	List of Documents (101 to 150)	-

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 151-E
29 May 1989
Original: Spanish

COMMITTEES 7, 8, 9

Republic of Colombia

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

Introduction

Exercising the rights which it enjoys in fulfilling its obligation to take part in ITU conferences, meetings and consultations, the Colombian Administration submits to the Plenipotentiary Conference the following proposals concerning the draft Constitution and Convention prepared by the Group of Experts on the Basic Instrument of the Union, for the purpose of aligning the legal terms employed in their various Articles to the provisions of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969).

CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ARTICLE 4

Purposes of the Union

CLM/151/1
MOD

24

- g) undertake studies, make treaties, agreements and regulations, adopt resolutions, formulate recommendations and opinions, and collect and publish information concerning telecommunication matters.

Reasons: To specify the main purpose of an international organization under Article 5 of the Vienna Convention of 1969.

ARTICLE 6

Plenipotentiary Conference

CLM/151/2
MOD

45

- j) consider and ~~adopt~~ agree, if appropriate, proposals for amendments to this Constitution and the Convention;

Reasons: To define a function of the Plenipotentiary Conference in keeping with Article 39 of the Vienna Convention, 1969.

ARTICLE 7

Administrative Conferences

CLM/151/3
MOD

- 51 2. Administrative conferences shall normally be convened to consider and adopt specific telecommunication matters. Only items included in their agenda may be discussed by such conferences. The decisions of such conferences must in all circumstances be in conformity with the provisions of this Constitution and the Convention. When adopting resolutions and decisions, administrative conferences should take into account the foreseeable financial implications and shall try to avoid adopting resolutions and decisions which might give rise to expenditure in excess of the upper limits on credits laid down by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

Reasons: To define precisely the main purposes of international conferences in keeping with Article 9, 2. of the Vienna Convention of 1969.

CLM/151/4
MOD

- 53 a) the partial ~~revision~~ amendment and modification of the Administrative Regulations referred to in Article 36 [41, 42 + 83] of this Constitution;

Reasons: To define a purpose of international conferences in the terms employed in Part IV of the Vienna Convention of 1969.

CLM/151/5
MOD

- 54 b) exceptionally, the complete ~~revision~~ amendment and modification of one or more of those Regulations;

Reasons: The same as above.

ARTICLE 16

Languages

CLM/151/6
MOD [122] 127

2. (1) The final documents of the Plenipotentiary and administrative conferences, agreements and treaties, their final acts, protocols, resolutions, recommendations and opinions, shall be drawn up in the official languages of the Union, in versions equivalent in form and content.

Reasons: To refer clearly to the precise nature of the main documents produced by international conferences for publication in the official languages of the Union.

ARTICLE 27

CLM/151/7
MOD

Special Arrangements Agreements

CLM/151/8
MOD [151] 150

Members reserve for themselves, for the private operating agencies recognized by them and for other agencies duly authorized to do so, the right to make special arrangements agreements on telecommunication matters which do not concern Members in general. Such arrangements agreements, however, shall not be in conflict with the terms of this Constitution, of the Convention or of the Administrative Regulations, so far as concerns the harmful interference which their operation might be likely to cause to the radio services of other Members.

Reasons: To employ the same term as the Vienna Convention of 1969.

ARTICLE 28

CLM/151/9
MOD

Regional Conferences, Arrangements Agreements and Organizations

CLM/151/10
MOD [152] 151

Members reserve the right to convene regional conferences, to make regional arrangements agreements and to form regional organizations, for the purpose of settling telecommunication questions which are susceptible of being treated on a regional basis. Such arrangements agreements shall not be in conflict with either this Constitution or the Convention.

Reasons: To employ the same term as the Vienna Convention of 1969.

ARTICLE 38

CLM/151/11
MOD

Ratification, Acceptance and Approval

CLM/151/12
MOD [177] 173

1. This Constitution and the Convention shall be ratified, accepted or approved simultaneously by any signatory Contracting State in accordance with its constitutional rules in force and in one single instrument. Each instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited, in as short a time as possible, with the Secretary-General [by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the Government of the seat of the Union]. The Secretary-General shall notify the Members of each deposit of such instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

Reasons: To include the terms "acceptance and approval" in keeping with Article 14 of the Vienna Convention of 1969 at the suggestion of the Group of Experts and to introduce the term "Contracting State" in conformity with Article 2 f) of that Convention.

CLM/151/13
MOD [178] 174

2. (1) During a period of two years from the date of entry into force of this Constitution and the Convention, a signatory Contracting State, even though it may not have deposited an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval in accordance with No. 173 [177] of this Constitution, shall enjoy the rights conferred on Members of the Union in Nos. 8 to 11 of this Constitution.

Reasons: The same as those given for MOD [177].

CLM/151/14
MOD [179] 175

(2) From the end of a period of two years from the date of entry into force of this Constitution and the Convention, a signatory Contracting State which has not deposited an instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval in accordance with No. 173 [177] of this Constitution shall not be entitled any more to vote at any conference of the Union, or at any session of the Administrative Council, or at any meeting of any of the permanent organs of the Union, or during consultation by correspondence conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and of the Convention until it has so deposited such an instrument. Its rights, other than voting rights, shall not be affected.

Reasons: The same as those given for MOD [177].

CLM/151/15
MOD [180] 176

3. After the entry into force of this Constitution and the Convention in accordance with Article 46 [52] of this Constitution, each instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval shall become effective on the date of its deposit with the Secretary-General.

Reasons: To bring the terms into line with Article 14 of the Vienna Convention of 1969.

ARTICLE 40 [43 + 42]

Administrative Regulations

CLM/151/16
MOD [171] 180

2. Ratification, acceptance or approval of, or accession to, this Constitution and the Convention, in accordance with Articles 38 [45] and 39 [46] of this Constitution respectively, constitutes also acceptance of the Administrative Regulations in force at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

Reasons: To bring the terms into line with Article 14 of the Vienna Convention of 1969.

ARTICLE 44 [47]

Denunciation of the Constitution and the Convention

CLM/151/17
MOD [184] 195

1. Each Member which has ratified, accepted or approved, or acceded to, this Constitution and the Convention shall have the right to denounce them by a notification addressed to the Secretary-General [by diplomatic channel through the intermediary of the Government of the country of the seat of the Union]. The Secretary-General shall advise the other Members thereof.

Reasons: To bring the terms into line with Article 14 of the Vienna Convention of 1969.

ARTICLE 46 [52 + 84]

Entry into Force and Related Matters

CLM/151/18
MOD [193] 198

1. (1) This Constitution and the Convention shall enter into force between Parties thereto on the thirtieth day after deposit of:

~~{the 25th instrument of ratification or accession}~~

[the ~~{41st}~~ ~~{55th}~~ instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession].

~~{instruments of ratification or accession by more than a {quarter} {third} of the Members of the Union}~~

Reasons: To bring the terms into line with Article 14 of the Vienna Convention.

CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ARTICLE 30 [81]

Rendering and Settlement of Accounts

CLM/151/19
MOD [630] 400

3. The statement of accounts with respect to debits and credits referred to in No. 399 [629] of this Convention shall be drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Regulations, unless special ~~arrangements~~ agreements have been concluded between the parties concerned.

Reasons: To bring the terms into line with the Vienna Convention.

ARTICLE 31

Monetary unit

CLM/151/20
MOD [150] 401

In the absence of special ~~arrangements~~ agreements concluded between Members, the monetary unit to be used in the composition of accounting rates for international telecommunication services and in the establishment of international accounts shall be:

- either the monetary unit of the International Monetary Fund,
- or the gold franc,

both as defined in the Administrative Regulations. The provisions for application are contained in Appendix 1 to the Telegraph and Telephone Regulations.

Reasons: To bring the terms into line with the Vienna Convention.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 152-E

29 May 1989

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COMMITTEE 9

Argentine Republic

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

PROPOSALS FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF THE ITU

Preamble

ARG/152/1
MOD

While fully recognizing the sovereign right of each State to regulate its telecommunication and having regard to the growing importance of telecommunication for the preservation of peace and the social and economic development of all States, the ~~Plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the Contracting States Parties to this Constitution and to the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention") which complements it, with the object of facilitating peaceful relations, international cooperation and economic and social development among peoples by means of efficient telecommunication services, have agreed to establish, as the basic instrument of the International Telecommunication Union, this Constitution, as well as the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union (hereinafter referred to as "the Convention"), which complements this Constitution as follows:~~

Reasons: 1. Deletion of: "the Plenipotentiaries of the Governments":

We consider that it is only the State itself which should appear in the body of the text of the international treaty, of which the Preamble forms a part, without any reference to the officials of the individual governments, who would be better placed in the text of the Final Acts of the Conference.

2. Replacement of "Contracting States" by States parties: we consider that this is a question of substance, since the State assumes a different level of commitment in each case.

The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, 1969, contains in Article 2 the definition establishing the different levels of commitment accepted by the State in the following cases:

"f) "Contracting State" means a State which has consented to be bound by the Treaty, whether or not the treaty has entered into force;"

"g) "party" means a State which has consented to be bound by the Treaty, whether or not the treaty has entered into force;"

To supplement this analysis, we reproduce the text of the above-mentioned Treaty with regard to the definition of the term "negotiating", the adoption of which, with some dissident views, is recommended by the Group of Experts which drew up the draft Constitution and Convention:

"e) "negotiating State" means a State which took part in the drawing up and adoption of the text of the Treaty".

In our view, the use of the term "contracting" would be appropriate if the Constitution or the Convention of the ITU included provisions whereby the State consented to be bound by the Treaty, whether or not it had entered into force.

The choice of the term "negotiating" implies the acceptance of an approach which emphasizes that the participation in the drafting and adoption of the text by only those States which had attended the Plenipotentiary Conference and signed the Treaty, excluding from the definition all States which subsequently acceded to the Constitution and the Convention of the ITU.

The decision to use the term "Parties" means placing the subject within a context which defines the condition governing the coming into effect of the State's consent to be bound by the Treaty, namely the time at which the Treaty comes into force for this State. Hence the selection of the term "Parties" would be consistent with the provisions of Article 38 (Ratification), Article 39 (Accession) and Article 46 (Entry into Force and Related Matters) of the Constitution of the ITU.

Needless to say, the definition of "Parties" allows both for the signatory who has acceded to membership of the ITU by depositing the instrument of ratification of the treaty obligations and for the Member or State which has not signed the international Treaty and which has deposited the instrument of accession.

3. Deletion of "as the basic instrument of the International Telecommunication Union":

The definition of the Constitution as the Basic Instrument of the Union, the provisions of which are complemented by those of the Convention, is contained in Article 36, No. 166 (Instruments of the Union).

The deletion of this passage is in keeping with the principles and purposes set out in the Preamble, relating to the sole and exclusive development objectives referred to therein, serving as the basis for the agreement between States, and thus providing the text with a clarity from which the repeated definition of No. 166 would detract.

To sum up, these are the reasons for which we have considered it useful to submit this contribution for decision by the Members of the ITU.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 153-E

29 May 1989

Original: Spanish

COMMITTEE 9

Argentine Republic

CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ARTICLE 1

Composition of the Union

- NOC 2 1. The International Telecommunication Union shall comprise Members which, having regard to the principle of universality and the desirability of universal participation in the Union, shall be:
- ARG/153/1
MOD 3 a) any ~~Member State listed in Annex 1 to this Constitution~~, which signs and ratifies, or accedes to, this Constitution and the Convention;
- ARG/153/2
MOD 4 b) any State ~~not listed in Annex 1~~, which becomes a Member of the United Nations and which accedes to this Constitution and the Convention in accordance with Article 39 [46] of this Constitution;
- ARG/153/3
MOD 5 c) any State ~~not listed in Annex 1 and~~ not a Member of the United Nations, which applies for membership of the Union and which, after having secured approval of such application by two-thirds of the Members of the Union, accedes to this Constitution and the Convention in accordance with Article 39 [46] of this Constitution;
- ARG/153/4
ADD 5A d) the list of Members shall be drawn up in accordance with Article 4 of the Convention.

Reasons:

ADD 5A d):

We think that an up-to-date list of ITU Members should be available and we therefore propose to replace Annex 1 by the publication of a list which can be updated.

To this end, we suggest in a separate contribution (ADD Article 4 of the Convention) that the General Secretariat should be responsible for keeping the list, which would contain:

- names of States that acquire the status of Members of the Union;
- their status with regard to:
 - deposit of the instrument of ratification of the Constitution and the Convention: date of deposit;
 - deposit of the instrument of accession: date of deposit;
 - deposit of the instrument of acceptance of protocols of amendment to the Constitution and/or Convention: date of deposit.

The list might also include:

- the status of each Member with regard to:
 - notification of approval of any revision of the Administrative Regulations: date of notification.

Furthermore, the list should mention any denunciation of the Constitution and Convention by a Member, together with the date on which such denunciation will take effect.

MOD 3:

The Group of Experts replaced the word "country" by the word "Member" in order to permit the inclusion of Namibia, although the objection was raised that the term "Member" introduces a certain degree of confusion with regard to the condition required for becoming a Member of the ITU, as indeed has occurred in this provision.

No. 3 a) states that signature and ratification of, or accession to, the Constitution and Convention shall be prerequisites for membership of the Union.

Accordingly, after a final review of the matter, we consider it necessary to replace the term "Member" by "State".

With regard to Namibia, we express and support the view that this country should continue to appear in the list of Members of the Union.

The deletion of the phrase "listed in Annex 1 to this Constitution" is the consequence of the proposal relating to No. 5 d).

MOD 4 and MOD 5:

The deletion of "not listed in Annex 1" is the consequence of the proposal relating to No. 5A d).

**PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE**

NICE, 1989

Document 154-E

29 May 1989

Original: Spanish

COMMITTEE 7

Argentine Republic

CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ARG/154/1
ADD

ARTICLE N

**Procedure for Taking up Office in the Administrative Council
and the Permanent Organs of the Union**

ARG/154/2

N1 (1) The Members elected to the Administrative Council shall take up their duties at the first session of the Administrative Council following the Plenipotentiary Conference at which they were elected.

ARG/154/3

N2 (2) The officials elected to the posts of Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Director of the International Radio Consultative Committee, Director of the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee and Member of the International Frequency Registration Board shall take up their duties [90] days after the last day of the month marking the conclusion of the Plenipotentiary Conference at which they were elected.

(3) The period of office of outgoing officials shall end on the day on which the newly elected officials take up their duties.

Reasons: In its final report, the Group of Experts (Resolution No. 62, Nairobi, 1982) recommended that, having regard to the new concept of the Basic Instrument of the Union, the substantive issues covered by the Additional Protocols to the current Nairobi Convention should be dealt with by means of appropriate decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

We believe that the commencement and termination of periods of office (Members and elected officials) are permanent questions which should be governed by a permanent procedure like the one proposed above.

This procedure, which empowers the Members of the Administrative Council to take up their duties at a specific time, also sets a time (to be discussed) for newly elected and outgoing officials, respectively, to commence and terminate their period of office.

**PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE**

NICE, 1989

Addendum 1 to
Document 155-E
8 June 1989
Original: Spanish

PLENARY MEETING

Argentine Republic

ARG/155/23
ADD

N13bis

If, in the absence of the required majority, no Member or candidate is elected, a second and, if necessary, a third ballot shall be taken in order to obtain a majority.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 155-E
29 May 1989
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COMMITTEE 8

Argentine Republic

CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

CHAPTER IV

Rules of Procedure of Conferences and Other Meetings

ARG/155/1
ADD

ARTICLE N

**Procedure for the Election of Members of the
Administrative Council and Elected Officials**

ARG/155/2
ADD

N1

The Plenipotentiary Conference shall apply the following procedure for the election of the Members of the Administrative Council and the elected officials.

ARG/155/3
ADD

N2

The election shall take place by secret ballot.

ARG/155/4
ADD

N3

Before conducting the election, the Chairman of the Conference shall designate five tellers, one for each of the Administrative Regions of the Union.

ARG/155/5
ADD

N4

Each delegation with the right to vote shall receive a ballot slip with the names of the Members standing for the Administrative Council and slips with the name of the candidate elected officials, all in French alphabetical order and arranged by Administrative Region.

ARG/155/6
ADD

N5

Each delegation shall place on its ballot slip a cross opposite the name of the Member or candidate for whom it is voting.

ARG/155/7
ADD

N6

After the vote has been taken, the secretariat shall compile a list of the Members or candidates from each Administrative Region in decreasing order of the number of votes obtained.

This list shall be checked by the tellers and handed to the Chairman of the Conference.

ARG/155/8
ADD

N7

Those Members who have obtained the greatest number of votes within each Administrative Region shall be declared elected Members.

ARG/155/9
ADD

N8

Candidates who have obtained the greatest number of votes in each Administrative Region shall be declared elected members of the International Frequency Registration Board.

ARG/155/10
ADD

N9

Candidates who have obtained the greatest number of votes shall be declared officials elected to the posts of Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Director of the International Radio Consultative Committee and Director of the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee.

ARG/155/11
ADD

N10

If, in any Administrative Region, several Members obtain the same number of votes for the last place or places in the Administrative Council, a second vote will be held to decide among the Members concerned.

ARG/155/12
ADD

N11

If, in any Administrative Region, several candidates obtain the same number of votes for membership of the International Frequency Registration Board, a second vote shall be held to decide among the candidates concerned.

ARG/155/13
ADD

N12

If, for any other elective post, several candidates obtain an equal number of votes for the post of Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, Director of the International Radio Consultative Committee or Director of the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee, a second ballot shall be taken.

ARG/155/14
ADD

N13

If, in the second ballot, an equal number of votes is again obtained, a third ballot shall be taken to decide among the Members or candidates concerned.

ARG/155/15
ADD

N14

If, after three ballots, no Member or candidate has obtained a majority, a fourth ballot shall be taken to decide between the two Members or candidates obtaining the largest number of votes in the third ballot.

- ARG/155/16
ADD N15 If the third ballot produces a tie between several Members or candidates, such that it is impossible to decide on the two candidates to be included in the fourth ballot, one or, if necessary, two additional ballots shall be taken between the Members or candidates concerned in order to break the tie.
- ARG/155/17
ADD N16 In the event of a further tie after the additional ballots referred to in N15 above, the Chairman shall draw lots between the Members or candidates concerned to select a Member or candidate from among those obtaining an equal number of votes.
- ARG/155/18
ADD N17 If the fourth and last ballot still results in a tie, the Chairman shall draw lots to elect a candidate.
- ARG/155/19
ADD N18 The majority required in Nos. 7, 8 and 9 for election to the various posts shall constitute more than half the delegations present and voting. If the number of abstentions exceeds half the votes expressed, the provisions of No. 320 of this Convention shall be applied. Spoiled votes shall not be taken into account.
- ARG/155/20
ADD N19 The elections shall begin on the first working day of the second week from the start of the Conference and shall continue uninterruptedly over the following working days. In the event of a tie, there shall be a six-hour interval between ballots.
- ARG/155/21
ADD N20 The elections shall be held in the following order: Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, members of the International Frequency Registration Board, Director of the International Radio Consultative Committee, Director of the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee, Members of the Administrative Council.
- ARG/155/22
ADD N21 The election procedure shall not be modified except on duly substantiated grounds and shall require a decision majority by the Members.

Reasons: It is scarcely necessary to argue the need to establish an election procedure.

What needs to be substantiated is the need to include, duly adapted, the current election procedures followed by the ITU under its own Convention.

In this respect, we feel that it is suitable to give stability and status to the provisions constituting this procedure.

This argument is based upon the organizational requirements of the Plenipotentiary Conference, coupled with the need for a transparent election procedure.

Although this contribution provides for the inclusion of the complete election process in the Convention, we also think it possible to split it up as follows:

- questions of substance in the Convention (example: N2, N18, N19, N20 and N21), and,
 - instrumental matters in a resolution of the Plenipotentiary Conference.
-

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 156-E
29 May 1989
Original: Spanish

COMMITTEE 5

Argentine Republic

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION CONVENTION

CHAPTER N

ARG/156/1
ADD

ARTICLE N

Administrative Regions of the Union

ARG/156/2
ADD

No. N

In order to ensure that the activities assigned by the Union to its permanent organs and bodies are based on an equitable representation which incorporates, applying a regional concept, all the Members of the Union, the five following Administrative Regions are established, in which the Members are included in accordance with their respective geographical location:

Region A: America

Region B: Western Europe

Region C: Eastern Europe and Northern Asia

Region D: Africa

Region E: Asia and Australasia

Reasons: The adoption of this Article would:

- a) provide a legal basis for a de facto situation,
- b) supplement the provisions of the Constitution.

In connection with a), we should point out that the Union does in fact apply, for the purpose of ensuring adequate geographical representation, the concept of Region which we propose.

With regard to b):

This concept of Region is applied to form the Administrative Council (Article 8, No. 57 of the Constitution):

Region A: 8 Members (Region consisting of 32 Members)

"	B:	7	"	("	"	"	25	")
"	C:	4	"	("	"	"	12	")
"	D:	11	"	("	"	"	51	")
"	E:	11	"	("	"	"	46	")

The election of the elected officials: Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, the members of the International Frequency Registration Board and the Directors of the International Consultative Committees, as well as the recruitment of the appointed staff, is likewise based on an equitable geographical distribution among the various Regions of the world (Article 13, Nos. 105 and 106 of the Constitution).

The appointment of the officers of Administrative Conferences and other meetings of the Union is based on geographical distribution (Article 25, No. 248 of the Convention), while the membership of the Groups of Experts is based on the five Administrative Regions (Administrative Council Resolution No. 936, Resolution No. 62 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi, 1982) (Administrative Council Resolution No. 943, Resolution No. 68 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi, 1982).

The foregoing arguments indicate the desirability of this proposal concerning the Administrative Regions of the Union, and would moreover constitute a distinction with regard to the Regions 1, 2, and 3 established in the Radio Regulations for frequency allocation.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 157-E

29 May 1989

Original: Spanish

COMMITTEE 6

Republic of Colombia

PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

DRAFT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 4

Purposes of the Union

CLM/157/1
MOD

14

- a) to maintain and extend international cooperation between all Members of the Union for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds, for the development of projects designed to meet social objectives, as well as to promote and to offer technical assistance to developing countries in the field of telecommunications;

Reasons: To establish as one of the Union's purposes the maintenance and extension of international cooperation in the development of telecommunication projects which are designed to meet social objectives and which are not necessarily to be seen in terms of immediate economic profitability.

The United Nations has recognized and emphasized the importance of projects of this type, which are currently being implemented in a number of countries.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 158-E

29 May 1989

Original: Spanish

COMMITTEE 7

Republic of Colombia

PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

CLM/158/1

ADD

RESOLUTION

**Review of No. 34 of Article 6 of the Constitution of the
International Telecommunication Union**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union
(Nice, 1989),

in view of

- a) the cost and volume of the activities generated by the Plenipotentiary Conference, owing to their duration and scope;
- b) the many changes brought about in a short space of time by the development of telecommunications;
- c) the desirability of ensuring that the Plenipotentiary Conference's decisions and policies keep abreast of developments and changes in the field of telecommunications;

resolves

that No. 34 of Article 6 of the Constitution of the International
Telecommunication Union shall be reviewed;

- 1. instructs the Administrative Council:
 - 1.1 to set up a Group of Experts from administrations to conduct the above-mentioned review and to submit a report to the Administrative Council not later than 1 January 1993;
 - 1.2 to request the Group of Experts to study in detail the possibility of convening the Plenipotentiary Conference at shorter intervals and for shorter periods;
 - 1.3 to instruct the Group of Experts to include in its report an assessment of the procedure proposed;

- 1.4 to ensure that the establishment of the Group of Experts has no financial implications for the ordinary budget of the Union, apart from the secretarial cost of preparing and publishing the reports and distributing them to Members;
 - 1.5 to place this matter on the agenda of the next Plenipotentiary Conference.
-

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 159-E
29 May 1989
Original: English

COMMITTEE 8

China

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 16

Languages

CHN/159/1
MOD [123] 128

(2) All other documents of these conferences shall be issued in the working languages of the Union. However the main documents in this category shall be issued in Chinese which is an official language of the Union (it is estimated that the volume of documentation involved will be approximately 50% of the total volume).

CHN/159/2
MOD [126] 131

(3) All other documents for general distribution prepared by the Secretary-General in the course of his duties shall be drawn up in the three working languages. However the main documents in this category shall be drawn up in Chinese which is an official language of the Union (it is estimated that the volume of documentation involved will be approximately 50% of the total volume).

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT CONVENTION

ARTICLE 19

Languages and Right to Vote in Plenary Assemblies

CHN/159/3
MOD [418] 215

(2) The preparatory documents of study groups, the documents and minutes of Plenary Assemblies and the documents published after these Assemblies by the International Consultative Committees shall be issued in the three working languages of the Union. However 50% of the documents of Plenary Assemblies and of those published after these Assemblies by the International Consultative Committees shall be issued in Chinese which is an official language of the Union.

Reasons: The Chinese language is used by more than 1.1 billion people. The enhanced use of Chinese in the ITU would enable the countries and regions using that language to take a more active and effective part in the various activities of the ITU, thus contributing further to the technical exchanges and cooperation in the ITU.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 160-E

5 June 1989

Original: French

COMMITTEE 6

Canada, France

THE CENTRE FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT

The present situation

1. The Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) was established in 1985 and became operational in 1986. Since then problems have arisen as a result of a mandate which appears over-ambitious in relation to the resources forthcoming from voluntary contributions. These problems have had significant effects on the Centre's internal organization.

a) An over-ambitious mandate

The CTD was set up chiefly as a response to the need to strengthen and expand the scope and extent of advisory services and technical assistance to developing countries. The Maitland Commission noted, moreover, that whereas the developing countries were able to find support in the field of telecommunications on the part of a number of national, regional and international, multilateral and bilateral, public and private organizations, responsible for developing general assistance programmes to satisfy requirements of varying nature and scope, there was an undoubted lack of consultation among such organizations.

The Centre is therefore a kind of advisory institution with three main types of functions entirely oriented towards the beneficiary countries, related to:

- development policy: informing developing countries as effectively as possible to help them formulate their own national telecommunications strategy;
- telecommunications development: before any commitment of funds, advising developing countries on creating and operating an effective telecommunications system (establishment of master plans, investment plans, etc.);
- operations support: supplying specific advisory services to applicant countries.

b) Limited resources

The effectiveness of the Centre depends to a large extent on its ability to obtain funds to finance its activities. Despite the efforts of the Advisory Board, however, the amount of resources made available has remained limited (1987: 2 million Swiss francs in cash and roughly 0.5 million in kind; 1988: 3.2 million Swiss francs in cash and about the same amount in kind).

c) Too many analogies between the CTD and the Technical Cooperation Department

At the time the CTD was set up, both the Maitland Commission and the ITU Administrative Council insisted on effective coordination between the CTD and the ITU's Technical Cooperation Department in order to avoid any waste of effort and to make effective use of available resources. Unfortunately, as the CTD Rapporteur pointed out to the 44th session of the Administrative Council, there are too many analogies between the CTD and the Technical Cooperation Department.

2. Canadian and French proposals

If the CTD, within the ITU's structure, is to achieve its objective of remedying the imbalance in the distribution of telecommunications in the world, it seems essential to reconsider its mandate and its mode of operation.

CAN/F/160/1

1. A more specific mandate

In the light of the Centre's objective, its mandate should be two-fold.

a) In relation to beneficiary countries:

to promote the importance of telecommunications as a key factor of socio-economic development with a view to increasing the flow of investment in this field and to give them greater priority.

The purpose would be to show the authorities of developing countries, especially at the highest political level, the importance and justification of giving greater priority to telecommunications in order to optimize the efficiency of their general development plan, and, where appropriate, to advise them on the formulation of their national telecommunication strategy.

b) In relation to bilateral and multilateral aid organizations and agencies:

to establish close consultation between development agencies and national, regional and international bilateral and multilateral organizations which contribute to the development of the developing countries with a view to optimizing the overall efficiency of telecommunication development aid programmes in order to make the best possible use of all resources set aside to that effect;

to encourage them to give greater priority to telecommunications in their own programmes and to recognize the importance of allowing telecommunications a significant

place in the socio-economic development programmes which they support. In this context, it may be noted that:

- the World Bank Group devoted 1.84% of its loans to the telecommunications sector in the period 1975 to 1985, and that this proportion, after rising to 3.86% in 1987, fell back to 0.19% in 1988;
- the UNDP devotes only 3.6% of its annual budget to telecommunications.

c) The mandate could be expressed as follows: (see Annex)

CAN/F/160/2

2. A new mode of operation

In order to fulfil its mandate effectively, the CTD should be attentive to the requirements of developing countries and keep itself informed regarding actions undertaken by development agencies and organizations in each country, in particular through the ITU Area Representatives and ITU Senior Regional Representatives.

In its relations with the ITU:

- as executing agency for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and for other programmes for which finance is made available to the ITU, the CTD should be involved in the choice selection of projects together with the administration of the developing country, the Technical Cooperation Department responsible for implementing the project, the UNDP or the financial backer concerned.
- as a specialized agency of the United Nations for Telecommunications, the CTD should, with regard to the other two functions it exercised previously, avoid overlapping, particularly with regard to studies and field activities, and institute a number of procedures to ensure in consultation with the organizations concerned that:
 - studies undertaken in the framework of the telecommunication development function, especially master plans or investment plans, should lead to project implementation, which would entail the prior agreement of financiers concerned with the projects. No master plan or investment plan should be decided by a developing country without one or more financial backers having already manifested an interest in implementing the telecommunications projects of the country concerned;
 - the operations support function should complement the action taken by the financiers. There should in particular be consultation with the Technical Cooperation Department.

Annex: 1

ANNEX

CAN/F/160/3
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Centre for Telecommunications Development

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union, (Nice, 1989),

recalling

- a) Resolution No. 20 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, 1982, concerning the creation of an International Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development;
- b) paragraph d) of Resolution No. 18 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, 1982, which considers that the Union is the most appropriate international forum for the study of all kinds of problems connected with telecommunications, and in particular for coordinating most of the resources assigned to technical cooperation and assistance in the field of telecommunications;
- c) Recommendation No. 929 of July 1985 of the Administrative Council, which decided to establish within the framework of the Union, in Geneva, a Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD), with a separate budget and functioning in accordance with the objectives and guidelines laid down by the Administrative Council so as to be consistent with the general aims of the ITU in the development field;
- d) The difficulties encountered by the Centre since its creation, largely attributable to the definition of its tasks.

decides that:

the mandate of the CTD should be based on the following functions:

- furthering development policy by collecting, analysing and disseminating information about telecommunication policies and the importance of the role of telecommunications in the economic and social development of countries in order to make the authorities of developing countries, at the highest levels, aware of the need to take them into account in formulating their national telecommunication strategy;
- encouraging development agencies and national, regional and international bilateral and multilateral organizations to recognize the role of telecommunications in the development process, to give them therefore greater priority in their own programmes, and to reserve a significant place for telecommunication in economic and social development projects (agriculture, town planning, health, etc.) and in assistance programmes undertaken for those projects;

- establishing close consultation between development agencies and national, regional and international bilateral and multilateral organizations contributing to the development of developing countries, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with a view to optimizing the overall efficiency of telecommunication development aid programmes in order to make the best possible use of resources devoted to that effect and to avoid overlapping;

instructs the Administrative Council

to study and introduce new operating procedures between the CTD and the ITU with respect to the latter's two essential functions (as Executing Agency for the UNDP and Specialized Agency of the United Nations), in order to make the best possible use of the ITU's resources and to avoid overlapping.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 161-E

7 June 1989

Original: French

COMMITTEE 4

Note by the Secretary-General

Participation of recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations in defraying the expenses of the International Consultative Committees

The International Telecommunication Convention (Nairobi, 1982) provides, with regard to the participation of recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations:

615. The following provisions shall apply to contributions by recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations:

618. c) Recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations ... shall freely choose ... their class of contribution for defraying Union expenses ...

620. e) No reduction in the number of contributory units shall take effect during the life of the Convention;

621. f) In the case of denunciation of participation in the work of an International Consultative Committee, the contribution shall be paid up to the last day of the month in which such denunciation takes effect;

402. Any recognized private operating agency, international organization, regional telecommunication organization or scientific or industrial organization ... has the right to denounce such participation ... Such denunciation shall take effect at the end of one year from the date when notification is received by the Secretary-General.

These provisions, which seem to be clear and precise, may nevertheless prove difficult to apply, particularly in a period of frequent structural change such as company mergers, etc. Furthermore, notwithstanding No. 620 above, they do not altogether prevent reductions from being introduced during the life of the Convention.

In one particular case, moreover, a recognized private operating agency which had been participating for some time in the work of CCI in the 1 unit class of contribution denounced its participation in that class in October 1988, with effect from 31 October 1989, stating that it wished to participate in the work of the same CCI in the 1/2 unit class from 1 November 1989 onwards, an exercise which does not seem to be consistent with the spirit of the Convention.

Finally, during the life of the Nairobi Convention, several mergers have taken place involving recognized private operating agencies and scientific or industrial organizations participating in the work of the CCIs, creating difficulties with regard to both dual participation and the obligation to make a double contribution.

In considering the relevant provisions of the new Constitution / Convention, the Finance Committee is requested to take this situation into account and to introduce, as required, more appropriate and flexible provisions enabling the Secretary-General to settle such cases in a satisfactory manner.

R. E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Addendum 1 to
Document 162-E

8 June 1989

Original: EnglishCOMMITTEE 7Republic of Indonesia

COMPARISON OF COST ESTIMATES BETWEEN
THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED RESTRUCTURED BOARD
OF THE IFRB

1.	<u>Present structure</u>	- in Swiss francs -
	(Full-time Board members)	
	5 full-time members:	5 x 200,000 = 1,000,000
	5 full-time secretaries:	5 x 100,000 = 500,000
		<hr/>
	Direct staff costs	= 1,500,000
	Indirect staff costs	= 500,000
		<hr/>
	TOTAL COSTS	= 2,000,000
		<hr/>
2.	<u>Proposed structure</u>	
	(Part-time Board members)	
2.1	<u>19-member Board:</u>	
	Travel	= 65,000
	Subsistence allowance (6-day meeting)	= 40,000
	Overhead	= 145,000
		<hr/>
	Cost of 1 (one) meeting	= 250,000
	Cost of 4 (four) meetings	= 1,000,000
	Cost of 6 (six) meetings	= 1,500,000

2.2 11-member Board:

Travel	=	40,000
Subsistence allowance (6-day meeting)	=	25,000
Overhead	=	80,000
		<hr/>
Cost of 1 (one) meeting	=	145,000
Cost of 6 (six) meetings	=	870,000

2.3 5-member Board:

Travel	=	18,000
Subsistence allowance (6-day meeting)	=	11,000
Overhead	=	51,000
		<hr/>
Cost of 1 (one) meeting	=	80,000
Cost of 6 (six) meetings	=	480,000

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 162-E

30 May 1989

Original: English

COMMITTEE 7

The Republic of Indonesia

PROPOSAL TO RESTRUCTURE THE IFRB

1. Introduction

In Document 51 a proposal to restructure the IFRB is submitted by the five Asian Administrations, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. This proposal was drafted more likely in accordance with the layout of amendments of the Constitution and Convention.

In order to facilitate other Members of the Union to have a clearer understanding concerning the proposal, additional explanation on the background, rationale and objectives of the proposal is necessary and highlighted hereunder.

2. Proposal in detail

The proposal is to restructure the IFRB so that it would be composed of:

- a Board,
- a Director.

The Board is comprised of a number of Union Members (proposed 19 - about half of the number of the Council's Members), elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference with due regard to the need for equitable representation among the regions of the world.

The Board shall work on a part-time basis (also similar to the work of the Administrative Council Members) and conduct its regular meetings twice a year (or more if required) with the main task of undertaking the principal and collegiate decisions with respect to the orderly use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the GSO and its related matters.

The Director shall work on a full-time basis, and shall be thoroughly qualified in the field of radio and frequency matters, with the main task to head a Directorate responsible for the day-to-day work of the IFRB. The Director shall be elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference, and shall be responsible to the Secretary-General for financial and administrative arrangements, and to the Board's members for principal and collegiate decisions.

Travel expenses, subsistence allowance and insurance for the persons appointed by the elected members of the Board, to serve on the Board during its sessions, will be borne by the Union.

The proposed composition of the Board's members is to reflect equitable regional representation and the other two possible alternatives are as follows:

	<u>Proposed composition</u>	<u>Alternatives</u>	
		<u>No. 1</u>	<u>No. 2</u>
Region A	4	2	1
Region B	3	2	1
Region C	2	1	1
Region D	5	3	1
Region E	5	3	1
	<u>19</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>

The reduction of the total number of members to 11 as in Alternative No. 1 would reflect a less ideal composition as Region C would have only one member while Regions A and B would have two.

Alternative No. 2, although, seems acceptable to serve the main collegiate function, but not impede a rapid "training" mechanism for the Members' representatives as objectively aimed.

3. Rationale of the proposal

3.1 Alternatives already envisaged by the Panel of Experts

The Panel of Experts on the long-term future of the IFRB established by the ITU Administrative Council pursuant to Resolution No. 68 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, has apparently overviewed in their report the following three alternatives:

- a) part-time membership of the Board;
- b) replacement of the Board by a Director;
- c) consideration of the number of the Board members (3, 11 or 5).

The Panel of Experts has "unanimously decided not to propose and recommend any alternative ...", and just maintain the current status quo of the IFRB.

Such a decision, in our view, is actually not the appropriate answer to the issues highlighted in Resolution No. 68, parts of which are quoted hereunder:

"considering

- a) the changes in circumstances since the founding of the IFRB by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Atlantic City, 1947);
- b) the nature, volume and duration of additional tasks laid upon the IFRB by the decisions of recent administrative radio conferences;
- c) the further changes that may flow from the project relating to extended computerization of the work of the IFRB which the Union has initiated;"

Under "recognizing also" it is quoted as follows:

"the dynamic nature of telecommunication developments which result in significant changes in the patterns and volumes of radio frequency usage, and the special services required to be rendered to the developing countries by the IFRB;"

If we look deeper into the issue that has been stipulated in Resolution No. 68, and on the alternatives that have been overviewed by the Panel of Experts, we feel that the optimum solution is to implement the alternative a) and at the same time also alternative b), taking fully into consideration the objectives to:

a) Less cost:

The cost of part-time Board members having two meeting sessions a year and a full-time Director stationed in Geneva, in any case is still less expensive than the cost of five full-time Board members all stationed in Geneva. (See Appendix 1).

b) Simpler and better management

An organization which has five heads and from those one head appointed as a chairman rotating every year, is considered not a healthy organization in respect of policy consistency, speedier procedures of decision making and better services for the Members of the Union.

One Director who is responsible for all routine daily works of the IFRB, and reports to the Board's members during its session on principal and collegiate matters only, in any case we believe, would be the appropriate answer to the issue highlighted in Resolution No. 68.

3.2 Dissemination of knowledge in frequency and radio matters

A part-time Board comprised of a number of Members of the Union to serve as the Board of the IFRB from the other perspective could be viewed as a means to educate and to train member representatives in the respective radio and frequency matters requiring principal and collegiate decisions.

The members elected to serve on the Board consequently will have the obligation to appoint their most qualified representatives during the Board's sessions as these appointed persons shall apparently represent their countries and their regions as well, so they have to do their best in respect of radio frequency and other related matters. The more member representatives mastering the main tasks of the IFRB, the better it will be for achieving a stronger Union.

In turn representatives gaining such experience will be more equipped to face the work of WARC's and other ITU meetings or conferences in the future. This will certainly be an invaluable contribution to the Union, incomparable to any value of financial saving. For developing countries it would serve as an indirect means for technological transfer.

3.3 Inconsistency in the current Convention

As stipulated under Article 10 of the Nairobi Convention, the members of the IFRB shall serve, not as representing their respective countries or of a region, but as custodians of an international public trust.

On the other hand, these members shall be elected from the candidates sponsored by countries in such a way as to ensure equitable distribution amongst the regions of the world.

These two provisions are, legally speaking, contradictory to each other. As custodians of an international public trust, he or she might not necessarily be related to ensuring equitable distribution amongst the regions of the world.

Observing this, we believe that a Director, elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference should better represent the custodian of an international public trust, while equitable representation amongst the regions of the world should be reflected in the composition of the Board.

4. Conclusion

- a) The present structure of the IFRB has served its purpose in the past, however mandatory changes have to be decided by this Plenipotentiary Conference in Nice for more effective development and frequency management for the Union in the future.
- b) The proposed new structure is composed of an elected Director responsible for administrative and managerial matters to the Secretary-General, and for collegiate policy matters on frequency registration and management to the Board.
- c) Advantages gained through this new structure:
 - 1) a more solid, effective and sound ITU organization in which the Secretary-General will be responsible for all the Union matters (this is a major objective);
 - 2) an effective training mechanism on frequency registration and management for Members' representatives serving on the Board (this is also a major advantage);
 - 3) less expenditure for the Union; even with 19 members, the cost will range from 35 to 40 per cent of the present structure cost (this is not the major advantage).

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 163-E
2 June 1989
Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTH PLENARY MEETING

Monday, 29 May 1989, at 0930 hrs

Chairman: Mr. J. GRENIER (France)

Subjects discussed:

1. General policy statements (continued)
 - 1.1 Statement by the Director of Telecommunications of Sri Lanka
 - 1.2 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of the Federal Republic of Germany
 - 1.3 Statement by the Minister of Communications and Works, Cyprus
 - 1.4 Statement by the Secretary of State for Posts and Telecommunications of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros
 - 1.5 Statement by the Director-General of Telecommunications of Rwanda
 - 1.6 Statement by the Deputy Minister of Communications of Canada
 - 1.7 Statement by the Director-General of Posts and Telecommunications of Finland
 - 1.8 Statement by the Minister of State for Power, Transport and Communications, Zambia
 - 1.9 Statement by His Excellency, the Head of the Delegation of the United States of America
 - 1.10 Statement by the Vice-Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Japan
 - 1.11 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Australia
 - 1.12 Statement by the Under Director-General of the Universal Postal Union (UPU)

1. General policy statements (continued)

1.1 The Director of Telecommunications of Sri Lanka made the following statement:

"Let me also congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your appointment as Chairman of this very important Conference. I am well aware of your competence and ability and I am sure we can rest assured that you will guide this meeting to a successful conclusion.

I would also like to thank the Government of the Republic of France for hosting this meeting in the beautiful city of Nice.

It gives me great pleasure to address this august forum, the Plenipotentiary Conference, which itself is the supreme organ of the International Telecommunication Union.

On this occasion I would like to focus the attention of this assembly on an area of primary concern to governments of most developing countries, that is, the expansion of telecommunication facilities to meet at least the basic needs of the population. Even moderate goals are difficult to achieve due to lack of resources. The requirements of the telecommunication sector have varied considerably according to the country concerned. Some of the more developed countries have been spending considerable funds on upgrading their present systems by installing more sophisticated equipment and are thereby keeping pace with the demand. In the case of most developing countries, the investments in the communication sector have fallen short of the optimum investments. In Sri Lanka, for example, the investment in telecommunication plant during the last decade has been around US \$ 160 million, but we have only been able to achieve a telephone penetration of 0.7 per cent.

Although slow progress has been made, developing countries are struggling to develop a telecommunication infrastructure to suit their needs. Day by day, the gap in telecommunications development between the developed countries and developing countries is widening.

Distinguished Delegates, you will recall that at the last Plenipotentiary Conference held at Nairobi in 1982, it was decided to set up an Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development to recommend ways of stimulating the expansion of telecommunication across the world. The objective was that by the early part of the next century, virtually the whole of mankind should be brought within easy reach of a telephone. Achieving this requires the fullest cooperation of industrialized and developing countries alike. The time is now ripe to take a close look at the actions taken so far in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Independent Commission in their Report 'The Missing Link'.

I would like to invite the attention of the distinguished delegates, to one of the recommendations in 'The Missing Link' Report related to exploring the possibility of finding additional resources for telecommunications in developing countries from the revenues generated by international traffic between them and industrialized countries. Various alternatives were proposed by the Commission for this, including the adoption of preferential adjustments to international accounting arrangements. The developing countries have from time to time expressed the view that for various reasons the costs at the developing country end tend to be higher and it would therefore be fairer to provide for some compensation. I would like to invite this forum to give due consideration to this recommendation.

Traffic patterns show that telecommunication traffic between developed countries and developing countries far outweigh the traffic between developing countries. Therefore, it would be in the interest of the industrialized nations if telecommunication facilities in developing countries are improved rapidly so that there is unimpeded flow of traffic.

Another recommendation of 'The Missing Link' Report was the formation of the Centre for Telecommunications Development, the purpose of which was to enlarge the multilateral programme activity. Unfortunately, although the Centre was formed, not much headway has been made due to lack of financial resources. Many pledges of assistance were made. The target was a sum of approximately US \$ 10 million per year. It is indeed very disappointing that resources provided to the Centre have fallen far short of the target. It is also very disconcerting that nearly three years after formation of the Centre the basic functions for which it was formed are being questioned while the more fundamental issue of fund-raising has been relegated to second place.

Attempting to redefine the objectives of the Centre at this point of time would be counter-productive and would only put the clock back by a few years. What is required is a concerted effort by all concerned to formulate a realistic scheme for the provision of resources. We look to our friends in the industrialized world to help develop our telecommunications infrastructure. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those developed countries that have assisted Sri Lanka in various telecommunication projects.

The International Telecommunication Union can play a significant role in assisting developing countries in the development of their telecommunication networks and services. The present role of the ITU has been mainly confined to standardization and regulatory matters. The ITU should now adapt itself to meet the dynamic changes that are occurring in the national and international environments.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, we feel that the ITU's organizational structure and administrative procedures should be changed to suit the present environment. I agree with the general recommendations made by the Advisory Group on Telecommunication Policy and at the same time would like to congratulate this Group for producing an excellent report.

Mr. Chairman, Sri Lanka, though a small developing country, was closely involved with the Centre for Telecommunications Development in its first year of operation. We even contributed a modest sum towards the cause. Now, Sri Lanka is hopeful of playing a more significant role in the activities of the ITU and has decided to put forward its candidature for the forthcoming elections to the Administrative Council.

Lastly, I would like to convey the sincere thanks of my Administration to Mr. Richard Butler for the excellent work he has performed as Secretary-General of the ITU."

1.2 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of the Federal Republic of Germany made the following statement:

"In the discussions that preceded this year's Plenipotentiary Conference as well as in the statements made in this room during the first days of the Conference, attention has been drawn to the changing tasks of the Union. The development of telecommunications technologies, particularly the introduction of digital technology

and the growing convergence of telecommunications and computing, have been generating new demands on the part of the users which have led to the introduction of various new services. Many countries have tried to devise new possibilities for meeting these demands. Key words in this connection are deregulation, privatization and interconnection of public and private networks. Of great importance are also the questions concerning technical cooperation, particularly the development of the telecommunication networks of all Members taking account of the technological progress, and the training of personnel and transfer of know-how.

May I be allowed to give you a brief description of the situation in my country. The new law concerning the structure of posts and telecommunications has been adopted. It will come into force on 1 July 1989. We are convinced that we have found a pragmatic solution which gives equal consideration to the interests of both the government and the users, and which also takes account of almost all the requirements set by the European Community in its Green Paper.

The Deutsche Bundespost will continue as a public enterprise. We are however changing the organizational set-up and the regulatory concepts to create a structure which will allow us to compete successfully on the market. As far as telecommunications are concerned, the major changes will be as follows:

Political and entrepreneurial tasks will be separated. The future Ministry will have to regulate telecommunications and to exercise political supervision over this sector. Operations and the provision of services will be the task of the public enterprise "Deutsche Bundespost TELEKOM", which will operate on the following terms:

- the monopoly for terrestrial transmission paths will be maintained;
- as a result, the Deutsche Bundespost will have infrastructural obligations to ensure that all customers will be offered telecommunications services on equal conditions;
- as far as satellite communications and mobile radio are concerned, there will also be possibilities for intensive competition in the field of networks;
- all services, except for the telephone service, will be open to competition. Private competitors will not even need licensing;
- in addition, all telecommunications terminal equipment will be open for competition.

We hope that these, as well as further incidental conditions, will help us to meet the challenges of the forthcoming years.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the technological progress will cause other countries too to make regulatory and organizational changes in the near future, based on their own particular situation. The changes in the national environment will also have effects on the demands to be made on our joint international organization, the ITU. The documents that have been submitted to this Plenipotentiary Conference contain many suggestions concerning the Union's further development. We think, however, that the proposals for changes should be considered very carefully and no rash decisions should be taken. In the draft Resolution we have submitted, we are therefore proposing a fundamental review of the Union's financing, structure, personnel and working methods.

The ITU is the recognized global standardization organization in the field of telecommunications. It has acquired this position in the past decades due to the steady, persevering and impartial work of its responsible bodies. The Federal Republic of Germany holds the view that standardization should be continued in this way in the future. Any adaptations to other recognized standardization organizations and procedures should be discussed very carefully. We think that by issuing standards in the form of recommendations, the coordinated and effective setting of global telecommunication standards can best be guaranteed. Any regional endeavours should be integrated into this process. The west European standardization institute ETSI has adopted regulations to that effect in its rules of work.

One of the aims mentioned in the Convention of the ITU is the important aspect of technical cooperation. Experience in the last years has shown that these questions were not given due consideration. The Federal Republic of Germany holds the view that greater importance must be attributed to these tasks and the required funds must be raised for this purpose. In this connection, I think particularly of training schemes and the planning of large-scale projects, for instance, the studies for the RASCOM satellite project which have also been promoted by the Federal Republic of Germany.

All efforts for the promotion of our global organization will depend on what the community is prepared to pay for the realization of its aims. It must be questioned whether the diverse future telecommunications tasks can be fulfilled without a real increase in costs as envisaged in our plans here. I know that a very large number of ITU Members wish a zero growth of costs for various reasons. But one should also consider that we currently spend only one-sixth Swiss franc per year and per telephone in the world for the global development of telecommunications. Every increase, however small it may be, means improved working conditions for the international telecommunications system and thus increased earnings for the operating companies. This Plenipotentiary Conference will have to find a fair compromise, taking into account the requirements on the one hand and the costs involved on the other.

The Plenipotentiary Conference in Nice is taking place on the eve of an important anniversary of the ITU. Next year, the International Telecommunication Union will be 125 years old. It is the oldest specialized agency within the UN family and certainly not one of those with a high budget, but rather to the contrary. I think, however, that due to the capabilities of the agency's executives, the flexibility of its organizational structure, which has been adjusted several times in the past, and the Members' repeatedly-expressed desire for cooperation, the ITU is one of the most efficient specialized agencies. I am convinced that it will also find suitable solutions to meet the new challenges, thus living up to what was stated in the book 'From Semaphore to Satellite' issued on the occasion of the Union's centenary in 1965, i.e.: 'The ITU will exist in the year 2065'.

On the occasion of the 125th anniversary, I should like to submit an invitation to the Plenipotentiary Conference. Next year, the Federal Republic of Germany will also celebrate, in many ways, the 500th anniversary of the official foundation of the postal system in Germany. A remarkable event for the ITU in 1990 will be the Plenary Assembly of the CCIR. As agreed with the Secretary-General and the Director of the CCIR, I should therefore like to invite the next CCIR Plenary Assembly to the Federal Republic of Germany and would propose that the meeting be held in the period from 21 May to 1 June 1990 in Düsseldorf. I hope this proposal will meet with the approval of the Conference.

Ladies and Gentlemen, in conclusion I wish to thank our host country, France, most sincerely for all the preparations that have been made for a successful Conference.

I should like to wish the host Administration, and particularly you, Mr. Grenier, as the Chairman, every success for the holding of the Conference.

To all of you I wish successful discussions and good results."

1.3 The Minister of Communications and Works, Cyprus made the following statement:

"It is a great pleasure for me to attend this Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU in this beautiful and hospitable city.

May I take this opportunity to express on behalf of my Government and Delegation our warm thanks to the Government of France for the excellent arrangements made for this Conference.

Mr. Chairman, before I proceed any further, allow me to congratulate you on your election to the high office of Chairman of this Conference.

Cyprus is a relative newcomer to the ITU since it joined in 1960 immediately following independence. Since that time, Cyprus has participated in all Plenipotentiary Conferences and has observed the development of the ITU over the years.

Mr. Chairman, it is now seven years since the last Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi in 1982, and during these years much progress has been made. The Union on its part has not failed to fulfil our expectations and aspirations in the telecommunications field. Indeed, the ITU has set an example of international cooperation from which we can all draw inspiration.

The Cyprus Government highly considers telecommunications as being a vitally important element in the infrastructure of countries' development. Rapid and efficient telecommunications make for effective government, trade and industry and also for social and educational advancement.

I am happy to say that Cyprus has been continuously improving and expanding its telecommunication services. The growth of telecommunications in Cyprus during the last decade has been rapid and impressive.

Expansion of the telephone network is pursued through the installation of digital exchanges and digital transmission systems operating in parallel with the existing analogue network.

The digital technology which is being introduced in the network, together with the use of fibre optic cables, opens new horizons for telecommunication services and offers the appropriate infrastructure capable of meeting all future telecommunication requirements of customers through an Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) which is expected to be introduced in 1992.

A cellular mobile radiotelephone system was put into operation in December 1988.

The number of direct exchange lines per 100 inhabitants reached 37 in March of this year and is expected to rise to 47 by 1992, which will compare favourably with telecommunications in developed countries.

The progress our country has made would not have been possible without the active and valuable assistance received from the ITU over the years.

Mr. Chairman, during the course of the next few weeks the Plenipotentiary Conference will deliberate and take decisions on many important aspects of telecommunications. We will decide whether we will continue to have a Convention and/or a Constitution as our instrument.

The ITU's basic structure dates back to the 1940s and attests to the wisdom of our predecessors who designed a structure that gave satisfaction up to the 1980s. But today the telecommunication environment is changing at an ever-accelerating rate, and the Union needs an up-to-date organizational structure that is responsive to the current needs of its Members. It should therefore be directed by a chief executive who has the resources and the flexibility to lead a dynamic organization. Such an official should be fully responsible for the work of the various organs and accountable also to the Members.

This line of thought necessarily calls for the reorganization and possible consolidation of the work of the two CCIs and a thorough review of the structure of the IFRB.

Furthermore, we would like to urge that more resources from the Union's own budget be allocated to technical cooperation activities so as to enable the Union to respond more readily to the needs of the majority of its Members. We wish to add that the Union should cease tackling the delivery of technical cooperation through two restricted outlets, that is to say, the TCD and the CTD. We urge that thought be given to consolidating these two units into one development unit to avoid unnecessary bureaucracy.

Many important issues of the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference of 1988 (WATTC-88) will be put before this august body. The Plenipotentiaries' decisions on these critical issues will determine the future of telecommunications in the years to come.

A great deal of work lies ahead for many distinguished delegates from various parts of the world who are assembled in this hall, and I am confident that, through your wise guidance and counsel, this Conference will succeed in carrying out its difficult task for the benefit of all nations and in an equitable manner.

Mr. Chairman, before closing this address, I would like to express our thanks and gratitude to the outgoing Secretary-General, Mr. Richard E. Butler, who for at least a quarter century has devoted himself to the advancement of telecommunications and towards the fulfilment of the purposes of the Union.

Mr. Butler, we wish you happiness and well-being in your retirement."

1.4 The Secretary of State for Posts and Telecommunications of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros made the following statement:

"The Delegation of the Comoros joins other delegations in greeting the brilliant election of Mr. Grenier and other elected Members of this noble assembly.

Your well-known professionalism, Mr. Grenier, will contribute to the complete and certain success of this important Conference.

We extend our congratulations and our gratitude also to the Government of the French Republic, to the lovely city of Nice, and to France Telecom, for their generous hospitality and for their considerable and unshakeable competence in organizing and setting up such a vast, diverse and complex enterprise.

We feel convinced that the powerful, universal and immortal values of the French Revolution will inspire creative, original and effective solutions to the challenges set by the telecommunications revolution in the prospect of a freer, less poor and more united world.

The Comoros, situated in the Indian Ocean, with an area of some 2,200 km² and a population of 400,000 inhabitants, is one of the least advanced countries.

With a main line density of 0.65, or one telephone for 166 inhabitants, our telecommunications are one of the least developed in the world.

This great backwardness in telecommunications is aggravated by the fact that we are the only country in the world at present to use HF transmission for our international telecommunications.

With obsolete equipment, we are constantly running the risk of being cut off for long periods from the whole world.

Faced with this danger, our Government, lead by the President of the Republic, His Excellency Ahmed Adballah Abderemane, has undertaken a considerable effort to restructure and modernize telecommunications in the Comoros.

This effort will, in due course, provide reliable and economically profitable telecommunications as a support for the essential recovery of our economy.

In order to close this yawning gap, we are currently mobilizing our brains and our efforts, though we shall also need the support of friendly countries.

With regard to the future of the ITU, it is advisable that its structures be adapted to the new constraints of the telecommunications environment, in the light especially of the faster pace of technical change.

The technical cooperation structure, backed by the Centre for Telecommunications Development, appears to be an essential instrument for the collective success of nations in the field of telecommunications.

Before concluding, we would like to express our thanks to Mr. Richard Butler, the outgoing Secretary-General, a follower of the humanistic traditions of our time and a prominent figure in world telecommunications.

We pay tribute to his constant, untiring efforts in favour of the development of world telecommunications.

Thank you for your kind attention."

1.5 The Director-General of Telecommunications of Rwanda made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Rwandese Minister of Transport and Communications, who would have wished to address this distinguished assembly in person but who will only be able to join us from 8 June onwards owing to a very busy schedule, please allow me, Mr. Chairman, to extend our very sincere congratulations on your election and also to the Vice-Chairmen and elected members of the various Committees. We are all sure that your personal qualities, combined with your professional experience in the field of telecommunications, will make this Conference a real success. For our part, we would like to assure you that we shall do our best to facilitate your task over the six weeks during which you will be leading this imposing assembly, where some of the highest world telecommunication authorities are represented, as well as the most experienced technicians and professionals in the field.

I should also like, of course, to express my gratitude to the French Government and people for having generously accepted to host this important Conference of the ITU. I would like to thank them for the hospitality the Rwandese Delegation has enjoyed since its arrival and for all the facilities provided. The choice of the Côte d'Azur, a tourist resort of world-wide reputation, was surely intended to make the delegates' stay more pleasant and to make their work more productive over the coming six weeks.

Even though the Conference seems to extend over a very long period, the subject covered is worth it. Without taking up too much of your time, I would like to give you the views and outlook of the Rwandese Government regarding the future of telecommunications and international relations in this field.

The recent World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference in Melbourne provided an opportunity to reaffirm international solidarity, even though there have been somewhat contradictory tendencies of late. There is no doubt that the concerns expressed in Melbourne reflected the expectations of developing countries, including their wish to control all the mechanisms of telecommunications development, like the majority of the developed countries.

In its Preamble, the International Telecommunications Convention fully recognizes the sovereign right of each country to regulate its telecommunications. However, the exercise of that sovereignty cannot be at the expense of world harmonization, aimed at satisfying the needs and requirements of the different parties involved. It is within this framework that the ITU can fulfill its three main functions, namely regulation, standardization and telecommunications development, in the interest of all its Members.

The Report of the Advisory Group on Telecommunications Policy (Geneva, February 1989) entitled 'The Changing Telecommunication Environment' recommends that the developing countries should define national policies and regulatory machinery. Also noteworthy is the need to devise an independent policy, bearing in mind that questions which are given priority in the industrialized countries, such as privatization, competition and deregulation, do not require to be treated with the same urgency in the developing countries. Moreover, in the industrialized countries, investments are needed to make systems competitive, whereas in the developing countries they are used to set up network infrastructures.

The Rwandese Government is very sensitive to the problems of regulation. We recognize that, in order to stimulate technical innovation, there is a need for flexible regulations which facilitate the operation of different systems. It is nevertheless true that these ITU regulations cannot be restricted merely to general principles governing telecommunications services, but should be sufficiently specific to allow the harmonious development both of technical infrastructures and of the operating facilities developed in each country. At present, all aspects of computing are entering the world of telecommunications, providing access to the so-called 'value-added services'. Rwanda, like a number of other countries, believes that it is the ITU's duty to define the scope of action of each operator, while obviously distinguishing between the functions of regulation and operation, which ideally would be exercised by different entities. I would therefore be in favour of the Conference clarifying all these points. The era of monopolies and protectionism is certainly over. It should not give way, however, to anarchic competition, which could be prejudicial to the present operators of traditional services, especially in the developing countries.

If we observe the way the ITU goes about achieving its objectives, we will see that the technical field is often at the centre of its activities. And more than ever, questions of standardization should concern the Union, in view of the rapid and almost uncontrollable development of telecommunication techniques. In fact, standardization policy should be extended to other sectors related to telecommunication activities, with a view to facilitating the interconnection of systems on a world scale. This problem concerns the developing countries in particular. These countries in fact do not manufacture any type of telecommunications equipment and they are always obliged to dig into their meagre foreign currency resources to acquire equipment. Outside the standards recommended by the CCITT, these countries cannot find any alternative way of achieving complete integration in the process of the globalization of telecommunications. The contradiction would manifest itself in a deterioration of performance following an alleged improvement in infrastructures. As the supreme international body where telecommunication accounting can be negotiated on a world scale, this Conference should play its full part and determine the ITU's field of action in this respect. This is precisely where the CCITT should display its effectiveness. Very recently, there have been discussions concerning the idea of linking up the CCITT (International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee) and the CCIR (International Radio Consultative Committee) into a single entity, which would become just the CCI (International Consultative Committee). The Rwandese Government prefers the present structure, which allows each group its freedom of action. It would be risky to combine the two Committees at a time when telecommunications world-wide are going through a transition period, the outcome of which is difficult to foresee on the eve of the 21st century. The argument in favour of greater economy seems well founded, though it is by no means sure that the result will be worth the risk.

Clearly the provision of adequate telecommunication infrastructures requires the mobilization of a substantial amount of capital, compared to other fields where the public authorities and private companies can invest. In a number of developing countries, governments have been forced to take the initiative. This is the case in Rwanda, which has just completed the first phase of its telecommunication network rehabilitation and modernization programme.

The main choice has been digitization, with 100% digital exchanges, and 95% digital radio-relay systems. The Rwandese Government considers that telecommunications must be given priority and that they can constitute an attractive market. Similarly, the Rwandese Government believes that communication facilities need to be brought closer to the public. It has therefore undertaken a campaign to provide telecommunications to sectors of the population which are furthest removed from urban areas. This same policy, which is unfortunately extremely costly, commonly referred to as 'rural telephony', is followed in practically all the developing countries. A difficult dilemma therefore arises, of whether to serve the public at large, which is the main objective of guaranteeing universal access to the traditional telephone service, when the profit motive entails giving priority to the requirements of major companies in order to achieve a rapid amortization of equipment costs. It is by no means easy to reconcile these completely contradictory elements.

In its Report 'The Missing Link', the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development drew attention to the shortage of telecommunications infrastructures in developing countries and considered that 60% of the required investment would need to be paid in foreign currency. This proportion has even risen to 80% at present in some cases, whereas all telecommunication revenues are in local currency, hence the difficulty of making substantial and sustained investments. Last

year, the ITU published a report on the contribution of telecommunications to revenues and savings in foreign currencies in the developing countries. In the particular case of Kenya, it noted that adequate investment in telecommunication infrastructures would be worth 0.75% of their export revenues to exporting enterprises, while import costs would diminish by 0.07%. And yet the developing countries continue to come up against the hesitation of international financial institutions, which will not agree to finance a significant part of telecommunications, referred to as "rural", on the grounds that they are not directly profitable. This obviously goes against the theory of the transfer of revenues, whereby some services finance others in order to keep a balance within a system. The Rwandese Delegation would like this matter to be discussed at this Conference, in an effort to identify the reasons for this reluctance on the part of financiers and ways of dealing with it.

The sharing of revenues produced by international services has become a nightmare for the developing countries. The recommendations of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development, in its Report 'The Missing Link', was taken up by WATTC-88 in its Resolution PL/3, which instructs the Secretary-General to submit a detailed study to this Conference for a final decision. Recognizing the socio-economic role played by telecommunications in a country's development, the developed countries have manifested a firm intention to help the developing countries to achieve progress in this field. Unfortunately, this has not yet really materialized. In fact, the situation of the developing countries is such that it is now worth considering a reorganization of accounting procedures for international traffic with a view to setting aside a certain percentage of the revenues produced by communications between developing and developed countries, in order to use that percentage, however modest, to strengthen the telecommunications sector in the 'southern countries'. The differences in revenues are in fact enormous, while investment and operating costs remain extremely high in our countries.

Even though, on the whole, the wealthier countries have shown a certain awareness of the difficulties of developing countries and especially the least developed countries, it is still true that the 'Arusha Declaration on World Telecommunications Development' has not been given a satisfactory follow-up. We are still buying telecommunications equipment and systems for prohibitive prices; the training of staff in modern telecommunications still leaves much to be desired, and the transfer of know-how from industrialized to developing countries remains a pipe-dream while disparities continue to increase.

This Conference follows on the Nairobi Conference, which instituted the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development. One of the Commission's recommendations was the creation of a Centre for Telecommunications Development, designed to strengthen technical cooperation. The intention was to reduce the gap in the availability of telecommunications services between developing and developed countries. It was noted sadly that two-thirds of mankind were waiting for a telephone and might continue to wait for many years, while three-quarters of the world's telephone facilities were located in nine countries only.

The Centre has so far tried to manage as best it could, with very limited resources. Voluntary contributions have not been substantial and, precisely on account of its limited budget, several projects have not been implemented. For this reason, this Conference should consider the matter and find a lasting solution, based on a sure and stable source of funds, such as the Members' contributory units.

It may be remembered that the Independent Commission considered merging the Centre and the Technical Cooperation Department and that the matter was to be looked into by the Administrative Council and the Advisory Board. The Rwandese Government considers that it could be premature to go ahead with the merger. The Centre has not had time to prove itself and the merger might only hide its ineffectiveness, since it is now part of the statutory organs of the ITU.

Although it will be a long time before international cooperation manages to eradicate the disparities which subsist in the telecommunications sector, a number of countries and even some private enterprises of the industrialized countries have contributed substantially to the strengthening of cooperation in the field of telecommunications. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them warmly and to encourage them to go ahead.

We would also like to thank Mr. Richard Butler, our Union's Secretary-General, for his distinguished services to the whole international community. He will have left his mark on the second half of the 20th century.

I would like to conclude by wishing all the delegations every success in the important task which awaits us in the coming six weeks and I have no doubt that we shall be helped by this lovely setting in Nice."

1.6 The Deputy Minister of Communications of Canada made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Canadian Delegation, I should like first of all to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election and to express my deep gratitude to the French Government for inviting us to this Conference and extending such a warm welcome to us.

Attending a meeting in Nice for six weeks at this time of the year will, I am sure, prove a most agreeable experience, as various colleagues we left behind made a point of telling us. Those of us who have experience of such conferences know very well, however, that we are not here just to enjoy ourselves but will have to devote long hours to our work. We could not, however, think of anywhere more attractive or more auspicious for the discussions that lie ahead.

For us Canadians, it is particularly appropriate that this Conference should be held in France, in the bicentenary year of the French Revolution. That event profoundly influenced the future course of events, not just in France, but throughout the whole world. The French Revolution laid the basis for what we know today as the universal rights of the individual. And we recognize that these universal rights include the right of every citizen to receive and transmit information and ideas. In the modern context of this Plenipotentiary Conference, access for everyone to telecommunication technology is thus fundamental, because that technology is being used more and more to disseminate information, ideas and culture.

Canada, together with France and other French-speaking countries, is pursuing initiatives such as the establishment of a French-language telecommunication agency with the aim of pooling the efforts of the French-speaking community so as to give the French-language media a wider field of operation and thus enable the greatest possible number of people to derive full benefit from all communication technology. We are already involved in a similar organization for the Commonwealth.

Distinguished Delegates, it is clear that the ITU is at a watershed. The decisions which we shall take over the next few weeks will have a profound impact on the role that the ITU will play in what is already becoming a global information economy and society. The ITU has a proud record in keeping pace with new developments in technology. But, as was articulated in the recently published ITU Report, 'The Changing Telecommunication Environment', borders are becoming increasingly irrelevant, from a technical perspective, due to the convergence of new technologies and the liberalization in the provision of telecommunications services in ever more countries. The ITU must anticipate this changing environment or risk becoming an anachronism.

My first participation in ITU affairs was in 1982 in Nairobi. The road from Nairobi to Nice has indeed been arduous. The ITU's essential international role in regulation, and standards setting and development, has been sustained, but not without great difficulty.

We have not known, until the eleventh hour, whether major ITU conferences - such as the High Frequency Broadcasting Conference, the Orbit Conference and the WATTC - would succeed or fail. At each conference, it is true, enough centripetal forces have finally asserted themselves so that it has been possible to achieve an equitable accommodation of interests. But this has been accomplished only by introducing a certain amount of 'creative ambiguity' in the Final Acts of the Conferences. Can we count on being able to sustain this delicate 'tightrope act' in the even more challenging years ahead?

The global telecommunications environment is undergoing tremendous change. Administrations are having to adapt to rapidly evolving technologies in a time of fiscal restraint. Canada is open to change but believes that far reaching changes should be approved only after careful review and with as wide a consensus as possible.

Resolution No. 68 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference called for a thorough review of the IFRB in the light of changing circumstances. Canada supports the major conclusions of the Report of the Panel of Experts. The Board has served the Union well over the years. Of course, any organization can improve its methods of work and administrative practices. It is for this reason that Canada is proposing improvements in the management of the Board.

Perhaps it is timely to initiate a review of the other organs of the ITU, that is, the Consultative Committees, the General Secretariat, the Administrative Council and Administrative Conferences.

Canada has proposed that a thorough review be conducted of the structure and working methods of the Consultative Committees. Since sending our proposals to Geneva, we have concluded that we do not have the luxury of waiting until the next Plenipotentiary Conference to approve any changes. We are flexible on the timing of the review. We believe strongly, however, that the results of such a review should not be prejudged by decisions taken hastily at this Conference.

Canada believes that a fundamental examination should also be undertaken of the way in which the radio-frequency spectrum is allocated. The same evolution and convergence of technologies which prompts us to propose a review of the Consultative Committees has overtaken the radio service definitions.

Structural changes which emerge from any review process will have to be incorporated in the Basic Instruments of the Union. Canada supports, in principle, the approval of the new Basic Instruments consisting of the draft Constitution and draft Convention as prepared by the Group of Experts. Committee 9 should begin its detailed work without delay. At a later stage in the Conference, we shall have to take account of the effect that the new Constitution would have on the future approval of any structural changes. We would not want the provisions of the Constitution to be a barrier to responsible change.

Mr. Chairman, the existence of Canada as a sovereign and dynamic country is living proof of the vital link between communications and development. Our success in using new communications technologies to extend services from our urban to rural and remote areas makes us sensitive to the challenges facing developing countries. We know from our own experience that telecommunications can be a positive force in development. We want to continue to work with other countries to ensure that telecommunications does not exacerbate gaps in development within and between countries.

Canada, for its part, is anxious that measures should be taken to ensure that the ITU's role in international development should be a more vigorous and effective one. Our reaction to the Maitland Commission's recommendations was an immediate one. For example, we have set up the Canadian Telecommunication Management Institute, which has already organized various sessions for managers from developing countries to share experience with Canadian managers. In addition, Canada not only paid a special contribution to the ITU in order to help it establish the Centre for Telecommunications Development, but the Canadian public and private sectors also make an annual contribution to the Centre's activities.

In order to make the Union's technical cooperation activities more effective, Canada will support certain measures such as complete amortization of the deficit in the special technical cooperation budget and transfer of the permanent staff costs of the Technical Cooperation Department to the Union's ordinary budget. We are also in favour of greater decentralization of the ITU's regional presence, in the Americas region amongst others.

The Caribbean Telecommunication Union (CTU) is beginning to do useful work in our region. The Inter-American Telecommunications Conference (CITEL) is also playing a leading role as a regional organization acting in conjunction with the ITU. It needs, however, to be given greater status and resources under the auspices of the Organization of American States.

Canada is in favour of keeping the Centre for Telecommunications Development provided that the Centre lays greater emphasis on its catalytic role in persuading the authorities of financial agencies and national, regional and international development bodies to give greater priority to telecommunications as an essential tool of development. Canada will review its financial participation in the Centre, in the light of the decisions taken by the Conference.

Finally, when drawing up the ITU's programme of activities for the next five years, we should all bear in mind the economic facts of life and the serious financial constraints confronting industrialized and developing countries. Even though Canada continues to favour a budgetary policy of zero real growth for United Nations specialized agencies, it could agree to a modest increase in the Union's ordinary budget. Such an increase, however, should only be used for the implementation of activities with the highest priority. It should also apply specifically to programmes that would directly benefit the developing countries and not to other activities of lesser importance.

During all these last years, Mr. Butler has provided strong leadership. He has put the interests of the organization and of the international community up front. Thanks to him, the requirements of users have been given much more importance. The ITU has also been an active participant in the wider issues of trade-in services. How shall we fill his shoes? For the Secretary-Generalship and other elected positions, Canada will vote for countries and individuals who can be expected to provide strong leadership and who will be dedicated to facing our common challenge in a collegial way. This is the only way that the federal structure of the ITU can work creatively and effectively.

Mr. Chairman, the Canadian Delegation will work actively with other delegations to translate this general approach into specific action to adapt and strengthen the ITU's role. Canada has undertaken to make multilateralism operate more efficiently and fairly and will endeavour to bring that about. We are in favour of reviewing the ITU's structure, but believe we should proceed with caution and step by step.

In connection with EXPO 86 in Vancouver, Canada was host to an international communication symposium on the subject 'The challenge of change'. The Ministers of Communications and senior officials who attended this symposium approved the Vancouver declaration, which was concerned among other things with strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the ITU.

In the declaration the Ministers present agreed on the need to give higher priority to the essential role of communication installations and services, recognizing that they were a prerequisite for economical, social and cultural development. The various forms of aid should be adapted to each country's conditions, priorities and needs.

I hope the spirit and vision of progress that prevailed at the Vancouver symposium, and also at the recent Melbourne Conference, will be developed still further in the Final Acts that we adopt here in Nice."

1.7 The Director-General of Posts and Telecommunications of Finland made the following statement:

"It is a great privilege to speak to this Plenipotentiary Conference after its first week of deliberations. On behalf of the Finnish Delegation I want to thank the French Government, France Telecom and the city of Nice not only for their kind invitation but also for the superb arrangements and warm hospitality already shown to all of us. Similarly we can all not only congratulate you, Mr. Grenier, on your election, but also thank you for your efficient work. We feel already now safe and secure, confident that under your leadership our Conference will find the best possible solutions to the important problems ahead of us.

Traditionally the main purpose of our Union has been related to standardization and regulatory matters. The new technologies and the changing telecommunication environment with many more active players have not diminished the importance of our old tasks. On the contrary, it becomes ever more imperative now to streamline our structure and to modernize our working methods. The CCITT Plenary and the WATTC-88 in Melbourne proved to all of us that we are able to meet the challenges. It is up to us, here in Nice, to take further steps in order to ensure global connectivity and to strengthen the role of the ITU as the leading telecommunications forum.

We all know that during the next few weeks questions related to the structure, the organization and the working methods of our Union will be scrutinized in detail. It is my conviction that evolution is better than revolution, even during this bicentenary year of the great French Revolution. We should take steps in the Melbourne spirit towards a more modern, flexible and cost-effective ITU. But we cannot do everything at once. The change has to be continuous and further studies are certainly needed so that we do not disturb the good work in progress.

The changing telecommunication environment has been described in an admirable way in the Report of the Advisory Group on Telecommunications Policy or the so-called Hansen Report. Instead of quoting its many valuable conclusions and recommendations let me mention only one emerging key word: openness. If the ITU really is to be the leader of global telecommunications development, it has to readjust with regard to the old as well as the new players in the field. Openness is a good technical word when talking about networks, systems and hierarchies. But the ITU must also be open, active and cooperative in its relations with its Members, with other interested world-wide and regional organizations, with the telecom operators and users, the industry, the media and in particular also its own staff.

All this means of course a lot of work. It is, however, not enough. Dear friends and colleagues, we know that there is a direct line from the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, through the Maitland Commission, the Arusha Declaration and the Hansen Report to our Nice decisions, and the message is clear:

- Telecommunications is more important than ever.
- Development is more important than ever.
- Telecommunications is development.

It should be made clear to the world leaders, from the United Nations Secretary-General Pérez de Cuellar to Bush, Gorbachev and every head of State around the world that the information age is here and now, and that the most important infrastructure for every society in the nineties is the telecommunications network.

When the Security Council of the United Nations meets, the Members should try to find means to promote global interconnectivity - with the help of the ITU.

When the heads of State of the least-developed countries, the LDCs, meet, their concern should be the role of telecommunications in the development of their nation's economy and welfare - with the help of our Union, the ITU.

The resources available for the many important tasks of our Union have been and still are relatively limited. We all know that it would be easier to strengthen our Union if our budget could be increased in volume. But we also know that it is unrealistic to dream of dramatic increases. We must see to it that we use resources to the best effect and in a rational manner, we must look at our activities as a whole and we must ensure more cost-effective structures and working methods. At the same time we have to continue our efforts to find new sources of income and new channels to make the best use of the resources available. This is a prerequisite for the success of our endeavours towards our ambitious goals in general and for development in particular.

The Finnish Government has committed itself to active and wholehearted participation in both bilateral and multilateral cooperation for development - technical cooperation. The statistics of the United Nations, of its specialized agencies in general and of the ITU in particular - e.g. the facts on display in the halls of this Conference Centre demonstrate that we have nothing to be ashamed of. A keyword in this context has been and will be, for Finland and I hope for the ITU - training. There is no development without telecommunications and there is no permanent development without telecommunications training.

Mr. Chairman, Dear Colleagues, I would like finally to join the previous speakers in words of thanks to our Secretary-General.

Mr. Richard E. Butler, dear Dick, the best possible way to thank you is to continue your work, to build upon what you have achieved, to continue in the direction you have shown to be the right one. You have proved that the telecommunications network is the best tool towards world peace. It is up to us, up to the Plenipotentiaries, to carry this message around the world and well into the next century."

1.8 The Minister of State for Power, Transport and Communications, Zambia made the following statement:

"It gives me great honour and privilege to address this important gathering. The coming together of such a distinguished group of telecommunications experts from all Member States of the International Telecommunication Union and those from other

international organs is a clear testimony of the determination of mankind to foster peace, greater unity, progress, solidarity and indeed development through quick communications.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would also like to express my Delegation's sincere gratitude to the Government and great people of France for the kind invitation to the ITU to hold this Conference here in Nice and for the excellent arrangements that have been made in order to facilitate our work. Delegates will recall that it was the same French Government and its people that hosted the first Conference of this organization in Paris in 1865, nearly 125 years ago. This short but still significant history therefore makes this particular Conference rather more unique than the previous ones. I say thank you again to the French people. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Heads of State and Governments for their inspiration and support throughout the years, inspiration and support which have made it possible for the ITU to implement ambitious projects.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, the last ITU Plenipotentiary Conference was held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1982. Since then, a lot has taken place during the intervening years. This Conference therefore assumes greater importance, as it is expected to map out the future course of the Union, given the geo-political, economic and technological developments that have taken place since the Nairobi Conference.

Out of the many activities of the ITU, it has become apparent that the crucial issue of technical cooperation and assistance is of paramount importance, especially to developing countries, in view of the gigantic strides that have been reached in the development of telecommunication infrastructures elsewhere in the developed world, against the rather slow pace at which these facilities are being provided in the Third World.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would be failing in my duty if I forgot to mention the success story of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network. The giving of concrete shape to an idea such as the PANAFTEL network would not be the work of one organization. Every government from our region, every telecommunications administration and all the African regional organizations have endeavoured to render the valuable cooperation and firm support which they have always given as the completion of the project is being realized. Now that most of the PANAFTEL links are operational, the question of maintenance and management is of great importance and should merit the serious attention of this august gathering.

Sir, it is, however, gratifying to see the tremendous amount of activities going on in the field of training of personnel in management and maintenance of the PANAFTEL network by the ITU and the United Nations Development Programme. It is hoped that this interest will be consolidated so that a comprehensive and integrated approach is achieved towards developing administrations' vast needs in this field.

Another area of significance under the technical cooperation and assistance programme is the CODEVTEL Project - the CODEVTEL standards and the tools and aids developed for the organization and management of training colleges in our countries and the success scored to date. We note that the development of training standards and other relevant work are ongoing and have to keep abreast of the dynamic nature of telecommunications technology.

Another aspect of assistance is that of regional advisers, whose function is to assist in the field of sectoral studies which constitute the very basis of the assessment and identification of overall requirements for external help, including both technical cooperation and capital investment.

These studies call for full information on existing networks and services, as well as development plans including financial implications. They also call for the identification of constraints and shortcomings and the formulation of projects and proposals under bilateral and multilateral assistance. The regional advisers should therefore come even closer to the areas of their operations in order to develop closer contacts with the administrations.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in their role of ITU counsellors in their respective regions, these advisers should be in the best position to assist telecommunication administrations in identifying and formulating our needs and giving concrete shape to requests for financial and technical assistance. For them to be effective, their presence in the regions should be strengthened.

Allow me, Mr. Chairman, now to turn to the training in general. The ITU has been helping our administrations in establishing and running training institutions. In our subregion in Southern and Eastern Africa, we have the African Advanced Level Telecommunications Institute, based in Nairobi, Kenya, to cater for higher calibre human resources training.

This achievement should not, however, blind us to the fact that, though investments of millions of dollars have been made in the provision and expansion of networks, we are a long way from providing adequate and efficient telecommunication services. The low level efficiency results from the fact that scanty attention has been paid to manpower management.

At this juncture, Sir, may I be permitted to ask whether the present structure of the ITU is adequate to service the fast changing technological environment in which the Union has to operate, notwithstanding the forces of deregulation and competition.

This Conference should seek to evolve a Union adaptable to the new telecommunication environment and to efficient cooperation among all interested parties to this new and changing environment. To achieve these noble objectives, it would be appropriate to adapt a new Constitution and Regulations, to reform ITU's structure, to revise the standardization process and to coordinate technical cooperation and assistance, especially in our developing administrations.

Mr. Chairman, this Conference should take the right decision to evolve the instrument for the future growth of the Union and to spur development in both the international and national networks. The timely set-up of the legal framework for the Union on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Group on Telecommunications Policy will go a long way in making sure that our Union maintains its sovereignty, openness and universality - a feature which has made our organization unique. It is only after completing this task that this Conference will have the confidence that the Union has been given the necessary tools to fulfil its role in the future.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, we must accept that we are still far from fulfilling the goals set out in the Report of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development. The gap in the quantum of utilization of telecommunication services between the developed and developing nations is still as wide as it was in 1982 when we last met in Nairobi. In Zambia, we have an added difficulty of inequality in availability of telecommunication services between urban and rural areas.

Whereas the urban population with its high concentration of various industries expects to be provided with modern and advanced telecommunication services, we are still struggling to give our rural population basic telephone services. The high cost of providing services to rural people can only slow our resolve of bridging this inequality in the distribution of telecommunication services.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me now take this opportunity to join the many previous speakers in echoing the sentiments of my Delegation and indeed of my country's leadership on the excellent work rendered to this organization by the outgoing Secretary-General. Mr. R.E. Butler's services to the Union have been unequalled in the history of the organization.

The extraordinary achievements scored during this period, which include tackling some of the most vexing issues affecting the telecommunications environment and industry such as international policy, short- and long-term effects of technological changes, were due to the skilled leadership of Mr. Butler.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as a developing nation Zambia has benefitted a great deal from the counsel and advice rendered by the Secretary-General, personally, sometimes, in our quest to develop the telecommunications network in the country. Mr. Butler's office has always been open to all Member States to attend to problems of all kinds. Even though the Union will miss the guidance and the powerful presence of Mr. Butler, it is my sincere hope that he will continue to render his valuable knowledge to the organization as an elder statesman.

Last, but not at all least, I wish to thank the ITU for the keen interest shown in our subregional connectivity project being conducted under the auspices of the Southern African Transport and Communications Commission (SATCC) which is aimed at interconnecting all the nine countries of the group, thus avoiding the costly venture of transmitting through cosmopolitan centres outside the region for intra-SATCC traffic. This is a great achievement indeed."

1.9 His Excellency, the Head of the Delegation of the United States of America made the following statement:

"It is a distinct honour and privilege for the Delegation of the United States of America to participate in the 1989 Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union.

On behalf of my Delegation, I would like to thank the Administration of France for providing our able Conference Chairman and for hosting this Conference in the magnificent setting of the Côte d'Azur. Unquestionably, the beauty and majesty of where the Maritime Alps meet the Mediterranean Sea will be a source of inspiration and challenge to our deliberations.

We also join our gracious hosts in honouring the bicentennial of the French Revolution of 1789 which gave us the very profound and basic creed of democracy: Liberty, Equality and Fraternity.

I would also like to bring to the attention of the Plenipotentiary Conference the greetings and best wishes of our President, George Bush. In his message on the occasion of World Telecommunications Day on 17 May, President Bush extended the following greetings to all of us:

'I wish the delegates to this year's Plenipotentiary Conference success in finding innovative ways to strengthen the organization for the difficult challenges of the Information Age. At the same time, on behalf of the United States Government and people, I salute the International Telecommunication Union on its 124th birthday.'

In the category of accomplishments and achievements, I certainly want to join other speakers and would like to pay tribute and recognize the outstanding leadership contributions to our organization of the outgoing Secretary-General, Richard Butler. He has been a strong leader and we have been fortunate to have worked with him. He has led us through some difficult times, and my Delegation and my Administration wish him the very best of health and happiness.

Indeed, we have been truly fortunate in the exemplary performance of all the elected officials.

I have long had a strong personal interest in the ITU, and permit me to give you my personal viewpoint here. As a licensed amateur radio operator for more than half my life, I learned the importance of frequency allocations and interference standards, and I learned early on that they were generally in Geneva, at the ITU. I still vividly remember the excitement when I first talked with other radio operators around the world. I had a great sense of community with the people at the other end of those transmissions. We were of different races, religions, countries, and beliefs, but we were friends and we gained mutual trust. That is the power of technology for good, for community around the world. I believe that I am fortunate that telecommunications has been both my vocation and avocation.

When asked by my Government to chair our Delegation, I accepted the responsibility eagerly. I was very interested in the views of my country on the work of the Plenipotentiary Conference, but I was equally interested in the thinking of other countries. Members of my Delegation and I have visited countries throughout the world - in Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America and as a result met with many of you in your home countries. Telecommunications development was the principal item on our agenda in each country.

We agreed that the ITU has three principal functions - radio frequency allocation, global standard setting and technical cooperation. We further agreed that the ITU performs relatively well in relation to allocations and standards, but needs to increase its efforts in telecommunications development and cooperation. We should be careful that we do not disturb those things that we do well by imposing changes that harm the effectiveness of our ability to allocate spectrum recommended global standards or register frequency assignments. Instead, we should concentrate on improving our capability in telecommunications development. We are open to change, but we must be judicious.

Many of you are familiar with the United States Telecommunication Training Institute. Since Nairobi, over 1,500 students from developing countries have attended USTTI courses. In 1989, over 400 students are expected to graduate from USTTI.

I am particularly pleased that we will soon produce a parallel organization that will substantially increase our telecommunications cooperation effort by making available additional technological expertise to developing countries. Details of this programme will be given later during this Conference.

We Plenipotentiaries have a unique and special trust. We are charged with making sound decisions to continue the effective working of this 124-year old Union. And 'Union' is a particularly apt word. The various Member nations voluntarily unite in the ITU to advance their own and world-wide interests, in order to make telecommunications more available to their citizens and to bring new services and information and products to people everywhere.

We understand that these capabilities are a necessity, not a luxury. But of course, we are all communicators by trade and have spent lifetimes working for telecommunications. We sometimes forget that not everyone has our experience and knowledge of the power and benefits of telecommunications technology. We are sometimes frustrated that others prioritize telecommunications lower than we do. That is another area for the Union.

We must unite in our efforts to help those who are not communicators to understand the difference that telecommunications makes; how expenditures for telecommunications are returned many times over in savings in transportation, fuel, time, raw materials, in fact, in every valuable resource. If we can accomplish this task, many of our other ITU difficulties will be much easier to resolve. The United States has always been a strong advocate of the benefits of technology for all countries. We will continue with you to pursue this goal within the ITU and at every other opportunity.

Our agenda is very full of challenging and substantive issues. However, there are proposals before the Conference which violate the principle of universality, a key tenet of this organization. Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates, we must stick to the substance of our work. A repeat of the extraneous politicalization and inappropriate debate which dominated the Nairobi Conference must be avoided. I appeal to all other delegations to be of a similar spirit.

Now let me reflect on the basis of a successful 'Union' and how that may guide us in the next five weeks. First of all, any successful organization must have a strong sense of its mission. There must be clear goals in order to plan and prioritize specific projects. The goals of the ITU are set forth in Article 4 of the Convention. The United States fully subscribes to those goals. We would add one more: to foster diversity and innovation in telecommunications.

Some may ask why this is so important and why alternatives are so significant. I respond that the experience of the United States and more and more other countries is that there is an amazing 'multiplier effect' that comes from diversity, a synergy by which the whole is much more than the sum of its parts. The mere opportunity to choose results in a vast array of vital information that cannot be obtained in any other way - what people need and want. When people can choose, they often learn they have needs they could not have otherwise predicted. I hope that the ITU, as a successful technical organization, will recognize the importance of diversity and innovation to technological development and embrace these concepts explicitly.

As with any organization, limited resources require the establishment of priorities among competing objectives. That is the basic objective of our Conference - to decide the work programme for the next Plenipotentiary period. To avoid the unfortunate situation which developed in Nairobi, where arbitrary cuts became necessary at the last minute, my Delegation believes our work should begin with the establishment of a planning level - an overall ceiling on expenditures for the coming Plenipotentiary period.

Mr. Chairman, there is much work to be done. The Delegation of the United States of America is eager to begin."

1.10 The Vice-Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of Japan made the following statement:

"First of all, I sincerely congratulate you, Mr. Chairman upon unanimous election of Chairmanship and I am sure that under your able leadership this Conference will result in success. I would like to extend my warm regard and respect of the work of the Secretariat guided by the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler. It is a great honour

for me to be able to speak at the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union held in the world's most beautiful city of Nice, and in France who is celebrating the anniversary of the bicentenary of the Revolution. May I take this opportunity to thank the Government and the people of France for having kindly offered to host this very important Conference, and I would like to appreciate this spirit of 'Liberté, Egalité and Fraternité' which is fully inspired in the course of this Conference.

Mr. Chairman, since the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, the ITU has been playing a very important role in international standard setting of all kinds of telecommunications, in securing the orderly utilization of frequencies and geostationary orbits and in promoting technical cooperation. Today, in the field of telecommunications, technological evolution and service diversification are prominent. The impact of telecommunications on society has greatly increased and it has become an important infrastructure for the social and economic development of the nation. Recognizing the important role played by telecommunications, some other international organizations are studying telecommunication in some aspects from their own standpoint. Therefore, I think the ITU should play its role in coordination with other organizations and is expected to carry out its duties in a much more effective and efficient manner by adapting to the changing circumstances. The Conference should address and challenge this issue in the rapidly changing world of telecommunications.

Mr. Chairman, while it is desirable that the Union embarks on new challenges positively in order to meet the changing circumstances in the world, the ITU should make efforts to promote more efficient management of the organization. Indeed, the Union is expected to strive to rationalize and make its work more efficient by all means in order to secure its entrusted task.

Mr. Chairman, since the Montreux Plenipotentiary Conference in 1965, Japan has proposed to create a Constitution as a Basic Instrument for the Union because it considers that a Constitution is necessary to secure for the Union its legal stability and continuity. At the Nairobi Conference, a Resolution was adopted to split the provisions of the present Convention into a Constitution and a Convention and to create a Group of Experts to prepare the drafts. The Group submitted a final report, which includes a draft Constitution and Convention of the Union, to the 43rd session of the Administrative Council last year. Supporting the proposal prepared by the Group in principal, Japan strongly hopes that other Union Members will also support the division of the Basic Instrument of the Union at this Conference.

Mr. Chairman, allow me to say a few words about Japan's emphasis on international cooperation in the field of telecommunications and the activities of the ITU. Ever since we joined the Union, we have actively taken part in the activities of the ITU, through participation in conferences and meetings of various organs of the Union. We have been very active in the standardization activities of the Study Groups and Working Parties of the CCITT and CCIR. The importance of standardization has been increasing in an era in which rapid progress in the development of new communications technology is continuously taking place. We have contributed to securing orderly utilization of frequencies and geostationary orbits and establishing flexible international framework for non-radio communications through active contribution to and participation in world administrative conferences, in particular, WATTC-88, WARC ORB-88 and WARC MOB-87.

In the field of technical cooperation, we have been making efforts in contributing to a well-balanced development of a global telecommunications network, fully conscious of the important role of telecommunications as the infrastructure of a country's economic and social development. We sincerely believe that technical cooperation is mutually beneficial to both developing and developed countries.

In addition to the bilateral economic cooperation in which Japan has now become one of the biggest donor countries in the world, we have been actively taking part in technical cooperation within the framework of the ITU. While experts of various kinds of field are dispatched from Japan, we are receiving in our country trainees financed by the technical cooperation scheme of the ITU. Japan is also one of the main and largest contributors to the Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) established in 1987. In this regard, we would like to continue to support CTD's unique role in developing a world-wide telecommunications network, and I am very pleased to announce that Japan is ready to increase its contribution to CTD from 220,000 dollars in 1988 to some 300,000 dollars in 1989 in addition to the in-kind contributions. I firmly believe in the wisdom of CTD, separate from conventional TCD, and all of us here should render their hope to CTD which started its work only three years ago.

Mr. Chairman, as all of us are aware, we are now entering the advanced Information Age. By merging information processing and communications technology, we can advance a high information processing system and various communications means and create an information network society. The realization of ISDN, which will convert information/communication lines and circuits into digital networks, and commercialization of communications satellites will further accelerate the sophistication of the information/communication infrastructure.

Mr. Chairman, telecommunication can remove the barriers of distance and time. It connects the world. I believe that in creating a network all countries of the world can appreciate the differences and variations of cultures in the world, which will eventually enable us to establish international cooperation. In the present circumstances, however, there are different telecommunication systems and different degrees of development of telecommunications networks in various countries. We would therefore like to make every effort to create, develop and standardize a network to fill 'the Missing Link' in cooperation with all of the Member countries. Needless to say, the ITU is expected to play a great role in promoting international cooperation. In this connection, more efficient and effective methods and mechanisms of the organization should be secured. Japan has supported the ITU through its contributions to the budget and participation in various activities of the organs of the Union. I would like to assure you that Japan will continue its support.

Mr. Chairman, in this context, I have the honour to formally and in solemn manner propose and offer holding the next Plenipotentiary Conference in Japan. I myself, and the people of Japan, would be greatly honoured if the Conference approves this proposal unanimously. I sincerely hope that our mutual understanding could be further strengthened by this Conference which will be held for the first time in Asia and the Pacific region in the long history of the International Telecommunication Union."

1.11 The Head of the Delegation of Australia made the following statement:

"The Australian Delegation congratulates you, Mr. Grenier, on your election as Chairman of this Plenipotentiary Conference.

We look forward to working with you and with the Committee Chairmen during this Conference, which occurs at a most important phase in the development of the Union.

We also sincerely thank the French Government for hosting this Conference in Nice.

The Secretary-General, in his address to the Plenary, identified three main issues for consideration. They are:

- the impact of the changing telecommunications environment;
- the functioning of the ITU and the resources available to it; and
- the question of a Basic Instrument for the Union.

Australia has considered these issues and has submitted proposals for the Conference in Document 69.

In brief, we consider that the ITU must respond to the quickened pace of telecommunications development in its standards-setting activity. It must also satisfy the demands of newly commercialized telecommunications carriers.

The working methods and structures within the ITU should be the subject of close scrutiny to ensure that the Union can adapt to the changing demands being placed upon it.

The ITU's ability to materially assist countries through technical cooperation activities will be hampered unless work priorities are clearly identified and the competing demands for ITU resources resolved.

Concerning the Basic Instrument of the Union, Australia can accept the proposed draft Constitution and Convention prepared by the Group of Experts, provided there are no changes introduced here which would create new difficulties.

Last, but by no means least, we wish to join other speakers to offer our best wishes to Dick Butler and his family for their future. In his long and distinguished service to the Union, he has done himself - and Australia - proud."

1.12 The Under Director-General of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) made the following statement:

"It is a great honour and a great privilege for me to address this august assembly. On behalf of the Universal Postal Union, I should like to associate myself with the congratulations addressed to you, Mr. Chairman, by the delegations that have preceded me on your election to the Chair of this Plenipotentiary Conference, the highest organ of the ITU. Your expertise and your great knowledge of telecommunication services undoubtedly offer an excellent guarantee of the success of this important meeting.

Let me say first of all that it is with great pleasure that I convey to all of you cordial greetings from the Director-General of the International Bureau of the UPU. He attaches great importance to all the questions that will be dealt with at this Plenipotentiary Conference and had intended to participate in person, but a series of previous engagements made necessary by the fact that our Congress is to meet in six months' time in Washington prevented him from coming. He does, however, wish me to transmit to you his best wishes for the complete success of your work.

This year, which for France and for the whole world is marked by the commemoration of the bicentenary of the French Revolution, is also given special significance for postal and telecommunication administrations by the fact that the ITU is holding this Plenipotentiary Conference in the magnificent city of Nice and that the

UPU will shortly be holding its Congress in Washington. Telecommunications, like the postal services, which have always played their role in the past, represent a fundamental element in economic, social and cultural development affecting the progress of individuals and countries today and in the future. Through the wide range of services they provide, telecommunications cover a variety of situations and meet individual needs.

Among the important items on the agenda of your Conference, I would stress the significance, on the basis of the UPU's experience, of your intention to change the structure of the ITU's instruments, dividing the present Convention into two different texts. We made a similar change at the UPU 25 years ago, at the Vienna Congress of 1964, like you, keeping the provisions relating to the UPU's basic rules for the Constitution and putting those relating to the application of the Constitution and the operation of the Union in the General Regulations. The Convention as such now contains the common rules applicable to the international postal service and the provisions concerning letter post.

We believe we have found a practical solution, giving us a basic legal instrument that will last. That is why, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, apart from other important decisions the Conference will have to adopt, we think that the one on a new Constitution will have a very positive effect on your organization, providing it with a more or less permanent Basic Instrument.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, as stated in the report of the Administrative Council, there have always been close relations between the ITU and the UPU, not just because our two organizations are concerned with the two branches of communication services, but also because of the growing interest that postal administrations take in the use of the telecommunication services to carry the mail. We are very satisfied with the results of the joint work undertaken to that end by the CCITT and the competent organs of the UPU with a view to introducing the electronic mail service.

I should not wish to conclude without thanking Mr. Butler, the Secretary-General of the ITU, for the interest he has always taken in developing good relations between the ITU and the UPU. We wish him all happiness in his future retirement.

Our thanks also go to the French Government for its kind invitation to us to attend this meeting and to the authorities and people of Nice for the way they have welcomed us ever since our arrival on the Côte d'Azur. As representative of the ITU's sister institution, I wish you, Ladies and Gentlemen, every success and a satisfactory outcome to your work".

The meeting rose at 1225 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Addendum 1 to
Corrigendum 1 to
Document 164-E
20 June 1989
Original: English

MINUTES
OF THE
EIGHTH PLENARY MEETING

Page 3

Replace 3) by the following:

"3) regulation of the operation and uses of systems and services;"

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 164-E
19 June 1989
Original: English

MINUTES
OF THE
EIGHTH PLENARY MEETING

Replace paragraph 1.2 by the following:

1.2 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Greece made the following statement:

"Our Delegation extends the warm and cordial greeting of the Greek people and Government to the Plenipotentiaries of the 166 Member States of the ITU and expresses its sincerest wishes for the success of their 13th Conference.

We would also like to address our warm thanks and deep gratitude to our French fellow citizens and to their government for their very friendly welcome, for the exemplary organization of the Conference and for their constant concern for the comfort of our stay in Nice, NIKAIA, this outstanding Mediterranean city founded and developed by our ancestors, 26 centuries ago.

Lastly, we would like to join other delegations in expressing our best wishes and our congratulations on their election to the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Conference, as well as to the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the ten main Committees. You may rest assured, dear colleagues, that our Delegation will do its best to facilitate and assist your efforts for the success of this Conference.

Mr. Chairman, there is no doubt that the political and moral importance of this Conference has been much accentuated by the fact that it is taking place in France at a time when the world is celebrating with your people the bicentenary of its Revolution. For this event, which lays at the origin of national uprisings by peoples under domination, of the establishment of modern democracies and of the world-wide recognition of human rights and the rights of the citizen, headed by the freedom of expression and, by extension, freedom of communication, enormously influences our thought and will no doubt inspire and direct our action. It should also be recognized that for the implementation and exercise in practice of that supreme and inalienable right of free communication, we are all here at the ITU making our own effort, by ensuring the ordered expansion and harmonious development of telecommunications, which lie at the basis of economic growth and the social, political and cultural progress of all peoples.

Being aware of that indisputable fact, Greece has not ceased to develop its telecommunications, despite a relative insufficiency of economic resources. In that respect, we may inform you that our country this year celebrated the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Hellenic Telecommunications Organization (OTE), its national telecommunications company set up under private law. At the present time in Greece, we have 40 telephone lines per 100 inhabitants. This considerable expansion has made possible the parallel development of all the other telecommunication services. Despite this progress, however, the infrastructure rests on the older analogue systems, which gives rise to some very serious problems of modernization and development. We hope that with the scientific and technical assistance of the ITU we may be able very

soon to introduce digital technology and thus modernize our national network. On the other hand, Greece has been taking an active part in international operational organizations for space telecommunication such as INTELSAT, INMARSAT and EUTELSAT, besides making a significant contribution to the CEPT and the EEC and taking part in regional telecommunication development programmes.

On the subject of progress and successes, we feel it is an opportune moment to refer to the intensive and continual efforts of the Secretary-General, the honourable Richard E. Butler, and his collaborators, for the implementation and furthering of the decisions of our last conference in Nairobi. In only seven years, the ITU has been able spectacularly to achieve its objectives regarding the improvement of international regulations and the promotion of international technical cooperation and development aid. One should first mention the three major world administrative conferences, namely ORB-85 and 88, MOB-87 and WATTC-88. Then there was in particular the Arusha Conference (May 1985), which approved the report of the Maitland Commission, 'The Missing Link', and thus originated the Centre for Telecommunications Development. It is also worth mentioning the very important work of the two Groups of Experts on the Basic Instrument of the Union and the future of the IFRB. Finally, one should not forget the major achievements with regard to the dissemination of scientific and technical information through the Telecom exhibitions and world and regional fora. The net result, therefore, is that the ITU has accomplished some very fruitful activity, which is much appreciated by the whole family of nations and especially by those less advanced in telecommunications.

Mr. Chairman, it is true that the explosive development of the electronic media and the rapid convergence of telecommunication and computing technologies have radically altered the technical and social environment in which the process of human communication and economic and social cultural exchanges has been developing. As a result, telecommunications have now become the common denominator of several sectors and have taken on incredible strategic value. This very powerful transformation is having a profound effect on the behaviour and on the economic and social life of all peoples and countries of the world and has thus rendered inevitable the adoption of basic institutional and regulatory adjustments at all levels.

As a consequence, the evolution of the telecommunications environment now requires a development of the role of the ITU. As we are aware, however, the present structure of our Union no longer reflects the present and especially the future state of the telecommunications sector. This is an altogether negative factor as far as the performance of the basic functions of the ITU is concerned. An effort should be made, therefore, as soon as possible to renew and reorganize the Union and to redefine its universal role.

Mr. Chairman, our major concern is at all cost to preserve the integrity and efficiency of the global world telecommunication network. It is therefore essential that in practice the interconnectivity and interoperability of systems and services should be guaranteed at the national, regional and international levels. International understanding and cooperation must therefore be strengthened and intensified, as well as the planning of network development on all those levels. Development aid must also be increased and systematized. Above all, however, the use of human and material resources used to implement the ITU's objectives needs to be rationalized.

The ITU, which is the Specialized Agency of the United Nations, competent and responsible for the harmonious development of telecommunications world-wide, should be equipped with a new and modern structure reflecting the specific physiognomy and particularity of the field of telecommunications of today and of tomorrow. It should especially be provided with the organizational, managerial and economic means required to continue to fulfil on an evolutive basis its major and extremely noble role: to enable in fact every human being to communicate freely with his fellow person, regardless of his place of domicile or his technological and economic advancement. On

the eve of the 21st century, every family, at any point on our planet, has the sacred right to have direct access to a telephone line and we are all here under an obligation to ensure the real exercise of that right.

The ITU should therefore fulfil the following six basic functions:

- 1) world-wide global standardization of equipment;
- 2) management of natural resources within its field of competence;
- 3) operational regulation of systems and services;
- 4) planning, development and extension of the global world network;
- 5) dissemination of scientific and technical information and the promotion of international cooperation; and
- 6) administrative and judicial control of the application of international regulations and the other Acts of the Union.

Mr. Chairman, in considering the national proposals and contributions for the work of this Conference, we have understood that the international community is almost ready, at any rate psychologically and politically, to adopt the first basic measures which will lead eventually to a rejuvenation of the Union. This is an altogether logical and realistic attitude. It is in fact the only way of making the ITU able to respond dynamically and effectively to the great challenge of the Information Age, in which we are already living.

Greece, one of the 20 countries which founded the Union in 1865, is going to use every means at its disposal to further the process of reorganization of the institutional structure and modernization of the means of action of the ITU. Convinced of this necessity and wishing to contribute always more to the activities of the Union, our country would request that the Plenipotentiaries here present grant it a seat on the Administrative Council of the ITU.

Lastly, we feel sure that the work of the 13th Plenipotentiary Conference will be crowned with success. This optimism is justified by the fact that we find ourselves here, working in the city of NIKAIÁ, which in Greek means the city which always gives victory. The omens are good. Our ambition to serve the common interest and the well-being of mankind as a whole provides us with the peaceful arms for an altogether legitimate and noble fight. And we have no doubt that we shall win victory. We must therefore proceed with our renewal without delay. For after Nice it will be too late. In the words of Thucydides, the famous politician and historian of ancient Greece, ΟΙ ΚΑΙΠΟΙ ΟΥ ΜΕΝΕΤΟΙ (Opportunity does not wait to be seized)."

**PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE**

NICE, 1989

Document 164-E
9 June 1989
Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES
OF THE
EIGHTH PLENARY MEETING

Monday, 29 May 1989, at 1440 hrs

Chairman: Mr. J. GRENIER (France)

<u>Subjects discussed:</u>	<u>Documents</u>
1. General policy statements (continued)	-
1.1 Statement by the First Deputy Minister for Transport, Posts and Telecommunications of Czechoslovakia	-
1.2 Statement by the Deputy Head of the Delegation of Greece	-
1.3 Statement by the Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Transport and Communications of Sweden	-
1.4 Statement by the Deputy Director of Posts and Telecommunications of Turkey	-
1.5 Statement by the Minister for Works and Communications of the Kingdom of Swaziland	-
1.6 Statement by the Observer for the United Nations	-
2. General schedule of the work of the Conference	143
3. Statement by the Secretary-General on the changing telecommunications environment	-

1. General policy statements (continued)

1.1 The First Deputy Minister for Transport, Posts and Telecommunications of Czechoslovakia made the following statement:

"Mr. Chairman, I take this opportunity to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of our Conference. I am sure that your professional experience, which we all recognize, will help our work proceed to a successful conclusion.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me begin by expressing our profound gratitude to the Government of the Republic of France for inviting us to take part in this Conference. At the same time I should like to thank the French Telecommunication Administration, the Nice city authorities and the staff of the Secretariat for the good conditions provided for the work of the Conference.

In view of the headlong development of new equipment and services in the field of telecommunications, this Conference will have a big role to play in the further development of telecommunications throughout the world. Mr. Butler put this very well in his address when he pointed out that we could not enter the twenty-first century without unshackling ourselves from the nineteenth.

We all have the same interest in developing and improving the part played by telecommunications in all our countries to the greatest possible extent. But if we are realistic, we can see that the level of telecommunication development varies greatly from one country to another. Of course, the level of development does not depend solely on administrations' wishes, but also on the political situation in the world. What a great amount of human and material resources would be released by disarmament and could then be used to develop telecommunications and promote human welfare!

Our Administration wants to play a full part in the development of international cooperation in the field of telecommunications. This year it is organizing two seminars in Czechoslovakia with the help of the ITU and sending experts who are familiar with CODEVTEL to developing countries for the UNDP and on a bilateral basis, and at this Conference it will make every effort to ensure that our work comes to a successful conclusion. I think what needs to be done first is to seek more efficient and economic methods of work in the ITU and only then to introduce radical structural reforms. Accordingly, it would be desirable, before the Conference takes its final decisions, to have in mind their financial implications, to approach them from that standpoint and to find the optimum variant for the future development of our organization.

Since the last Conference in Nairobi, the ITU, under the leadership of its Secretary-General, Mr. Butler, has done a great deal of work to coordinate the development of telecommunications throughout the world. At this Conference a new team will have to be chosen to head the ITU. I should like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Butler for the work he has done and to wish him good health and every happiness.

To end my statement I should like to congratulate our French colleagues on the bicentenary of the great French Revolution and to wish the French people as a whole every success in the future."

1.2 The Deputy Head of the Delegation of Greece made the following statement:

"Our Delegation extends the warm and cordial greeting of the Greek people and Government to the Plenipotentiaries of the 166 Member States of the ITU and expresses its sincerest wishes for the success of their 13th Conference.

We would also like to address our warm thanks and deep gratitude to our French fellow citizens and to their government for their very friendly welcome, for the exemplary organization of the Conference and for their constant concern for the comfort of our stay in Nice, Nikaia, this outstanding Mediterranean town founded and developed by our ancestors, 26 centuries ago.

Lastly, we would like to join other delegations in expressing our best wishes and our congratulations on their election to the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Conference, as well as to the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the ten main Committees. You may rest assured that our Delegation will do its best to facilitate and assist your efforts for the success of this Conference.

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achievements with regard to the dissemination of scientific and technical information through the Telecom exhibitions and world and regional fora. The net result, therefore, is that the ITU has accomplished some very fruitful activity, which is much appreciated by the whole family of nations and especially by those less advanced in telecommunications.

Mr. Chairman, it is true that the explosive development of the electronic media and the rapid convergence of telecommunication and computing technologies have radically altered the technical and social environment in which the process of human communication and economic and social cultural exchanges has been developing. As a result, telecommunications have now become the common denominator of several sectors and have taken on incredible strategic value. This very powerful transformation is having a profound effect on the behaviour and on the economic and social life of all peoples and countries of the world and has thus rendered inevitable the adoption of basic institutional and regulatory adjustments at all levels.

As a consequence, the evolution of the telecommunications environment now requires a development of the role of the ITU. As we are aware, however, the present structure of our Union no longer reflects the present and especially the future state of the telecommunications sector. This is an altogether negative factor as far as the performance of the basic functions of the ITU is concerned. An effort should be made, therefore, as soon as possible to renew and reorganize the Union and to redefine its universal role.

Mr. Chairman, our major concern is at all cost to preserve the integrity and efficiency of the world telecommunication network. It is therefore essential that in practice the interconnectivity and interworking of systems and services should be guaranteed at the national, regional and international levels. International understanding and cooperation must therefore be strengthened and intensified, as well as the planning of network development on all those levels. Development aid must also be increased and systematized. Above all, however, the use of human and material resources used to implement the ITU's objectives needs to be rationalized.

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- 6) administrative and judicial control of the application of international regulations and the other Acts of the Union.

Mr. Chairman, in considering the national proposals and contributions for the work of this Conference, we have understood that the international community is almost ready, at any rate psychologically and politically, to adopt the first basic measures which will lead eventually to a rejuvenation of the Union. This is an altogether logical and realistic attitude. It is in fact the only way of making the ITU able to respond dynamically and effectively to the great challenge of the information era, in which we are already living.

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1.3 The Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Transport and Communications of Sweden made the following statement:

"Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you on your election to lead this important Conference. Like other delegations we would also like to thank the Government of France for its generosity in hosting the Conference. The Swedish Delegation also expresses its gratitude to the Secretary-General for his long-standing work for the benefit of the ITU and its Members.

At this stage of the debate I will be brief and only mention a few issues within two areas among those indicated on the agenda, and that we regard as important. Let me, Mr. Chairman, first address the changing telecommunication environment and its impact on the ITU. The ITU has three main fields of activity: global standardization, regulation and technical cooperation. The rapid developments have a profound influence in all these areas. The ITU has on several occasions demonstrated its ability to adapt the international cooperative framework to changing circumstances. Thus, most recently at the WATTC Conference half a year ago, it was possible to rewrite an outdated set of Administrative Regulations. The discussions at that Conference showed that there is a need to take into account more than the technical operational and administrative matters which traditionally have been dealt with in the ITU. The WATTC process also showed that different perceptions of policy approaches in the Member countries are a potential obstacle to obtaining consensus within the Union. The report entitled 'The Changing Telecommunication Environment' puts particular emphasis on this growing need to address fundamental policy issues. Such issues are the relations between the telecommunication sector and other sectors of society as well as between governments

and telecommunications administrations. Each country is sovereign in its national decision making, but we are convinced that the ITU may well play a useful role as a forum for promoting a better mutual understanding of the consequences of different basic approaches to telecommunication policy-making at government level. The Swedish Delegation looks forward to further discussion on this matter during the debate on the Hansen Report.

Let me now, Mr. Chairman, turn to the question of technical cooperation in the changing environment. Sweden fully recognizes the increasing importance of telecommunications in the development process and that accelerated investments are urgently needed in many Member countries. The ITU has a very important role as the specialized agency for telecommunications of the United Nations and executing agency for technical cooperation projects. Between seven and eight per cent of the ITU budget is spent to cover these activities. Technical cooperation and assistance is effected through many channels, both bilaterally and multilaterally. The Swedish Government considers the UNDP to be the primary channel for multilateral development assistance and Sweden is one of the major contributors to UNDP funding. Our contribution to telecommunications assistance through the UNDP programme is roughly 15 times as large as through the ITU and the CTD. We are also aware of the importance of other multilateral sources of financing in the telecommunications sector, bearing in mind that multilateral financing and assistance is complementary to internal and bilateral sources. A strengthened cooperation between the ITU and other global and regional development agencies may be necessary to reap the maximum development benefits from available financial and human resources. Mr. Chairman, we look forward also to further discussion on these matters during the Conference.

Now, let me address some issues in relation to the functioning of the ITU and its resources. The ITU faces many challenges in the coming years. Policy matters and technical cooperation will need increased attention. Changing circumstances require an adaptation of working methods within the CCIs if global interconnectivity and interoperability is to be achieved also in the future. Careful consideration has to be given to the structure of the Union and different options and possible step-by-step changes explored. In this connection the recent CCITT Plenary Assembly Meeting in Melbourne may be mentioned where a first step was taken, which will no doubt lead to more efficient working methods of the CCITT. This could well be followed by similar action by the CCIR. Good management and administrative skill will be necessary in this process of renewal, especially when considering the budgetary constraints that will no doubt prevail. The Swedish Delegation is convinced that the ITU will be successful in meeting these challenges under a dynamic and efficient leadership taking the interests of all Members into account.

Sweden is a candidate to the Administrative Council. Let me just explain that this candidature is the result of the traditional coordination among the Nordic countries and that we are all prepared to contribute constructively to the work of the Council.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, there are proposals before this Conference that, if adopted, could lead to considerable extra demand on the ITU budget. We have to study all these proposals very carefully to ensure that adequate resources will be available for ITU's main activities. I have briefly touched upon some of those activities in this statement. Let me just say one final word on the Conference programme and point out that we attach high priority to a limited frequency allocation conference in 1992 to address future needs primarily for mobile telecommunications and high definition television."

1.4 The Deputy Director of Posts and Telecommunications of Turkey made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Turkish Delegation, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Grenier, on being selected as Chairman of this important Conference and I would like to thank the Government of France for their kind invitation to this Plenipotentiary Conference and warm hospitality during our stay in Nice.

Telecommunications are a major infrastructure in developing countries. They play an important role in economic development, public administration and social life. They are also very essential in the emergence and development of trade and business among countries.

All countries are linked together by telecommunications, but the services offered differ in quality and quantity from nation to nation, and especially in developing countries, between remote and urban areas.

In order to have an effective, functional global telecommunication network, special attention must be paid to improving and expanding the national networks of developing countries.

It is to be hoped that the ITU will be much more active in coordinating sufficient technology transfer and providing funding through appropriate international institutions for the training and provision of telecommunications personnel to the developing countries.

Due to very rapid changes in technology and the introduction of new services, the ITU should pay specific attention and take the necessary action to respond to the needs of developing countries, and should also make necessary internal arrangements to give assistance in policy matters to these nations.

We believe that the developing countries must be more active in appropriate ITU bodies, in this way the activities of the ITU towards them will be accelerated.

In addition, administrations which adopt the integration of voice and data services, fixed and mobile services, satellites, fibre optic networks, digital microwave and digital exchanges should share their experience with neighbours in the interests of all within the specific region.

In Turkey, today, various communications systems are utilized in domestic and international telecommunications services. These systems not only serve the purpose of meeting people's basic need for domestic and international telephone communications, but also make it possible to offer to the public the newest services available by technological advances.

In all activities of the Turkish PTT, special care is taken to make use of modern technology through intensive and fruitful studies being performed since 1984 when it was decided to digitalize the analogue network. Almost 50% of the national telecommunication network is now digitalized by ensuring trouble-free operation in harmony with the old analogue type.

Including the subscriber loop, the digital transmission system operates in both local exchanges, and on trunk lines up to transmission speeds of 565 Mbit/s.

I would like to give some figures relating to the development of telecommunications in Turkey's telephone exchange capacity of 1.9 million lines in 1983 has been increased to more than 6.0 million lines. While only 28% of the total of 37,000 villages was connected to the telephone network in 1983, there was no village to which a telephone was unavailable by the end of 1988. 35,000 villages in Turkey are now linked to the automatic telephone network.

In addition to telephone service, telex, teletext, facsimile, packet-switched data, circuit-switched data, cellular mobile telephony, radio paging, toll free, credit calling, cordless telephones, videotext and videoconference services are provided nation-wide.

The Turkish PTT adds 1,000,000 new lines each year to its national network.

Turkey operates 6 million basic telephone lines, and, having solved its rural telecommunication problems in a very short time, is willing to share its know-how and expertise with its neighbours and other countries bilaterally or multilaterally through ITU channels.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank Richard Butler for his contributions to the ITU and for his endless efforts to develop a global communication network for the benefit of all nations.

We, as the Turkish Delegation, wish him and his family a nice healthy life after his retirement."

1.5 The Minister for Works and Communications of the Kingdom of Swaziland made the following statement:

"I feel highly honoured to be given the opportunity to make a statement during this session of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the International Telecommunication Union in this lovely city of Nice.

Like all other previous speakers allow me, Sir, on behalf of my Delegation to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of the Conference. Our congratulations also go to the Vice-Chairmen, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the various Committees. I have observed with great admiration and appreciation that since the beginning of this Conference you have ably presided over plenary meetings which will hopefully lead these meetings to successful conclusions and concrete results. Under your able leadership and wise guidance, my Delegation pledges its unflinching support for the successful conclusions of the Conference deliberations. My Delegation also wishes to express its profound gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to it by the Government and the friendly people of the French Republic.

The Kingdom of Swaziland like all other Union Members is strongly committed to the progress and future development of telecommunications world-wide. Swaziland is land-locked and hence any development which may allow her to communicate more effectively with the outside world as a catalyst for socio-economic development is more than welcome. In order for us to communicate with the outside world we have to follow specific trends in attempting to link up, for example, with the rest of Africa through the PANAFTTEL Network. This is by no means an easy task as the success of the PANAFTTEL Network is entirely dependent on the political will and cooperation of neighbouring States to provide complimentary infrastructure. For the African Region it is extremely crucial and important that all intra-African telecommunication traffic be routed within the region, transiting extra-African centres make users of telecommunication services pay more for call charges. This is the reason for my country to be firmly and fully committed to the prosperity of integration of telecommunications networks as well as maintenance of such links.

The International Telecommunication Union has grown from strength to strength since inception in 1865. It is pleasing to note that it continues to move steadily and faithfully on the path of its defined objectives despite numerous global economic difficulties we continue to experience. The contribution by the Union in bringing the world nations closer together by promoting human understanding has been of immense value to mankind. This remarkable achievement would not have been possible without the willingness of Union Members and the Union Secretariat under the able leadership of its devoted and dedicated Secretary-General in the name of Mr. Richard Butler.

The accelerated technological development of the communication infrastructure has reached a point of no return. A few decades ago human beings were clamoring for the use of basic telephones in the developed world. Today the need for such basic services can no longer be regarded as a luxury even in the developing countries. The role of telecommunications in fulfilling social human needs and economic development has been realized by the entire Union Membership. Thanks for the efforts made in this direction. The Missing Link Report vividly depicts this problem especially in the developing world and cannot, therefore, be simply a question of identifying the missing link but an action-oriented plan that must be put to use in order to bridge the missing link for the benefit of mankind.

Having listened to so many eminent speakers last week, there is no doubt that the changing telecommunication environment calls for the entire Union membership to double its efforts in meeting the requirements of the next decade and the 21st century. The demands for this environment also call for revamped re-investment policies where new technologies are a must. The world is becoming smaller due to the easiness of travel. It will be difficult therefore to refuse provision of new services to customers as the enhanced services are meant for easy communication for the conduct of today's business. The developing countries cannot, unfortunately, avoid matching requirements for improved services though the financial muscle for re-investment in these services and the human resources demands are beyond capabilities in many instances.

My Delegation fully shares the views and sentiments which have been expressed by those speakers who spoke before me last week, especially the speakers from Kenya, Nigeria, Liberia and Zimbabwe, just to name a few. My Delegation believes in the principle of equitable distribution of seats and the need for a method of rotation with a fixed tenure of office in the Administrative Council. We believe that membership to the Administrative Council could be limited to one re-election only, so that all countries from the five regions might benefit and participate fully in the affairs of the Union. A proposal in this direction would be supported by my Delegation with the proviso that at least half of the Administrative Council's total membership shall be renewed at each Plenipotentiary Conference. The same principle for election or re-election by not more than two successive Conferences of Plenipotentiaries, if accepted, would be upheld for all other elected positions within the Union membership.

My Delegation supports the proposal for the adoption of a new basic instrument, namely, the Constitution and General Regulations and wishes to record its appreciation to the Group of Experts entrusted with the task of splitting the present Convention into two parts. It is now entirely a decision for the Plenipotentiaries whether to maintain the status quo or to leave Nice having adopted a permanent basic instrument, hopefully to be headed "Nice 1989 Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union", with its Convention or General Regulations.

We have witnessed with great satisfaction during the past seven years the implementation of the Nairobi 1982 decisions - one of these was the setting-up of ITU Area Offices. We are most grateful for the initiative taken in this direction. With the bringing into service of the PANAFTEL Network, what remains is the tariffication of the

services rendered as economically as possible. The African Region banks upon the ITU expertise to have services tariffed. We hope that ITU may consider sponsoring administrations for tariff and traffic accounting for the benefit of Union Membership.

To you, Mr. Butler, outgoing Secretary-General of our noble Union, my Delegation would like to associate itself with the sentiments expressed by other delegations in wishing you and your family long life, happiness and a rewarding retirement. Many thanks for the excellent contribution you have made over the years as Deputy Secretary-General and Secretary-General in fulfillment of the aims and objectives of the Union.

In conclusion, my Delegation attaches great importance to the outcome of the deliberations of this Conference and hopes that the International Telecommunication Union will receive a fresh momentum to enable the entire Union membership to take up the challenges of the '90s and the 21st century. Swaziland will do her best to encourage collective efforts in favour of international cooperation and solidarity."

1.6 The Observer for the United Nations made the following statement:

"I bring with me the greetings of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuellar and his sincere wishes for the success of this Plenipotentiary Conference.

May I also, on behalf of the United Nations, extend congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, and through you to the other elected Conference officers upon your election. I am sure that under your guidance this Conference will constructively address the many issues on its agenda.

The United Nations would like to express its appreciation to the French Government, for hosting the Conference and providing the accommodation which will most certainly assist in facilitating the Conference's work.

My organization places great importance on the International Telecommunication Union as the specialized agency responsible for telecommunications matters, also as the specialized agency which among other tasks maintains and encourages international cooperation for the improvement and rational use of telecommunication and development, and promotes the development of telecommunication facilities to improve their efficiency, increase their usefulness and making these facilities generally available to the public.

The United Nations recognizes the direct relationship between telecommunication and economic, social and developmental affairs, as well as the favourable impact that improvement of telecommunications has on these activities. The United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Pérez de Cuellar, most recently reaffirmed this belief in his opening statement to the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference in Melbourne, Australia last year.

The high reliance and level of importance placed on the Union by the United Nations is best understood in the light of the close collaboration between the Union and the United Nations throughout the years. Of particular note are the many developmental telecommunication projects which have been successfully implemented through the coordinated and combined efforts of the Union and the United Nations Development Programme.

I would call your attention as well to the two most significant actions of the Union concerning the United Nations telecommunication operations over the past couple of years. As one, the Union made a most comprehensive study of the United Nations and satellite communications which helped steer the United Nations on a rational path in

satellite communications matters. The other was posting a highly competent Union Secretariat engineer on secondment to assist in the development and dimensioning of a proper United Nations telecommunication system.

In view of these feelings, the United Nations is interested in how the Union meets the challenges of the accelerating developments in electronic technology, the convergence of the several disciplines which are affected by these developments and to bring the resultant products and services within reach of larger portions of the global population.

The United Nations welcomes the opportunity of participating in the deliberations of this Conference as an observer and wishes to thank the Union for having provided this possibility. We have submitted information papers on those issues, the favourable disposition of which will strengthen the United Nations ability to do its work and will be available to discuss them at the appropriate time.

As the Plenipotentiary Conference is the supreme organ of the Union, the results of the Conference's deliberations are of utmost interest to the United Nations. Again, the United Nations wishes to underline the hope that the Conference will reach a most successful conclusion.

In addition to conveying the United Nations salutations to you, Mr. Chairman, the organization would like to convey its best regards to a distinguished international civil servant, Mr. Richard E. Butler, and to thank him for his strong and unswerving support to the objectives of the United Nations and wish him the best in the future."

2. General schedule of the work of the Conference (Document 143)

2.1 The Chairman, having recalled the statement made on 15 May by the Secretary-General, reported that at the two meetings of the Steering Committee, at which opinions had been divided, consensus had been reached on the need for Committee 7 to make some progress in its work before a decision on the dates of the elections was taken (apart from that of the Secretary-General). The Steering Committee was to meet the following day and the Chairman of Committee 7 had been asked to speed up the Committee's discussions with a view to the taking of decisions of principle on the structure of the Union as quickly as possible.

The Steering Committee proposed that the election of the Secretary-General should take place on the morning of Monday, 12 June, followed by the other elections.

2.2 The delegate of Turkey wished to know why the elections would be held at such a late stage in the Conference.

2.3 The Chairman explained that widely differing views had been expressed at the two meetings of the Steering Committee held so far and that the decision on the date of the elections was a compromise.

In reply to the delegate of the USSR, he said that the Steering Committee would discuss the election dates at its next meeting. The date of 12 June had been agreed in principle and the Secretariat had been asked to prepare all the necessary elements concerning nominations.

2.4 The delegate of the USSR observed that he would have wished to hear the views of the Plenary, not merely those of the Steering Committee.

2.5 The delegate of Lebanon said that he would be happy if the Plenary accepted the proposals of the Steering Committee, whose members had been elected by the Plenary.

2.6 The Chairman said that in the absence of any other proposals, he would take it that the proposal of the Steering Committee that the election of the Secretary-General should take place on the morning of 12 June, was satisfactory.

2.7 The delegate of the United States, referring to the tentative schedule of the work of the Conference for the second and third weeks, asked what was envisaged in regard to decisions of principle concerning policy issues to be taken by the end of the second week.

2.8 The Secretary-General replied that various policy matters were involved and that there was a need to reflect on the various issues with a view of reaching appropriate conclusions to facilitate the work of the Committees.

2.9 The Chairman added that a Plenary Meeting would be held on the afternoon of Friday, 2 June, and that each Committee would meet several times prior to that date. After the end of the general discussion in Plenary the following day, he would try to draw up some guidelines based on the policy statements that had been delivered.

No schedule had yet been established for the third week of the Conference and the dates of Plenary Meetings would depend on the progress made by the Committees in the second week.

3. Statement by the Secretary-General on the changing telecommunications environment

3.1 The Secretary-General drew attention to Resolution No. PL/4 adopted by WATTC concerning the changing telecommunications environment (Document 37). There was also a discussion document (Document 90) which was submitted to the Conference at the request of two administrations and he had received a number of favourable communications concerning the "Report on the Changing Telecommunications Environment" - Policy Advice - policy considerations for the Members of the ITU. In explaining this Report, the Secretary-General indicated that in 1987, following an earlier Advisory contribution in regard to "Investing in Telecommunications" and follow-up actions by various interests to the Missing Link Report, he had been approached for his advice by some ministers and prominent officials of developing and medium-level developed countries. He had preferred to establish a group of personalities with a wide background to help him to respond. The report of an informal group of persons had assisted him to reply to the requests he received and he wished to thank them. The relevant documents would be included in the agenda of the following Plenary Meeting.

The meeting rose at 1600 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R. E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 165-E

2 June 1989

Original: French

COMMITTEE 3

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 3

(BUDGET CONTROL)

Tuesday, 30 May 1989, at 0930 hrs

Chairman: Mr. M.K. RAO (India)

Subjects discussed:

Documents

1.	Organization of the work of Committee 3	-
2.	Terms of reference of the Committee and facilities available to delegates	118
3.	Agreement between the Government of France and the Secretary-General of the ITU	76
4.	Budget of the Conference	75

1. Organization of the work of Committee 3

1.1 The Chairman observed that Committee 3's proceedings were governed by Nos. 476 to 479 of the Convention. For the time being, the Committee did not contemplate setting up any Sub-Committees.

The Committee noted the organization of work.

2. Terms of reference of the Committee and facilities available to delegates
(Document 118)

2.1 The Chairman said that if there were no comments he would take it that the Committee's terms of reference were approved.

It was so agreed.

3. Agreement between the Government of France and the Secretary-General of the ITU
(Document 76)

3.1 The Deputy Secretary-General said that the Agreement reproduced in Document 76 contained the provisions generally applied to conferences held away from Geneva (in pursuance of amended Administrative Council Resolution No. 83). The additional expenses incurred by holding the Conference in Nice were annexed to the Agreement; the figures provided an indication of the efforts which had been made by the French authorities.

3.2 The Chairman drew delegates' attention to the fact that the additional expenses amounted to 1,616,000 Swiss francs. He thanked the French Government for the facilities made available to delegates during the Nice Conference.

The Committee noted Document 76.

4. Budget of the Conference (Document 75)

4.1 The Secretary said that Document 75 set out the budget as approved by the Administrative Council for a Conference held in Geneva, additional expenses being covered by the Agreement between the French Government and the ITU. Furthermore, expenditure on common services (translation, typing and reproduction of documents) was not included in the budget submitted. Consequently, the total budget was higher than the quoted figure of 2,600,000 Swiss francs if account was taken of common services expenditure charged to section 17 of the Union's budget and estimated at 3,114,000 Swiss francs.

4.2 The delegate of France observed that the figures given in Annex I concerned only direct costs and that a further annex setting out the common services costs should be added. She would provide the Secretary with the necessary material.

4.3 The Secretary, having regard to the changes proposed by the French Delegation, said that he would make arrangements for the Conference budget, together with extracts from the operating budget and the cost analysis, to be issued in time for the next meeting.

Document 75 was noted.

The meeting rose at 0950 hours.

The Secretary:

R. PRELAZ

The Chairman:

M.K. RAO

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 166-E
2 June 1989
Original: French

COMMITTEE 2

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 2
(CREDENTIALS)

Tuesday, 30 May 1989, at 0930 hrs

Chairman: Mr. J. SZEKELY (Hungary)

Subjects discussed:

Documents

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Terms of reference of the Committee | 118 |
| 2. | Organization of work | - |
| 3. | Transfer of powers | - |
| 4. | Submission of credentials | - |

1. Terms of reference of Committee 2

1.1 The Chairman reminded the Committee that its terms of reference were to verify the credentials of delegations and to report on its findings to the Plenary Meeting by the date specified by the latter, namely, 23 June 1989.

That comment was duly noted.

2. Organization of work

2.1 The Committee approved the setting up of a Working Group consisting of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the delegates of Argentina, Czechoslovakia, Indonesia, Kenya and Sweden. The Chairman asked all those countries to appoint a member of the Working Group and to communicate the name to the Secretary or himself.

3. Transfer of powers

3.1 The Secretary pointed out that, under No. 391 of the International Telecommunication Convention (Nairobi, 1982), a Member of the Union which was unable to send its own delegation to a conference might give the delegation of another Member powers to vote and sign on its behalf.

3.2 The Secretary read out documents relating to the transfer of powers from Jordan to Iraq, from Liechtenstein to Switzerland and from the Solomon Islands to Australia.

The transfers of powers were approved.

3.3 The Chairman invited the Committee to authorize him and the Vice-Chairman to approve other transfers of powers, which would be deposited with the Secretariat after verification of the instruments. He would submit a report to the Plenary Meeting on the verification of those transfers of powers.

It was so decided.

4. Submission of credentials

4.1 The Secretary announced that the Secretariat had so far received credentials from 95 of the 137 Members of the Union present that day at the Conference. He invited other Member States to submit their credentials as soon as possible so that the Chairman could report to the Plenary Meeting within the specified time.

The meeting rose at 0950 hours.

The Secretary:

X. ESCOFET

The Chairman:

J. SZEKELY

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 167-E
12 June 1989
Original: English/
French

COMMITTEE 5

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 5
(STAFF MATTERS)

1. Paragraph 5.2

Replace "The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany" by "The delegate of the German Democratic Republic".

2. Paragraph 5.7

Replace the first sentence by the following:

"The delegate of Switzerland said that delegations were aware of the current malaise in the ITU; he had received the impression that the common system was finding it more and more difficult to adjust to the needs of the Union's specialized staff."

3. Paragraph 5.8

Replace "The delegate of the German Democratic Republic" by "The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany".

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 167-E

6 June 1989

Original: English

COMMITTEE 5

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 5
(STAFF MATTERS)

Wednesday, 31 May 1989, at 0930 hrs

Chairman: Mr. F. MOLINA NEGRO (Spain)

<u>Subjects discussed:</u>	<u>Documents</u>
1. Terms of reference of the Committee	118
2. Schedule of work	143
3. Documents/proposals allocated to Committee 5	DT/7
4. Statement by the Chairman of the ITU Staff Council to the 1989 Plenipotentiary Conference	-
5. Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference	47 (Section 2.2.4)
6. Pension matters	-
6.1 Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference	47 (Section 2.2.5)
6.2 Planned pension purchasing power protection insurance	30

1. Terms of reference of the Committee (Document 118)

The terms of reference of Committee 5 as given in Document 118 were noted.

2. Schedule of work (Document 143)

2.1 The Chairman indicated that Committee 5 should complete its work by the end of the third week of the Conference and that if no unforeseen difficulties arose he hoped to do so by Thursday, 8 June.

3. Documents/proposals allocated to Committee 5 (Document DT/7)

3.1 The delegate of Morocco asked whether the Committee would consider two proposals by his Administration which might have indirect repercussions on its work, namely MRC/126/6 (Document 126) for the addition of Arabic as a working language of the Union and MRC/128/3 (Document 128) which said that the regional representation must be increased and provided with greater manpower and logistic resources.

3.2 The Chairman said that those proposals must first be discussed in another forum; if they were adopted, they would automatically entail staff implications and would then be discussed in Committee 5.

4. Statement by the Chairman of the ITU Staff Council to the 1989 Plenipotentiary Conference

4.1 At the Chairman's request the Committee permitted the Chairman of the ITU Staff Council to address it, on behalf of the Staff Council.

4.2 The Chairman of the ITU Staff Council made the statement reproduced in Annex 1.

4.3 The Chairman said that the Committee noted the statement and the request that the views expressed therein be formally included in the work of the Committee. That was not a matter for the Committee to decide, but it would be raised in the appropriate forum.

5. Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference
(Document 47, Section 2.2.4)

5.1 The delegate of the United Kingdom, referring to the statement by the Chairman of the Staff Council, said that all delegations recognized the praiseworthy contribution which had been made by all staff members to the work of the ITU since the previous Plenipotentiary Conference. They had coped well with a heavy burden of work resulting from the intensive conference programme and he thanked them for a job well done. The present Conference must ensure that due regard was paid to the burdens placed upon the staff when deciding the conference programme for the next period and efforts must also be made to provide the greatest possible job satisfaction.

If the Committee was to carry out its job properly, it was essential that all available facts be placed before it, and it must adopt a reasonable and rational approach on the basis of accurate and comprehensive information. He reaffirmed his Administration's commitment to the United Nations Common System on staff and salary issues and considered that action within that system provided the best approach to the problem. While the Common System might not be perfect, it had been consistently supported in the United Nations General Assembly within which all delegations' governments were represented.

5.2 The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany said his Delegation shared the view expressed by the United Kingdom delegate that the Common System had proved its worth in the past and should be retained in the future. He supported all efforts to maintain the unity of the System and said that no decisions should be taken in the ITU which might affect the common functioning of the System within the United Nations family.

5.3 The delegate of Portugal said he was surprised at the comments made by the Chairman of the Staff Council to the effect that staff did not know to whom they should address their problems and were referred from one authority to another without receiving a satisfactory reply. He pointed out that that did not occur in INTELSAT and the other satellite organizations, where staff problems were handled either by the relevant Director-General or the Board of Governors. He requested clarification of the situation.

5.4 The Chairman explained that a basic difference between the ITU and the satellite organizations was that the ITU was a specialized agency of the United Nations. It must also be remembered that relations between the ITU and the United Nations were governed by an agreement signed in 1947 when the ITU had joined the Common System and he quoted Article 8 of that agreement which covered staff matters.

5.5 The delegate of Australia endorsed the views expressed by the United Kingdom delegate, recognizing the valuable contribution which the ITU staff had made since the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference and stressing the need to maintain consistency with the United Nations pension and salary systems.

5.6 The delegate of France said that as the Union was a specialized agency of the United Nations it was clear that any decisions regarding its staff must be taken in that context. The question was under study by FICSA and the Joint Staff Pension Committee, but the ITU might play its part by transmitting to those bodies its views regarding the competence of its staff.

5.7 The delegate of Switzerland said that delegations were aware of the current malaise in the ITU and had received the impression that the Common System was finding it increasingly difficult to satisfy the needs of the Union's highly specialized staff. Therefore, while he believed that the Common System should be maintained, he thought that some consideration might be given to the possibility of adapting it so as to provide better working conditions for the ITU's staff.

5.8 The delegate of the German Democratic Republic said his Government believed that the Union must abide by the United Nations Common System both for pensions and salaries, and any exceptions to it should only be sanctioned when based on the very specific conditions prevailing in the ITU. Committee 5 should consider whether any exceptions to the Common System could be permitted but, as a general rule, all deviations from ICSC recommendations should be rejected.

5.9 The delegate of the United States said that the staff was a vital element in the work of the Union. A decision had been taken by the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference to reduce staff numbers without a corresponding reduction in the programme of work; they must try to ensure that the present Conference did not do the same. Staff costs represented a large proportion of the total costs of the Union and changes in them had an immediate impact on the Union's budget and the level of contributions from Member States. The ITU was a member of the United Nations Common System and derived great benefits from it in the way of wage surveys and job classification systems, the costs for which would be prohibitive for the Union acting alone. His Delegation therefore attached great importance to the Common System and to ensuring that all agencies of the United Nations adhered to it. He noted that decisions within the Common System were made with the participation of staff, administrations and Member States and the final

authority for the System was the United Nations General Assembly where the same Member States represented in the ITU reviewed the recommendations resulting from the tripartite deliberations.

He recalled that United Nations salaries for professional staff were related to a comparative national civil service, currently that of the United States, and a margin above the national scale was provided because of the expatriate nature of the work. At the beginning of the past seven-year period, the UN General Assembly had decided that the margin, then about 25%, had grown too large and should be reduced to some 10 to 20%. At the same time, the United States dollar, in which professional salaries were denominated had risen rapidly against the Swiss franc and had then fallen rapidly resulting in increases, then decreases, in take-home pay. Moreover, the difficult economic situation which his Government had faced, had led it to take steps to limit pay increases which had also affected the salaries of international civil servants. Staff remuneration was always a difficult, sensitive and emotional issue but in settling it the Union must be guided by the Common System.

5.10 The delegate of the Côte d'Ivoire said that staff problems were complex and the motivation of staff was important if they were to contribute to achieving the goals of the Union. He stressed the need to adhere to the appropriate legal framework which, in that case, was the United Nations Common System.

5.11 The delegate of Greece said the Conference must take steps to improve the situation with regard to staff salaries and pensions but such steps must be taken within the framework of the United Nations Common System.

5.12 The delegate of Zambia, while stressing the need to abide by the Common System, asked that the relevant organ of the ITU take steps to determine certain exceptions based on the specialized nature of ITU's activities.

5.13 Summarizing the discussion, the Chairman said that all speakers had recognized and expressed appreciation of the dedication of the ITU staff. They had also expressed support for the United Nations Common System while indicating that the special nature of ITU work made it necessary to take certain special factors into account in evaluating work.

He then invited the Committee to consider Section 2.4.4.1 of the Administrative Council's Report (Implementation of Resolutions of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi, 1982, concerning Union staff (Resolutions Nos. 55-61)).

Resolutions Nos. 55, 56 and 57 gave rise to no discussion.

Resolution No. 58

5.14 In response to a request from the delegate of the United States, the Deputy Secretary-General said that a table showing the number and geographical distribution of external recruitment in each year since the last Plenipotentiary Conference would be provided as soon as possible.

5.15 The delegate of the German Democratic Republic welcomed the improvements made in implementing the principle of equitable geographical distribution among the staff of the Union and hoped that that policy would be continued and reinforced. The present situation in which some countries were over-represented on the staff while a great many were under-represented should gradually be changed, and staff leaving the ITU should be replaced in a manner such as to maintain a balance of representation.

5.16 The delegate of Kenya expressed his Delegation's satisfaction at the efforts made to improve the geographical representation of the staff and endorsed the views of the previous speaker.

5.17 Resolutions Nos. 59, 60 and 61 gave rise to no discussions; the Chairman drew attention to the conclusion of Resolution No. 60 and took it that the Committee wished the in-service training programme to be maintained.

He noted that some of the Resolutions dealt with subjects on which action would have to be taken by the Administrative Council in the future. In order to provide the necessary guidelines for the Administrative Council, some or all of them would need to be updated, and he suggested that informal discussions be held on that matter.

5.18 Referring to Section 2.2.4.2 (Other staff questions) and particularly to the section entitled "Developments in conditions of service in the United Nations Common System", the delegate of the United States recalled that the decision of the General Assembly to readjust the relations between the pay of international civil servants and that of the comparator civil service (the United States) had been implemented by freezing that pay, rather than by reducing it. However, the purchasing power of the international civil service had now been eroded by inflation and other factors and brought into line with that of the United States civil service. He understood that the appropriate level had now been reached and staff in New York had received a post adjustment to take account of inflation.

5.19 The Chairman pointed out that there were other factors relating to conditions of service besides inflation, including a decline in the exchange rate of the dollar which adversely affected the position of ITU staff in Geneva.

6. Pension matters

6.1 Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Document 47)

Section 2.2.5 - Pensions and social security

6.1.1 The Chairman suggested that the Committee should defer its discussion of the item until after its consideration of Document 30.

It was so agreed.

6.2 Planned pension purchasing power protection insurance (Document 30)

6.2.1 The Chairman pointed out that the staff in the professional and higher categories attached great importance to the loss of the purchasing power of their pensions. Any solution adopted would have to be compatible with the United Nations Common System and it must also be found within a reasonable period of time.

In Resolution No. 61, the Nairobi Conference had expressed its concern at the uncertainties which weighed heavily on the level of pensions due to the flaws in the present system and had instructed the Administrative Council to follow carefully the evolution of the issue with a view to ensuring that the level of pensions was maintained and to take the appropriate action to achieve that end.

Document 30 contained a Resolution adopted by the Administrative Council concerning a proposed pension purchasing power protection insurance and a report by the Secretary-General thereon.

The Administrative Council had taken no formal decision concerning the adoption of the proposed fund but had decided to place the matter before the Plenipotentiary Conference and the competent organs in New York.

6.2.2 The Deputy Secretary-General, replying to a previous question by the delegate of Portugal, said that it was for the Plenipotentiary Conference to take a decision on the question of staff pensions. He explained that the Secretary-General had embarked upon consideration of the non-compulsory proposed pension purchasing power protection insurance at the request of the Administrative Council in response to Resolution No. 61 of the Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi. He hoped that all delegations had had an opportunity to read Document 30 which had been issued on 30 March. The objective of the proposed system was to ensure a degree of equity for the staff and a decision upon it was eagerly awaited by the staff.

The meeting rose at 1230 hours.

The Secretary:

A.B. MACLENNAN

The Chairman:

F. MOLINA NEGRO

Annex: 1

ANNEX

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ITU STAFF COUNCIL TO
THE 1989 PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

You, the Member countries and we the staff are here today as different parts of the living body which is the ITU. Over the last hundred or so years, the ITU and its predecessors have strived - and one must admit, very successfully - for the establishment of standardized, efficient, world-wide telecommunications. Your presence here today is witness to your continued interest in the furtherance of ITU's activities and its long-term viability.

We realize that you, as committed contributors, provide the nourishment essential for the livelihood and success of the ITU. I ask that you, in turn, recognize that the staff, with high technical and administrative qualifications, and with a wealth of experience in making this organization function, are able to convert this nourishment into activities which are equally essential to the ITU's survival and success. We represent the life blood which has enabled the Union to assume an ever increasing burden, permitting the Secretary-General and the Administrative Council to successfully achieve ITU's goals in the face of the budget restrictions and other difficulties of the last several years.

Time and experience, however, have shown us that our situation is so complex that we never know who is ultimately responsible in the ITU, or where we should address our problems - if we look lower in the hierarchy we are referred to higher authorities, and if we look higher we are referred to lower ones. The measure of success of the authorities in the middle appears to be avoiding concrete decisions and passing the problems either up, down, into the future or to the inaccessible anonymity of New York. You can surely understand the frustration that this brings to the staff.

In 1982 we believed that you, the Plenipotentiaries of the ITU, were the ones to address. The staff representative at that time made three main points in his speech and referred to a staff document with a list of concrete suggestions of where improvements could be made. The only one of these three points that was successfully resolved concerned regularizing a large number of short term contracts which the Administration had allowed to build up. The question of career development was deferred during the meeting and never reconsidered and the question of adequate time for staff representation was passed back to the Administrative Council and has not been resolved in a way which recognizes staff's concerns. The proposals in the staff document, which were more or less ignored, would have involved a modest investment with potentially high return. On the other hand ill-conceived or poorly implemented programmes are not cost effective, the intended impact is irrevocably lost and money spent in this fashion gives little or no satisfaction to staff. For example, the potential results from increasing the training budget have suffered the handicap of insufficient resources in the Personnel Department to organize a well-conceived, rational programme for the ITU. Training, in any case, is only a component of a career planning and development system and with no such system at ITU, no training programme could be fully effective.

Successive representatives have repeated the same basic message many times to the Administrative Council and have been rewarded by Resolutions whose motivation I shall not question but whose efficacy leaves everything to be desired. Matters referred to the ITU Administration produce almost invariably negative results. From the staff viewpoint, therefore, the most notable result from the last Plenipotentiary Conference and the seven-year mandate of the outgoing Secretary-General and Administrative Council, appears to be the continuing deterioration of conditions of

employment. For example, by the end of 1989 the purchasing power of professionals will have fallen more than 27 points behind the Geneva cost of living index which means we will have lost more than 20% of purchasing power in four years.

The implementation of personnel administration programmes approved in 1982 is still not finished, the number of recourses to the ITU Appeal Board and to the ILO Tribunal has greatly increased and the number of repeated short term contracts has again reached crisis levels. In effect, almost all the problems we had in 1982 are still there, together with new ones added in the interim.

We are well aware that some of our problems can be attributed to the Common System. This system was ostensibly designed to serve the UN and its agencies by organizing certain staff matters on their behalf. One basic principle was that system employment conditions should compare favourably with the best national conditions to enable the organizations to compete with non-UN international bodies and industry for the best qualified staff. Yet the Common System has failed to prevent conditions from deteriorating to the point where the head of any specialized agency will tell you of the difficulty of recruiting suitably qualified staff. Given the highly technical character of its work, the case of the ITU is especially acute and calls for serious remedial measures. So, apart from being a useful scapegoat, the Common System which is invariably deferred to, appears to be an added complication which serves the ITU poorly and is evidently beyond the control and influence of any part of the ITU. How could this situation be permitted to continue without some degree of compliance on the part of the ITU? We thus come back to the identification problem - when it comes to staff matters, who is running the ITU?

Other Geneva-based organizations, in the face of problems in recent years, have been able to introduce certain measures for the benefit of their staff. We can see nothing in the ITU Convention that suggests that the ITU is subservient to the United Nations and it has been said often enough that the application of Common System rules or recommendations can either be ignored or be tailored to ITU's needs. So why the reluctance at the ITU to reward staff's efforts? The short term savings may look good in reports but they cover a serious malaise among staff which may be difficult to cure.

Patience, contrary to popular belief, has provided no rewards and the absence of progress has highlighted the utter futility of our previous policy of passive acceptance in the vain hope of improvements. The inevitable result has been a decision by the staff to take a tougher stance and we have already started to pursue a campaign of demonstrations and work stoppages in support of our legitimate demands.

For the current Plenipotentiary Conference, the staff once again prepared a document giving its views and proposals on problems in working conditions and had expected to have this paper distributed in advance for the information of all delegations. In an outlandish decision, however, the 44th Administrative Council, supported by the Secretary-General, apparently feared the staff document would not be properly understood and refused to transmit it to Member countries. The staff, feeling that the information provided by the Administration was incomplete, was therefore forced to resort to unprecedented means to let you have its views to properly inform you and facilitate your work. I sincerely hope that you have been able to read about our problems and understand our proposals so that they may be raised and considered in the debates of this Committee. The staff feels that it is essential that its document now be made officially available to permit formal consideration.

The proposals which the staff sent to you will also, if acted on, lead to a much healthier situation within the ITU and the price would be a small one to pay for a staff which could again feel committed and not ignored. If I were an investment dealer I would have to say that the members of the ITU staff represent a solid, reliable and action-proven system and that your investment in them will bring dividends. In this role, I would be dishonest if I did not also tell you that not to make such an

investment would be disastrous, in particular for the new Secretary-General who would find himself in confrontation with the staff, with all that this implies. This, you must agree, is something to be avoided.

Finally, on behalf of the entire ITU staff, I believe that, given some goodwill, means can be found to have our views, as contained in our document, formally included in the work of this Committee. Many of our problems have existed since before the Nairobi Conference so if I tell you that now, in Nice, your staff has reached the limits of its patience, you must believe me. It is urgent that during this Conference, the staff's problems, as contained in our document, should receive full consideration and concrete, positive decisions should be taken.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 168-E
19 June 1989
Original: English

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 6

Replace paragraph 5.3 by the following:

"5.3 The Chairman observed that the approach adopted was to consider the various activities one by one together with their financial implications, after which the overall priorities would be debated and the results of the debate transmitted to Committee 4."

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 168-E

7 June 1989

Original: French

COMMITTEE 6

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 6

(TECHNICAL COOPERATION)

Wednesday, 31 May 1989, at 1430 hrs

Chairman: Mr. H. VIGNON (Benin)

<u>Subjects discussed:</u>	<u>Documents</u>
1. Adoption of the agenda	C6/1
2. Organization of the work of Committee 6	-
3. Terms of reference of Committee 6	118
4. The changing nature of ITU technical cooperation and related field activities	33
5. Training	OMA/10/4, QAT/13/3, SYR/15/3, ARS/62/1, 3, 4 and 5, MRC/128/4
6. Strengthening of the ITU regional presence	THA/7/3, Asean/52/3, ARS/62/2, Caribbean/92/1, MRC/128/3, TON/138/1, SLM/142/1

1. Adoption of the agenda (Document C6/1)

1.1 The delegate of Chile requested that Document 113/3, containing a Chilean proposal concerning the regional presence, should be added to the documents listed under item 6 of the agenda.

The agenda, thus amended, was adopted.

2. Organization of the work of Committee 6

2.1 The Chairman said that the Committee did not contemplate setting up a specific Working Group and that its work should be completed by 7 June so that a report could be submitted to the Plenary Meeting.

The Committee took note of those comments.

3. Terms of reference of Committee 6 (Document 118)

3.1 The Chairman recapitulated the terms of reference of Committee 6 as set out in Document 118 and drew attention to section 4.2.6 of the Administrative Council's Report to the Plenipotentiary Conference (Document 47), as well as to sections 5.1.1 to 5.3.8, which reviewed the technical cooperation activities carried out since the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference.

The Committee took note of those comments.

4. The changing nature of ITU technical cooperation and related field activities
(Document 33)

4.1 The Chairman stated that the document was the outcome of thorough studies carried out by a Group of Experts comprising representatives of eight countries Members of the Administrative Council (Argentina, United States, Japan, Kenya, Philippines, Senegal, Sweden and USSR). It had been submitted to, and approved by, the Administrative Council.

4.2 The Deputy Secretary-General said that the document was intended to arouse an effective response to the question of the changing nature of ITU technical cooperation and related field activities. It brought out the dual role of the ITU in technical cooperation, namely, as the specialized agency of the United Nations for telecommunications, and also as the executing agency for UNDP-funded cooperation projects. It contained the four main proposals framed by the Group of Experts together with the detailed financial implications.

4.3 The Chairman recapitulated the proposals, namely: the mapping out of a long-term action plan for world-wide telecommunications development; the possible future merger of the Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) and the Technical Cooperation Department (on which a special meeting would be held); the question of a stable nucleus of managerial staff for Technical Cooperation Department projects and, finally, the strengthening of the ITU regional presence.

Group of Engineers (section 4.2 of Document 33)

4.4 The Deputy Secretary-General stated that the terms of reference of the Group of Engineers, which was composed of highly qualified experts, were given in Resolution No. 22 of the Nairobi Convention and covered a wide range of activities. Moreover, the Group was receiving an increasing number of requests. The proposal to be considered related therefore to a slight increase in staff with a view to improving the support and technical advisory services by the creation of a computer-aided network

planning expert's post and, more generally, by the creation/adaptation of software for telecommunication network planning and management.

4.5 The Chairman of the IFRE said that the Group of Engineers was extremely efficient. In view of the increasingly widespread use of computers, the activities of the post in question should not be confined to network planning; the engineer occupying it should also be able to provide advice on all the other uses of the computer, in particular remote access to the data bank.

4.6 The Deputy Secretary-General observed that the questions concerning remote access to ITU data bases were dealt with in separate documents. The comment by the Chairman of the IFRB was perfectly justified and the job description could easily be expanded to accommodate his proposal, particularly since a project in that field, comprising a substantial training component as well as the supply of the necessary equipment, was in the process of being identified and had already been the subject of preliminary talks with UNDP, which seemed to be interested.

4.7 The United Kingdom delegate expressed the hope that the basic purposes of the missions carried out by the engineers would be spelled out in detail. The role of the engineers was primarily an advisory and catalytic one and their missions should therefore continue to be of short duration.

4.8 The delegate of Yugoslavia said that only 12% of missions had been concerned with sound and television broadcasting, and it was to be hoped that more missions would be devoted to the development of broadcasting.

4.9 The delegate of Tanzania said that several requests for assistance submitted by his country had not been met owing to the limited number of engineers. He was therefore in favour of the proposal.

4.10 The delegate of Gambia having proposed that an order of priority should be assigned to requests for assistance, the Deputy Secretary-General stated that the matter would be considered in the discussion of the regional presence.

4.11 The delegate of Burkina Faso approved the proposal that the Group of Engineers should be enlarged, pointing out that, between 1982 and 1986, a considerable proportion of the requests for technical assistance had not been met.

4.12 The delegates of Ethiopia and Nigeria said they were afraid that the recruitment of only one extra engineer would not suffice to meet the backlog of requests. The Group of Engineers should therefore be even further strengthened.

4.13 The Chairman of the IFRB stated that, in the 1960s, technical cooperation had been confined to the management of the UNDP programme. Since that time, technical cooperation had changed and the Group of Engineers now provided advisory services to managers and engineers in various countries. It was difficult to give a precise description of the problems which the Group helped to solve, since many of them were connected with a specific phase of technical development, at the present time, for example, data processing. He suggested that the Plenipotentiary Conference should approve the ideas and establish a budget ceiling, after which the Administrative Council should study the matter and then decide on the creation of posts. Consequently, he advocated a widening of the duties of the Group of Engineers.

4.14 The delegate of Senegal said that he deplored the fact that network planning processes, as described, for example, in the Handbooks (GAS 9), could not be used by all countries. He drew attention to Resolution No. 69 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, which instructed the Administrative Council to ensure that equal access for developing countries was taken into account. In view of the existing backlog of requests, it was necessary to avoid a situation in which responsibility for technical assistance in respect of direct access to data banks would rest with a single unit. He proposed that support to the IFRB in establishing software for direct access to data banks should be added to the tasks of the Group of Engineers.

4.15 The Deputy Secretary-General pointed out that Committee 6 was entitled to request an increase in credits if it considered them to be insufficient.

4.16 The Chairman announced that the conclusions of the Committee would be communicated to the Finance and Staff Committees, and he proposed that Resolution No. 22 of the International Telecommunication Convention of Nairobi should be updated.

5. Training (OMA/10/4, QAT/13/3, SYR/15/3, ARS/62/1, 3, 4 and 5, MRC/128/4)

5.1 The Deputy Secretary-General said that the Training Division dealt largely with the development of training standards and the training of course designers, instructors and managers of training centres. The standardizing activities of the Division were of paramount importance for the developing countries. To sustain and widen those activities would necessarily entail an increase in staff.

5.2 The delegates of the United Kingdom and the United States expressed the hope that Committee 6 would provide the Finance Committee with all the necessary information on technical cooperation activities. It was essential for the establishment of priorities to be clearly identified in view of the existing budgetary constraints, since it would be unfortunate if Committee 6's priorities were actually set by Committee 4.

5.3 The Chairman observed that the approach adopted was to consider the various activities one by one together with their financial implications, after which the overall priorities could be studied by Committee 4.

5.4 The delegates of Kenya and Algeria commented that the diverse requirements of the various countries made it difficult to assign an order of priority.

5.5 The Chairman of the Finance Committee confirmed that the overriding concern was to help the developing countries to build up their national and international networks; it was therefore essential that all financial information relating to the various activities should be supplied to his Committee, as soon as possible.

5.6 The Chairman stated that he would notify the Chairman of Committee 4 of all decisions having financial implications for the budget of the Union.

It was so decided.

5.7 The delegate of Qatar said that his country had proposed (Document 13) the introduction of Arabic as a working language, since Arabic was spoken in more than 20 countries. Members of the ITU and the lack of Arab engineers was a serious problem in telecommunications. Invoking Resolutions Nos. 23 and 26 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, he appealed for staff training in the Arab region in order to bring it up to the level of the other regions. He also called for the appointment of an Arab expert to train telecommunication staff, who would also serve as a regional coordinator.

5.8 The delegate of Saudi Arabia drew attention to his Administration's proposal for the appointment of an Arab expert who would act as liaison officer in coordinating training in the Arab world (Document 62). It was essential that, like the other regions, the Arab world should have an expert to coordinate training in telecommunications and assist the countries using the International Sharing System and/or computer-aided training.

5.9 The delegate of Morocco said that Document 128 concerning technical cooperation emphasized his country's interest in the CODEVTEL courses, which had enabled the Moroccan Administration to produce a new generation of instructors, particularly in subscriber systems and local networks, and to adapt the programmes of the national telecommunication institutes. He hoped that training activities would be stepped up.

5.10 The delegate of Guinea stated that, in view of the difficulties of the developing countries, it would be useful to arrange for seminars on telecommunication management and financial management.

5.11 The Chairman stated that, since no particular amendment had been proposed on the document concerning training in the Arabic-speaking countries, he would refer it, together with the relevant cost factors, to the Finance Committee.

It was so decided.

5.12 The delegate of the United States, while recognizing the Arab region's requirements, considered that making specific reference to an "Arab" training expert might create a precedent.

5.13 The Deputy Secretary-General recalled that, for CODEVTEL activities, there was one expert in Africa for the French-speaking countries and one for the English-speaking countries, one for Asia installed in Indonesia, and one for Latin America installed in Peru; it would be a matter of appointing an Arabic expert for the region of the Arab countries.

5.14 The Chairman noted that the written and oral proposals put forward were similar to those in Document 33. The outcome of the discussion, together with the financial implications, would be transmitted to Committee 4 in the appropriate way.

6. Strengthening of the ITU regional presence (THA/7/3, Asean/52/3, ARS/62/2, Caribbean/92/1, MRC/128/3, TON/138/1, SLM/142/1)

6.1 The Chairman recalled that several delegations had also submitted proposals on that subject.

6.2 The Deputy Secretary-General said that, in putting forward the proposal in section 4.7, the Group of Experts appointed by the Administrative Council had confirmed the Union's vocation to be present in the various regions.

Although the Union's regional presence, in particular through the Area Representatives, was relatively recent, it met specific requirements; it was only unfortunate that the number of ITU representatives had not been higher. Because the results obtained were encouraging, the Conference was being asked to strengthen the regional presence, specifically to improve networks and services in the developing countries. The proposal in section 4.7 was designed to improve the structure of the ITU presence and to step up the related activities. Its contents were new. If it was supported by the Conference, the Union would be able to provide better services to the developing countries. The proposal was also aimed at stepping up technical cooperation among the developing countries in order to promote both the theory and the practice of TCDC.

6.3 The delegate of the USSR observed that the proposal under consideration had already been discussed by the Administrative Council, where it had given rise to differences of opinion.

Furthermore, if the Committee approved all the proposals in the document under discussion, the budget would have to be increased by 15 to 20 million Swiss francs. The document should perhaps be looked at again as a whole with a view to deciding priorities. That view was supported by the delegate of the German Democratic Republic.

With regard to section 4.7, one desirable and reasonable means of increasing efficiency might be to reduce the number of ITU headquarters staff in order to strengthen the regional presence.

6.4 The delegate of Mali noted that the proposal of the Group of Experts appointed by the Administrative Council concerning the strengthening of the regional presence was designed to help developing country administrations in tackling their problems. He emphasized the usefulness of the ITU regional presence in Addis Ababa for the African region. Unfortunately, however, despite the considerable efforts deployed, the effectiveness of the Addis Ababa operation left a great deal to be desired because there was only one ITU representative to deal with the whole of Africa. In his view, the Addis Ababa office should certainly be strengthened.

6.5 The delegate of Trinidad and Tobago referred to Document 92, in which nine countries of the Caribbean subregion called for an increased regional presence in their area. Fourteen Caribbean countries, nine of which were Members of the ITU had set up a regional telecommunication union in the Caribbean. The vital importance of telecommunications in the Caribbean subregion could not be overstressed, and an ITU representative should be specifically assigned to that region.

6.6 The delegate of Tonga, speaking on behalf of 15 South Pacific island countries, eight of which were Members of the ITU, said that those countries were sparsely populated, had a common culture to preserve and were sorely in need of assistance for telecommunications. He requested the Conference to consider assigning an ITU representative to the South Pacific, since the countries of that region did not have the necessary know-how to adjust to technological developments such as the switch-over from analogue to digital transmission systems.

6.7 The delegate of Senegal after supporting the strengthening of the regional presence, said that he wished to give his Delegation's opinion concerning priorities, which were not for Committee 6 to set. The Union's entire policy in respect of its standardization, regulatory, technical cooperation and development activities needed to be reshaped. In his view, priorities could only be assigned to the Union's activities taken as a whole. Technical cooperation was not an isolated phenomenon. The Committee was obliged to take a stand on the usefulness of all the activities.

6.8 The delegate of Nepal supported the proposal for strengthening the ITU regional presence, emphasizing that the Union's regional representatives had an important role to play.

6.9 The delegate of Thailand recalled the provisions of Resolution No. 26 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference and outlined the action taken since 1982 with a view to strengthening the regional presence. However, those provisions lacked cohesion and there should be greater complementarity in making use of regional opportunities. Regional offices should be modelled on those of ICAO, which dealt with coordination and cooperation at the regional level. The right instructions also needed to be issued by Headquarters. His Delegation proposed that the ITU should consider the possibility of

adopting that general approach, in order to secure adequate staff, experts, administrative personnel, etc. The Secretary-General should be instructed to carry out the necessary studies and to submit a report to the 1990 session of the Administrative Council, which could then take a decision. If a thorough study was carried out by the Secretary-General, it would probably be possible to take action without mobilizing additional resources; a simple reorganization might suffice.

6.10 The Deputy Secretary-General, referring to the preparation of a proposal on widening the ITU presence, said that advantage should be taken of the experience of other specialized agencies such as ICAO which had a fairly large staff at the regional level to deal with the application of approved standards. That, in fact, was what the ITU was endeavouring to achieve. It was the Union's duty as a specialized agency to determine whether networks conformed to ITU standards at all stages of their design and operation.

The meeting rose at 1740 hours.

The Secretary:

A. EMBEDOKLIS

The Chairman:

H. VIGNON

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 169-E
6 June 1989
Original: English

COMMITTEE 7

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 7
(STRUCTURE OF THE UNION)

Tuesday, 30 May 1989 at 1030 hrs

Chairman: Mr. A. VARGAS ARAYA (Costa Rica)

Subjects discussed:

Documents

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|
| 1. | Adoption of the agenda | - |
| 2. | Attribution and admission of documents | - |
| 3. | Organization of the Committee's work | 118, DL/3
DT/5(Rev.2) |

1. Adoption of the agenda

1.1 The delegate of Brazil, supported by the delegates of Algeria, the USSR, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan and the United Kingdom proposed the inclusion of an item on the organization of the work of the Committee.

1.2 The delegate of Ethiopia, also supporting the proposal by Brazil, suggested that the terms of reference of the Committee be included.

It was so agreed.

2. Attribution and admission of documents

2.1 The delegates of Morocco, Algeria, the USSR, Japan, Guinea, Ethiopia, Portugal, Spain, India, Chile, the German Democratic Republic, and the Federal Republic of Germany requested that their respective contributions be added to the list under Agenda item 2. It was agreed that Documents 126, 127, 129, 57, 16, 111 (Proposal 10), 145, 66, 114, 71, 124, 19, 43, 6 and 97 be added and that Documents 120 and 121 (opening speeches) be deleted.

2.2 The delegate of Czechoslovakia, supported by the delegates of Chile and the German Democratic Republic, suggested that Document DT/5(Rev.2) on the allocation of documents serve as a basis for the work.

2.3 The Chairman pointed out that item 2 of the agenda was intended to initiate a general debate on principles relating to functions and structures.

2.4 The Chairman of the IFRB, noting the absence in DT/5(Rev.2) of documents relating to Resolution No. 68 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, queried whether Committee 7 was to study the report and recommendations of the Panel of Experts on the Long-term Future of the IFRB.

2.5 The Secretary-General said that the Administrative Council had decided not to approve the report of the Panel of Experts but that the document had been distributed to all Members of the Union to enable them to use it as a basis for the preparation of their proposals.

2.6 The delegate of the USSR, supported by the delegates of Morocco and the United Kingdom, proposed that the final report of the Panel of Experts be published for information so that all delegates could be fully informed.

2.7 The delegate of Indonesia, while not objecting to that proposal, said that the fact that the document had not been approved by the Administrative Council for submission to the Conference should be borne in mind.

2.8 The delegate of the Netherlands, supported by the delegates of Canada, Tunisia, Hungary, Papua New Guinea, Senegal, Japan and the Islamic Republic of Iran said that the Report of the Panel of Experts should be made available not only as an information document but for consideration and discussion.

2.9 The Secretary-General said that the Administrative Council had been unable to complete its work and consequently the key issue of resolves further 4 of Resolution No. 68 had not been satisfied. There had been a division of opinion in the Council which had led to a course of action unanimously agreed to by the Council, namely to meet the requirements of resolves further 1.4 by considering the report and recommendations of the Panel of Experts, as well as those of resolves further 1.6 by including the subject on the agenda of the Plenipotentiary Conference.

2.10 The delegate of Kenya, cautioned against distributing the report as an official document since the Panel of Experts had been a group of the Administrative Council and the Council had not approved its recommendations. Administrations, however, should be free to refer to it for making their contributions.

2.11 The delegate of the United States, concurred with the delegate of the Netherlands that it should be submitted for consideration and discussion.

2.12 The delegate of the Netherlands, said he was prepared to submit the document as a contribution of the Netherlands.

2.13 The Chairman said the document would be circulated together with Circular-letter 228.

3. Organization of the Committee's work
(Documents 118, DL/3 and DT/5(Rev.2))

The Chairman then proceeded to outline the organization of the Committee's work, referring to Document DL/3. A general discussion on the issues before Committee 7 was foreseen for the rest of the week, the more specific provisions to be dealt with the following week.

3.1 The delegate of the United Kingdom saw difficulty in covering all the individual items in one comprehensive debate and suggested that individual items should be discussed in sequence.

3.2 The Chairman suggested that, in accordance with his proposal, the Committee should hold a general discussion until the end of the current week, after which it would begin to consider in detail the comments and proposals relating to the Union's structure. He invited delegations which had prepared documents relating to general principles to submit them immediately.

3.3 The delegate of Morocco agreed with the delegate of the United Kingdom that an effort should be made to organize the detailed discussion as soon as possible. Perhaps the secretariat could prepare a list in which proposals alike in nature could be grouped in order to clarify and guide the course of the debate.

3.4 The delegate of Indonesia agreed with the Chairman's proposal: it would be useful for the Committee to have an indication, at the outset, of the main principles involved, before proceeding to detailed discussion. It would be useful, in particular, to have a clear picture of the possible new approaches envisaged and to hear the delegations which had proposals in that regard.

3.5 The delegate of Greece supported the Chairman's proposal for a prior discussion on general principles since, on account of the extremes reflected in the documents submitted, it should be established whether in fact any administrations did wish to preserve the status quo. In his country's view, a restructuring of the Union was indeed necessary; the matter was not new, having been raised at the previous Plenipotentiary Conference. The current Conference, as the paramount forum of the Union, had a duty and a mandate to discuss the subject.

3.6 The delegate of Ethiopia thought it would be as well to earmark proposals of a general nature for discussion at the outset, and to introduce specific proposals later. The delegate of Mali also felt it important to have a prior general debate, for a limited time, followed by discussion of specific views and proposals. The delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran agreed with the delegate of Ethiopia that the documents relating primarily to general considerations should be identified and considered first.

- 3.7 The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany said that he also was in favour of identifying and considering first of all the documents of a general nature. The delegate of Switzerland felt that, although some general debate was necessary, one or two meetings should suffice for it.
- 3.8 The delegate of Czechoslovakia said that a lengthy general debate would not be realistic. The best approach would be to list the specific issues for consideration, taking the simplest first.
- 3.9 The delegate of The Gambia shared the view that there were two extremes - a desire to preserve the status quo, and a desire to make the Union's structure more responsive to the evolving telecommunications environment - which the Committee must carefully consider in order to arrive at clear decisions.
- 3.10 The delegate of Yugoslavia said he supported the course proposed by the delegate of the United Kingdom, Morocco and Czechoslovakia. It would ease decision-making if the various proposals were grouped, by the Committee Secretariat under the various organs - the CCIs, the IFRB, etc. - to which they related.
- 3.11 The delegate of the United States said the Committee must beware of polarizing the debate too quickly. The delegate of Greece had implied that two extreme views existed but, since some restructuring was in any case probable, it did not seem correct to characterize the situation as one of extremes at the outset. With regard to discussion of specific issues, he supported the proposal made by the delegate of Yugoslavia.
- 3.12 The delegate of the Philippines said that the misgivings about the difficulty of a general discussion, particularly in view of time constraints, were understandable. If the Committee could establish, at the outset, that restructuring was desired, much time would be saved by combining proposals with a common subject, deliberating the simplest first.
- 3.13 The delegate of Greece said that it was far from his Delegation's intention to polarize the issues. It was important, however, to establish whether any administrations wished to preserve the status quo and, if so, to hear their arguments.
- 3.14 The delegate of Japan felt that all Members surely wished to make the Union more responsive to the evolving environment. It seemed too extreme that anyone should wish to preserve the status quo intact. His Administration would prefer to see the ITU continue to evolve, as it had in the past.
- 3.15 The Chairman reminded the Committee of its terms of reference, and reiterated his proposal that the Committee should first discuss the general principles underlying the proposals submitted by administrations and then the specific details relating to the various organs of the Union's structure.
- 3.16 The delegate of Chile said that care must be taken, in any general discussion, to avoid too lengthy a debate and any overlap with Committee 8's terms of reference. Polarization at the outset must be avoided, because of the need to discuss objectively the role of the permanent organizations - a subject on which some far reaching views had been put forward.
- 3.17 The delegate of Kenya said that although some discussion of general principles might be needed, the time factor was a matter for concern. His Delegation agreed with the delegate of Morocco that submissions relating to a common subject could be

collated. Perhaps the Secretariat could make the requisite preparations for the Committee's consideration at its next meeting, so as to prevent any delay in getting down to matters of substance.

3.18 The delegate of Brazil noted that, according to the tentative schedule contained in Document 143, Committee 7 should take its main decisions by the end of the third week of the Conference and complete its work by the end of the fourth week. With that in mind, he proposed that the Committee should discuss general principles at its next two meetings and afterwards concentrate on details of organization, structure and methods of work.

3.19 The Chairman proposed that the Committee begin its detailed consideration by discussing the organs established under Article 5 of the Nairobi Convention. He and the Secretariat could list the relevant proposals for the Committee's consideration at its next meeting, at which any delegations could add further proposals which they deemed relevant.

3.20 The delegate of Lebanon supported the Chairman's proposal. He felt too that a brief account should be included of the work carried out by various organs on technical cooperation since the previous Plenipotentiary Conference.

3.21 The Chairman said that the Secretariat would produce a list accordingly.

The meeting rose at 1215 hours.

The Secretary:

A. RUTKOWSKI

The Chairman:

A. VARGAS ARAYA

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 170-E
19 June 1989
Original: English

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 8

Amend paragraph 2.3 as follows:

"2.3 The delegate of the United Kingdom, supported by the delegate of the United States, said that the revision of the Frequency Allotment Plan for the Aeronautical Mobile (OR) Service was related to the programme of future conferences and should not be discussed in isolation in Committee 8. He recalled that at the Heads of Delegations meeting the previous week the Secretary-General had stated that it would no be necessary to set up an ad hoc Group of the Plenary to discuss the future programme of conferences but that the subject as a whole should be discussed in Plenary."

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 170-E
2 May 1989
Original: English

COMMITTEE 8

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 8
(PURPOSES, RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS)

Tuesday, 30 May 1989, at 1030 hrs

Acting Chairman: Mr. V.G. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece)

Subjects discussed:

Documents

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Terms of reference | 118 |
| 2. Organization of the work of Committee 8 | DT/8, DT/5(Rev.2), 143 |

1. Terms of reference (Document 118)

1.1 The terms of reference of Committee 8 as given in Document 118 were noted.

2. Organization of the work of Committee 8 (Documents DT/8, DT/5(Rev.2), 143)

2.1 The Acting Chairman drew attention to Documents DT/8 and DT/5(Rev.2) which listed the basic working documents for Committee 8. Further background documents would be given in Documents DT/9, DT/10 and DT/11 which would be available that afternoon or the following morning at the latest. He would not at that stage propose the establishment of any Working Group, or ad hoc Group although such a Group might be set up should the need arise.

He further drew attention to Document 143, showing the deadline for the completion of Committee 8's work as the middle of the fifth week of the Conference.

2.2 The delegate of the USSR enquired whether it was appropriate for the revision of the Frequency Allotment Plan for the Aeronautical Mobile (OR) Service [Appendix 26] (Document DT/8, Annex 3, paragraph 4) to be considered by Committee 8.

2.3 The delegate of the United Kingdom, supported by the delegate of the United States, said that the revision of the Frequency Allotment Plan for the Aeronautical Mobile (OR) Service was related to the programme of future conferences and should not be discussed in isolation in Committee 8. He recalled that at the Heads of Delegations meeting the previous week the Secretary-General had stated that he would not set up an ad hoc Group of the Plenary to discuss the future programme of conferences but that the subject as a whole should be discussed in Plenary.

2.4 The delegte of Turkey confirmed that his Delegation's proposals TUR/103/1 and TUR/103/2 for the review of Appendix 26 should be considered in Plenary.

2.5 The delegate of Morocco requested that the proposals submitted by his Administration in Document 128 should be included among the proposals listed in Document DT/5(Rev.2), page 6.

2.6 The delegate of Colombia asked that Document 149 submitted by his Delegation should also be included in the Committee's work.

2.7 The Acting Chairman noted and agreed to those requests.

The meeting rose at 1105 hours.

The Secretary:

D. SCHUSTER

The Acting Chairman:

V.G. CASSAPOGLOU

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to

Document 171-E

28 June 1989

Original: French

COMITEE 9

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 9

1. Insert the following statement immediately after the second paragraph of section 1:

"The Vice-Chairman said that his country, the Central African Republic, wished, through him, to express its deepest gratitude to the Plenipotentiary Conference for his election to the vice-chairmanship of Committee 9. He warmly congratulated the Chairman of the Committee on his election and sincerely thanked the delegates who had been kind enough to congratulate him. Finally, as the Chairman had emphasized, he would be relying on the constructive assistance of all concerned to bring to the work of Committee 9 to a successful conclusion.

The Chairman thanked the Vice-Chairman for his kind words and said he was fully confident that the delegates taking part in Committee 9 would not fail to adopt a constructive approach to its work."

2. Paragraph 3.3

Amend to read:

"3.3 The delegate of Romania recalled that many delegates had spoken in Plenary in favour of two instruments. The first question to be decided was whether there should be one or two basic instruments; if there was only one - a Constitution - as contemplated in Resolution No. 62 of the Nairobi Conference, the second might be annexed to it in the form of General Regulations."

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 171-E

7 June 1989

Original: English

COMMITTEE 9

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 9

(BASIC INSTRUMENT OF THE UNION)

Wednesday, 31 May 1989, at 1440 hrs

Chairman: Mr. H.H. SIBLESZ (Netherlands)

Documents

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Introductory remarks by the Chairman | 118,
DT/5(Rev.2),
GE-BIU Document 50(Rev.),
Documents A and B,
DT/12 (DT/1 + Add.1),
47, 73 |
| 2. | Organization of the work of Committee 9 | 143 |
| 3. | Consideration of proposals | DT/12,
GE-BIU Document 50(Rev.),
Documents A and B,
118, 132 and 152 |

1. Introductory remarks by the Chairman (Documents 118, DT/5(Rev.2),
GE-BIU Document 50(Rev.) + Documents A and B, DT/12 (DT/1 + Add.1), 47, 73)

1.1 The Chairman expressed his gratitude for the honour shown to himself and his country by electing him as Chairman of Committee 9 and his great pleasure at thus being able to assist in the process of formulating a new instrument that would render the operation of the Union more economical and efficient. He appealed to all delegates for their support, assistance, understanding and flexibility in the common effort. The fact that the Administrative Council had passed the report of the Group of Experts to the Plenipotentiary Conference and that Members' contributions were based on the Group's drafts of the Constitution and Convention showed that the process of preparing the instruments was well under way; it was for the Committee to bring it to a successful conclusion.

He drew attention to the Committee's terms of reference as set out in Document 118 and to the allocation of proposals between Committees in Document DT/5(Rev.2). In that connection, certain proposals allocated to Committee 9 might give rise to considerations which would be more appropriately dealt with in other Committees, and vice versa; he intended to reach some understanding with the Chairmen of Committee's 7 and 8 in particular on the best way of proceeding in such cases, and would report to Committee 9 as soon as possible on the outcome of those consultations.

1.2 The Secretary, referring to the other documents listed against the item, pointed out that the Committee's work would be essentially based on GE-BIU Document 50(Rev.) and Documents A and B, containing the draft Constitution and the draft Convention, respectively. Document DT/12, listing the proposals relating to the Committee's work was a refinement and adjustment of Document DT/1 and Addendum 1 and would be supplemented by addenda as further relevant proposals were submitted. It would be seen from paragraph 4 of that document that it contained only concrete proposals themselves, and that reference should be made to the documents containing the original proposals for reasons and/or more general comments and observations. Document 47 was the cover page for the Administrative Council's report to the Conference, section 2.2.8.1 of which concerned the implementation of Nairobi Resolution No. 62, and Document 73 related to the specific issue of reservations, which the Committee would not have to deal with until a much later stage of its work.

1.3 The delegate of Spain suggested that his Delegation's proposals in Document 101, which were allocated to Committee 8 in Document DT/5(Rev.2), might be allocated to Committee 9 which had already been assigned Document 102 containing a general proposal unrelated to any specific provision of the basic instruments.

1.4 The Chairman replied that, whereas the proposal in Document 102 concerned the title of the secondary instrument mentioned in the Preamble to the draft Constitution, Document 101 did not relate to any of the provisions allocated to Committee 9. He would nevertheless submit the Spanish delegate's suggestion to the other Committee Chairmen.

1.5 The delegate of the USSR observed that the results of the Committee's work would be improved if governments' proposals were given a more legal character.

1.6 The Chairman said that he would discuss that comment too with the other Committee Chairmen.

2. Organization of the work of Committee 9 (Document 143)

2.1 The Chairman said that the total number of meetings allocated to Committee 9 was as yet uncertain, but that he intended to ask the Steering Committee to schedule more meetings for it in the immediate future.

2.2 The delegate of the United States said that serious problems might be caused for delegations if meetings of Committees dealing with matters related to those of concern to Committee 9 were scheduled to be held concurrently.

2.3 The Chairman said that the only firm decision that had been taken was not to hold concurrent meetings of Committees 7 and 9. On the other hand, he fully recognized the seriousness of the problem and would discuss it in his consultations with other Committee Chairmen and in the Steering Committee.

3. Consideration of proposals (Documents DT/12, GE-BIU Document 50(Rev.)
+ Documents A and B, 118, 132 and 152)

3.1 The Chairman invited the Committee to consider the various proposals concerning the draft text prepared by the Group of Experts. Because the Basic Instrument of the Union had been the subject of general statements delivered in Plenary session, the Committee need not embark on a general discussion; rather, it could proceed directly to an examination of the draft text, making any general comments where relevant to the particular portion of the text under consideration.

Draft Constitution (Document A)

Preamble

3.2 The Chairman invited the Committee to consider the relevant proposals listed in Document DT/12, as well as proposals CTI/132/1 and ARG/152/1 contained in Documents 132 and 152, respectively. He further drew attention to the proposal E/102/1 to call the second instrument "General Regulations" rather than "Convention". While the latter proposal had been presented with respect to the draft Convention (Document B), it was opportune to consider it in connection with the preamble of the draft Constitution as that was where the secondary instrument was first mentioned.

3.3 The delegate of Romania recalled that many delegates had spoken in Plenary in favour of two instruments. The first question to be decided was whether there should be one or two instruments: if there was only one, a Constitution, the general regulations could be annexed thereto.

3.4 The delegate of India said that the Group of Experts had done excellent work in separating the provisions of the existing Convention into a draft Constitution and a draft Convention. While his Delegation had no objection in principle to the adoption of a Constitution, its decision would depend on the introduction of various changes to the structure of the Union. If such structural changes were not made, it would not be appropriate to adopt a Constitution that would freeze the present structure of the Union.

3.5 The delegate of Kenya noted that Resolution No. 62 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference had resolved that the present Convention should be separated into two instruments: a Constitution and a Convention.

3.6 The delegate of Mexico said that the Chairman of the Conference, in summarizing the Plenary discussion, had reported that most delegates were in favour of a Constitution supplemented by a Convention. The Malaga-Torremolinos Plenipotentiary Conference had, on the other hand, spoken of General Regulations. He thought the Committee could go ahead with its work on the draft text, leaving the question of form to be decided in an appropriate forum.

3.7 The delegate of Chile agreed with the comments by the preceding two speakers. The Committee should examine the draft texts prepared by the Group of Experts with a view to ensuring that they conformed to the terms of Resolution No. 62.

3.8 The delegate of Colombia said that, while there was no need to debate the separation of the instrument into two parts, there was a need to discuss the relative status of the two resulting instruments. In particular, whether they would both have the status of international treaties and, how they would be related if each had its own amendment procedure.

3.9 The delegate of Uruguay considered that, following Resolution No. 62 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, the discussion in Plenary at the present Plenipotentiary Conference and the terms of reference of the Committee itself, there was no further need to discuss the separation of the Nairobi Convention into two instruments. Their relative status would be determined by the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.

3.10 The delegate of Gabon recognized the general consensus in favour of two instruments; before considering the draft texts in detail, however, the overall scope of the two instruments should be defined.

3.11 The Chairman noted that the content of the two instruments was determined by the Committee's terms of reference; those terms of reference did not, however, touch on the legal status of the two instruments, although obviously at least one of them should have the status of an international treaty.

3.12 The delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran agreed with the delegates of Kenya, Mexico and Chile that discussion should continue on the basis of dividing the Basic Instrument into two parts. He recognized the delicate nature of the point raised by the delegate of India and suggested that the Committee go ahead with its consideration of the more straightforward parts of the text, leaving aside controversial matters until the relevant decisions had been taken in other Committees.

3.13 The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire said that there appeared to be some confusion in the references to both "Basic Instrument" and "Basic Instruments". Furthermore, the ratification procedures included in both draft texts appeared to give them equal status as international treaties. Such aspects should be clarified.

3.14 The delegate of the Philippines said that the Committee should proceed with consideration of the draft texts, in accordance with its terms of reference, rather than awaiting decisions of other Committees. Care should, however, be taken not to duplicate the work of other Committees.

3.15 The delegate of Spain, in explanation of the proposal to entitle the secondary instrument "General Regulations", pointed out that the text of the draft Convention prepared by the Group of Experts essentially contained the Articles that appeared in the second part of the Nairobi Convention under the heading "General Regulations". The use of such a title would avoid any confusion with earlier Conventions of the Union and was in line with the practice of a sister organization of the ITU, the UPU. Such a terminology would also make it clear that the Constitution was the supreme legal instrument of the Union, the General Regulations being subordinate to it. A similar situation obtained at present with respect to the Convention, the highest legal instrument of the Union, and the Radio Regulations which, although having treaty status, were subordinate to the Convention.

3.16 The delegate of Chile said that the Spanish proposal seemed sensible although it was not in accordance with the terminology used in Resolution No. 62 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference. The real problem to be addressed, however, was the legal complication arising from having two Basic Instruments.

3.17 The delegates of Paraguay and Argentina supported the proposal of Spain, although the delegate of Argentina recognized that the title "General Regulations" was not in line with Resolution No.62.

3.18 The Chairman said that the Group of Experts had felt that it was not able to go beyond its terms of reference as set out in Resolution No. 62. The present Conference was, however, free to choose a different title. Indeed, the terms of reference of the Committee merely referred to "a second instrument".

3.19 The delegate of Uruguay opposed the proposal of Spain. The titles "Constitution" and "Convention" had been chosen by a Plenipotentiary Conference and each instrument would contain its own amendment procedure. The title "General Regulations" was not appropriate for such an instrument. The second part of the present Convention, entitled "General Regulations", did not include an amendment procedure.

3.20 The delegate of Brazil also opposed the Spanish proposal. The second Basic Instrument should be entitled "Convention". There would be no danger of confusion; the Nairobi Convention would no longer be valid when the new Constitution and Convention came into force.

The meeting rose at 1735 hours.

The Secretary:
A. NOLL

The Chairman:
H.H. SIBLESZ

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 172-E
23 June 1989
Original: French

COMMITTEE 4

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 4

Paragraph 3.18

Replace by the following:

"The delegate of the United Kingdom said that a written request should be addressed to those in charge of Committees 6, 7 and even 5, asking them to quantify the financial implications of their decisions before reporting them to the Chairman of Committee 4."

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 172-E
7 June 1989
Original: French

COMMITTEE 4

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
FIRST MEETING OF COMMITTEE 4
(FINANCES OF THE UNION)

Wednesday, 31 May 1989, at 0930 hrs

Chairman: Mr. M. GHAZAL (Lebanon)

<u>Subjects discussed:</u>	<u>Documents</u>
1. Terms of reference of Committee 4 - Finances of the Union	118
2. Organization of the work of the Finance Committee	-
3. Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference	47 section 2.2.6 and Annexes 6, 7 and 8 (except section 2.2.6.6(4))
4. Actuarial situation of the ITU Staff Superannuation and Benevolent Funds	32

1. Terms of reference of Committee 4 - Finances of the Union (Document 118)

The terms of reference of Committee 4 were approved.

2. Organization of the work of the Finance Committee

2.1 The Chairman said that the Plenary Meeting had requested the Committee to complete its work and submit its report by 20 June.

3. Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference
(Document 47, section 2.2.6 and Annexes 6, 7 and 8 (except section 2.2.6.6(4)))

Section 2.2.6 Budget and Finance (Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference)

3.1 The Chairman reviewed Resolutions Nos. 44 to 54 of the previous Plenipotentiary Conference, concerning the finances of the Union and the budget.

3.2 The Secretary observed that expenditure had at all times been kept within the limits laid down in Nairobi.

3.3 The delegate of France asked whether excess expenditure had not been incurred under the operating budget; the Secretary replied that the limit had not been exceeded but that some expenditure was not affected by the limit.

3.4 The Chairman observed that there was a credit of 1% which had been used exclusively to offset support costs.

3.5 The Secretary drew the Committee's attention to sub-section (4) of section 2.2.6.3, which stated: "The Council therefore proposes that the Plenipotentiary Conference should express to the Swiss Government its appreciation of the generous financial assistance given to the Union, as well as the hope that the arrangements in question will be maintained in the future." If the Committee agreed, that matter would be the subject of a draft Resolution to be annexed to the Committee's first report to the Plenary Meeting. With regard to the audit of accounts, a document on the management of the Union's finances would be prepared for the Committee's second meeting; it would contain references to the Resolutions on the audits and would be accompanied by a draft Resolution for the Plenary Meeting.

Replying to a question by the delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Secretary observed that, despite the many reminders sent out, the total arrears owed by Members of the Union now represented 18% of the annual budget, or about 80 million Swiss francs.

3.6 In reply to the delegate of Sudan, who enquired what action had been taken on the request submitted by his country, the Chairman said that a document dealing with the problem of Sudan's arrears and the request received from that country would be submitted to the Committee's next meeting.

3.7 The Secretary observed that El Salvador would pay off all its arrears during the current year and that the Central African Republic had fully settled its debt.

3.8 The delegate of Byelorussia considered that extra-budgetary funding should be sought to cover the expenditure entailed by Resolution No. 20 of the Plenipotentiary Conference in connection with the establishment of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development. It was most regrettable that, despite the efforts of the Chairman and the Secretary-General, the voluntary contributions by Member States were not sufficient to cover expenditure; that state of affairs would

appear to suggest that the States' and organizations' interest in the development of world telecommunications was no more than lukewarm.

3.9 The Chairman took note of those comments while observing that the Administrative Council had made every effort to appeal to donor countries for assistance with regard to the Centre for Telecommunications Development. An initial series of measures was already being contemplated in that connection. The major industrial countries had pledged substantial support to the Centre as well as to technical cooperation for the benefit of the developing countries.

3.10 The delegate of Byelorussia said that his Delegation reserved the right to revert to the matter when the future budget of the Union was considered.

3.11 The delegate of Japan considered that it was for the Committee to discuss the Centre for Telecommunications Development. His country had contributed to the Centre's establishment and had been one of the major donors. He emphasized the voluntary nature of the aid, whether it was provided by public authorities or from private sources. The Centre was in the early stages of operation and its financing should be improved, perhaps through the affiliate membership system advocated by Japan. Those views were supported by the delegate of Nigeria.

3.12 The Chairman observed that what was involved was a form of technical cooperation which could be made more efficient. The work of Committees 6 and 7 should help to secure more substantial and stable funding for the Centre.

3.13 The Chairman said that the Finance Committee was endeavouring to solve the problem of financing the Centre. In his view, the work of Committees 6 and 7 would be of crucial importance.

3.14 The delegate of Byelorussia expressed his agreement in respect of the Centre. The concern he had expressed related rather to the establishment of a new, independent organization.

3.15 The delegate of France considered that it was Committee 6's task to deal with technical cooperation as a whole. Only when that Committee had reached conclusions would the Finance Committee be able to tackle the issue of financing technical cooperation assistance. He would welcome information on the action taken in respect of the Resolutions adopted by the Malaga-Torremolinos and Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conferences.

3.16 The Secretary, replying to a question by the delegate of France, said that the "Special Fund for Technical Cooperation" had been established by merging the "Special Fund for Technical Cooperation" set up in Malaga-Torremolinos and the "Special Voluntary Programme" set up in Nairobi. He observed that section 2.2.6.6(4) would be the subject of an additional document and that the Finance Committee intended to revert to the matter in due course.

With regard to the IFRB Weekly Circular, it might be preferable to consider the substance of the matter at a subsequent meeting, once the document on publications policy had been discussed.

Annex 6 (Recapitulation of expenditure and income from 1982 to 1989)

Annex 6 was approved. It would be the subject of a Resolution which would be submitted in due course.

Annex 7 (Breakdown of expenditure not affected by the limit from 1983 to 1989)

Annex 7 was approved.

Annex 8 (Provisional budget for 1990)

3.17 The Chairman said that the budget would be reviewed at one of the Committee's next meetings.

3.18 The delegate of the United Kingdom said that a written request should be addressed to those in charge of Committees 6, 7 and even 5, asking them to explain how they intended to proceed.

3.19 The delegate of the United States endorsed the view expressed by the United Kingdom delegate but considered that the officials in question should provide information on the priorities they were contemplating.

4. Actuarial situation of the ITU Staff Superannuation and Benevolent Funds
(Document 32)

4.1 The Chairman read out a draft Resolution concerning the rehabilitation of the Provident Fund annexed to Document 32.

4.2 The Secretary said that the ITU's contribution to the Provident Fund would inevitably become smaller in the future. Unless Committee 5 disagreed, he assumed that the amount suggested would be accepted.

4.3 In the opinion of the delegate of the United States, that matter should be discussed by Committee 5.

4.4 The Chairman, replying to a request for clarification by the delegate of Mexico, said that the draft Resolution in Annex 2 to Document 32 had only been approved by Committee 4 subject to final approval by Committee 5.

The meeting rose at 1050 hours.

The Secretary:

R. PRELAZ

The Chairman:

M. GHAZAL

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 173-E
24 June 1989
Original: English/
French

PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

NINTH PLENARY MEETING

Tuesday, 30 May 1989, at 1440 hrs, and
Friday, 2 June, at 1440 hrs

Chairman: Mr. J. GRENIER (France)

Subjects discussed:

1. Death of the Indian Minister of Communications
2. General policy statements
 - 2.1 Statement by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of the Central African Republic
 - 2.2 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt
 - 2.3 Statement by the First Deputy Minister of Communications of Cuba
 - 2.4 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of Italy
 - 2.5 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
 - 2.6 Statement by the Head of the Delegation of France
 - 2.7 Statement by the Representative of UNDP
3. Analysis of general policy statements and comments

1. Death of the Indian Minister of Communications

1.1 The Chairman said that he had just learned the sad news of the sudden death of H.E. Bir Bahadur Singh, Indian Minister of Communications, whom the Conference had had the pleasure of receiving the previous week.

At the invitation of the Chairman, the delegates to the Conference observed a minute's silence in his memory.

1.2 The delegate of India thanked the delegates and staff of the Union for their expression of condolence at the untimely demise of the Minister of Communications of India who had addressed the Conference, the previous week.

2. General policy statements (continued)

2.1 The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications of the Central African Republic made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Central African Government and people, the Delegation I have the honour to lead would like to join previous eminent speakers in expressing its deepest gratitude to the French people and Government for agreeing to act as hosts to the Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU in the magnificent town of Nice, so famous as a resort for tourists.

My Delegation wishes to extend its cordial congratulations to the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Conference for their well deserved election to those posts. It has no doubt whatever that Mr. Grenier's acknowledged virtues provide every guarantee for the full success of our deliberations.

Finally, congratulations are also due to the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Committees and to the Secretary-General and to his entire staff for the high standard of documentation made available to the Conference.

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

As may be gathered from its name, the Central African Republic, my country, is located right in the centre of the African continent, which means it is land-locked.

This is why the Government, headed by General André Kolingba, President of the Republic and Head of State, has made it one of its priorities to develop telecommunications as a means of opening up the country to the outside world.

For this reason, and with the invaluable assistance of ITU technical cooperation, Central African telecommunications began to develop in 1985. For example, the telephone network in the capital, Bangui, has been renewed and modernized. A domestic network was installed in 1986, comprising in its initial phase four earth stations. A medium-capacity digital exchange will be installed in the capital in 1990 and eight others of small capacity in the provincial towns in 1992, followed by the extension of the domestic network. So far as telecommunication development is concerned, the Central African Republic's short-term policy is digitization of its network; the medium- and long-term objective is the integrated services digital network (ISDN).

The telecommunication environment is currently undergoing radical change, and the pace imposed by the rapid progress in technology raises a number of fundamental problems, common to industrialized and developing countries alike.

Faced with this challenge we must endeavour to maintain our Union's supremacy, reaffirming its role both in the regulation and standardization of technology and in the harmonization and coordination of national policies in general and the development of networks and services in developing countries in particular. For that reason the Central African Delegation would like the ITU's structure to be reorganized so as to adapt it to the constantly changing world of telecommunications.

The progress of technology means that cooperative activities need to be stepped up, particularly for the developing countries, so as to bridge the technological gap between North and South.

The Union's technical cooperation budget should accordingly be reviewed in the light of that consideration.

In addition, the Delegation of the Central African Republic would like the conclusions of the World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference (WATTC-88) held in Melbourne to be taken into account when the Union's new basic instrument is drawn up, so that each Member country can exercise its sovereign right to regulate its telecommunications.

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

I should like to inform the Conference that my Government has instructed me to put forward the Central African Republic's candidacy for the Administrative Council so that it can make its contribution, however modest, to the work of our Union. On behalf of my country I should like in advance to thank any Member States that may vote for it.

To conclude, my Delegation would like to express its profound admiration to Mr. Butler and thank him most sincerely for his good and loyal service to the ITU.

As for our Conference, Mr. Chairman, I trust it will be fully successful."

2.2 The Head of the Delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Arab Republic of Egypt, it is my pleasure to offer you, Mr. Chairman, our sincere congratulations on the occasion of your election to a high office at the head of the supreme legislative and executive authority of the International Telecommunication Union. We are sure that, with your wisdom and long experience, you will guide the work of the Conference to perfection, in order to strengthen the role of the Union to which we are proud to belong, and to serve the interests of its Member countries.

Egypt has sought conscientiously to fulfil its duties as a Member of the Union. For instance, it has taken part in all the administrative and executive conferences and meetings and played an active role within the Administrative Council. And it hopes to intensify its efforts in future since it believes that telecommunications have a leading role to play for the advancement of civilization, peaceful coexistence and understanding between peoples.

In this context, Mr. Chairman, I cannot but stress the eminent role of your own country in the field of telecommunications, a role it has confirmed by generously hosting this Conference and by the organizational work accomplished by your telecommunication authorities.

Your country's faith in international understanding and cooperation is unquestionable, and was recently confirmed by the latest Conference of French-speaking countries held at Dakar. President François Mitterrand's courageous initiative in announcing the cancellation of the debts to France of 35 of the least developed countries is a positive and wise measure, which we must keep in mind when we come to study, within the competent Committees, the problem of the arrears of certain developing countries and their negative impact on their right to vote.

Mr. Chairman, the Plenipotentiary Conference which, as I said before, enjoys the highest and broadest powers within the Union and is empowered to review its basic texts, must study these serious issues in the light of present-day developments and the growing role of the developing countries which now constitute a clear majority within the Union.

As a developing country itself, Egypt places the telecommunications sector at the forefront of its development plan. The volume of investment in telecommunications over the past seven years has been of the order of 1 billion Egyptian pounds. Many achievements have been recorded over that period.

In the case of the telephone service, obsolete telecommunication equipment and networks have been replaced by modern electronic equipment and a high-technology network using fibre-optic cables, and there are now three times as many installations and networks as there were in 1982.

As a result of the progress made, the automatic telephone service has been extended to rural areas, where there are now 139 exchanges as against only 15 in 1982. The number of automatic telephone lines has risen from 540,000 to 1,700,000 and there are now just over 3 lines per 100 inhabitants.

Our international telecommunication networks have been modernized by the installation of a second INTELSAT earth station, the establishment of an INMARSAT station and expansion of land and submarine cable transmission facilities to Europe, South-East Asia and neighbouring countries.

At the same time, the capacity of the international centre has been expanded from 800 to 3,680 circuits, 512 of which are assigned to transit. There are currently direct international links with 169 countries.

To keep up with the fast growing pace of production and use of computers, we have begun work on a national data transmission network in Egypt in line with the CCITT Recommendations. The network will come into service at the end of 1989 and will cover the country's major cities.

The future of telecommunications development rests on three essential foundations.

First, scientific development and the Union's ability to keep pace with its high growth rate, with all the tremendous budgetary implications and considerable technical groundwork that entails.

Second, the legislative and structural organization of the Union, the bases and foundations of which the competent technical committees of the Conference will be endeavouring to consolidate, and which we shall be relying on in the years to come.

In view of the close links between the work of the Consultative Committees, i.e. the CCIR and the CCITT, the Egyptian Delegation considers that their merger will avoid duplication and reduce the financial burden.

Third, there is the functional equilibrium of the work of the Union, in accordance with its role, for:

- 1) ensuring that all Member States observe the Union's tenets and principles;
- 2) narrowing the gap between the advanced countries and the developing countries in the field of telecommunications;
- 3) providing balanced telecommunication services to all the Member countries geared to the nature of each country and its technical requirements.

In this context, it should be pointed out that some Member countries are committing acts that contradict and contravene the principles of our venerable organization. Israel's practices in the occupied Arab territories with regard to both internal and external telecommunications do not comply with the fundamental constituent rules governing the Union's work.

It is important that the Union should dispatch periodical inspection missions which would report to the executive organs on the real telecommunication situation in the occupied territories and on the violations perpetrated by the occupying forces there.

We look forward to the day when the State of Palestine will play its full role within the Union by undertaking to defend the interests of its people in a climate of permanent peace and peaceful coexistence between the peoples of the region.

Reducing the gap between the advanced countries and the developing countries is an essential task of the Union and will serve as a benchmark for gauging its progress and success. The developing countries hope to play a positive and specific role in

achieving greater progress in that field. However, the figures suggest that it is essential for the Union to play a more generous role towards those countries, and that the role should be proportional to the strength of their numbers and at the same time to what they provide in terms of material contributions to the budget of the Union.

Several Arab Delegations have already put forward a just request that Arabic should be used as a working language of the Union in accordance with its status within the United Nations and its specialized agencies. The Arab nations are making that proposal on the basis of serious scientific and technical considerations and after deep and thorough study.

I cannot conclude without expressing my gratitude and esteem to Mr. Butler, the Secretary-General, who has led the Union with the abnegation and impartiality so characteristic of him. We wish him every success. We hope that the Conference will achieve its ambitious objectives.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman."

2.3 The First Deputy Minister of Communications of Cuba made the following statement:

"Allow me to convey to you my sincere congratulations and those of the Republic of Cuba, its Ministry of Communications and the Cuban Delegation to this august meeting on your election to your exalted and responsible post. I hope and desire that, under your skilled guidance, this Plenipotentiary Conference will achieve successful results, and I wish to assure you of our complete readiness for dialogue and cooperation.

I should also like to take advantage of this opportunity to present our greetings and respects to the French Government and people, through your intermediary, together with our thanks for the welcome which we have received since our arrival and for the admirable standard of organization. Our greetings are likewise extended to all the delegations present.

I should like to refer briefly to the role which the ITU will be called upon to play after this Conference, in such a crucial period for mankind, due to the overwhelming technical, technological, social and economic problems which man and his institutions encounter every day.

We are aware of the noble purposes which have inspired and continue to inspire the Union, and the efforts it has made to achieve them. Gradual but substantial progress has been made, for which we must congratulate it, but we must nevertheless emphasize that much more could have been done and achieved.

We are therefore extremely gratified to see that this meeting of the Union is dealing with such topics as the means of bringing about the transfer of telecommunications know-how and technologies from the developed to the developing countries, more vigorous and equitable means of technical assistance and cooperation, the development of human and material resources, financial possibilities for national and regional projects, the implementation of development and planning strategies and policies, the modernization and upgrading of operating services, the improvement of and compliance with the relevant regulations, the enhanced efficiency of the work of the Union and its organs and, lastly, wide access for all peoples to both conventional telecommunications and the new services, among other subjects which could be listed at great length but with which you are already familiar.

Our Administration feels that the conditions are right for this Conference to prepare and adopt the Constitution of the Union as the supreme legal instrument. We also consider that it is not recommendable, at the present time, to introduce fundamental changes in the structure of the Union. This matter should be studied at future meetings of our organization.

My colleagues, all this can be achieved only through a just collaboration, by the joint efforts of all the Members of the Union, by regional and world consultation and, finally, by good will. Telecommunications as the heritage of mankind are a fact, a genuine factor of multifaceted development, of peace and harmony, the challenge of the XXIst century and our responsibility.

The development of Cuban telecommunications is not impervious to the economic realities facing the developing countries. Nevertheless, the extension and improvement of communications in rural areas in Cuba has already become a reality under the investment plan for that sector. Another great initiative approved by our Government in communications is the decision to become signatories to the INMARSAT organization.

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished delegates,

Relationships in telecommunications are not always smooth in these times, despite our efforts, and we feel obliged to draw attention also to the negative side so that the community can judge for itself.

At the fourth Plenary Meeting of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi, 1982, the Cuban Delegation denounced the plans of the United States Government to carry out a further aggression against our people by bringing into operation a medium-wave broadcasting station directed against Cuba, with subversive and seditious intentions.

Today, at this Conference, we denounce the United States which, since May 1985, has been carrying out an aggression which represents, without any doubt, a gross and crude interference in the internal Cuban affairs; this is a crass and arrogant action, an unlawful escalation in the series of radio attacks launched against Cuba, which started with the bringing into operation of the station "Radio Swan" in 1960.

In order to put these plans into effect, the Government of the United States has continually breached agreements such as NARBA (North American Radio Broadcasting Agreement) as well as the provisions of the Radio Regulations which stipulate that, in the medium-wave broadcasting service, the power should be confined to that required for domestic coverage; they also violate the Convention, undermining the very essence of the ITU, which is based on radiocommunications as a means of promoting peaceful relations, international cooperation and economic and social development among peoples. This is the reason for our protest and our condemnation.

This unprecedented fact, a saddening manifestation of illegality and a violation of international regulations, whereby a strong country exploits its economic and technological power in telecommunications to attack a neighbouring country, clearly constitutes an example of the use of force in international relations, thus impeding

the normal development of Cuban radio services, which suffer harmful interference, not only in our broadcasting service, since the United States even operates stations on Cuban territory which it occupies illegally in the province of Guantánamo, in addition to the continuous interference caused by radio broadcasts from United States territory, but also in our amateur service and services connected with the safety of life, such as the maritime and aeronautical services.

Lastly, these practices have even gone so far as to use satellite networks, such as the FLETSATCOM network, which was employed to establish communications with spies of the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) of the United States operating from Cuban soil with highly sophisticated equipment introduced illegally into Cuba by the United States Interests Office in Habana, an example of dishonourable and unscrupulous behaviour which was duly denounced by Cuba and of which we have irrefutable proof.

Aware of its failure and stubbornly determined to undermine the will of Cuba, the North American Government is completing its preparations for launching an even more harmful, insulting and unscrupulous aggression, by imposing broadcasts from a television station directed at Cuba, using a captive balloon at more than 3,000 metres over the Florida quays, and again sullyng the memory of our national hero José Martí, by calling this station after him. According to our information, the present United States Administration has approved a budget of over 32 million dollars for this purpose.

Today it is happening to Cuba, and tomorrow it is possible that the law of the stronger will be again imposed also in radio and television on other countries of the Third World, trampling their sovereignty.

Mr. Chairman, Cuba is a small peace-loving country, which therefore attaches great importance to telecommunications as a means of improving the world in which we live, and this is why we fully endorse both the letter and the spirit of the Preamble of the International Telecommunication Convention in our respect for the unalterable principle of the peaceful use of telecommunications proclaimed by the world community.

However, we proclaim clearly that any radio provocation or aggression perpetrated by the United States Government against our country will invariably encounter a vigorous response of a magnitude consistent with the scale of the offence. We have the means of providing such a response. If the United States persists in its designs, flouting the Radio Regulations and the International Telecommunication Convention, the text of which we are about to revise, Cuba will not feel obliged to apply these standards in its relations with the United States, although we regret the unintended effects which may be produced.

We are prepared to resolve our differences with the United States in questions of radiocommunications, but on a footing of equality and mutual respect. We have provided evidence of this on previous occasions, and the United States Government is a witness.

Mr. Chairman, we therefore declare in this forum, in which the international telecommunications community is present, that we render the United States Government fully responsible for any situation which may arise as the result of its policy of employing radio media as a means of aggression against our people. We call on the solidarity of the Members of the Union in finding an adequate solution also to the rational use of the invaluable natural resource constituted by the radio and television services in relations between countries. The law of the stronger must not prevail in communications to the detriment of the countries of the Third World. These nefarious practices, which cause us to divert valuable resources which might be employed for other purposes, should be condemned.

Moreover, we plead for telecommunications for the development, the peace and happiness of our respective peoples. It remains only for me to repeat our greetings and respects to the delegates, to guests, to the Union, to our hosts, and especially to Mr. Richard Butler for his outstanding performance at the Head of the Union.

We wish all manner of success to our organization and its Members.

Many thanks."

2.4 The Head of the Delegation of Italy made the following statement:

"Together with the delegations that have spoken before me, I should like first of all to congratulate you on your election and to convey the Italian Delegation's gratitude to the Government of France for inviting our organization to hold its Plenipotentiary Conference in this beautiful and welcoming region of the country and for receiving us so kindly.

Italy has been a Member of the ITU since the birth of the organization, an event which came more or less at the time when Italy was completing the process of achieving national unity. Since then, Italy has played an active part in the Union's life and work, being fully conscious of the its fundamental importance and the irreplaceable role it has played so far and will have to play still more so in the future in promoting Member States' progress in the field of telecommunications and contributing to the development of cooperation among them.

Telecommunications are now the common factor in most human activities, they actually constitute a basic infrastructure. Consequently, the policy pursued in this field by the Governments of Member countries can have a considerable effect on our societies' capacity for progress.

We are now living in a time of profound and rapid scientific and technological change, which calls for similar changes in the telecommunication system, above all through the introduction of computers into telecommunication networks.

The union between information technology and telecommunication systems has given birth to a whole series of applications, known in Italy under the name of "Telematics". This involves a veritable revolution in networks, as they change over from analogue to digital technology. Switching systems are also changing over to digital technology, and networks are reaching a high degree of intelligence in traffic routing and data processing.

Italy has embarked upon this process of transformation, which is based on the principle of the integrated services digital network and will cover the whole country. It is a programme which entails considerable investment, particularly since considerable resources will have to be devoted to reducing the gap which still today separates the northern regions of Italy from the southern in the field of telecommunications.

We believe that the development of telecommunication and information technology will give rise to a process which cannot evolve at two or three different speeds. We shall all - industrialized countries and developing countries - have to try to move forward at the same speed, because we are all in the same boat, and if we are to solve the problems presented by the international situation today - from local conflicts to protection of the environment, from the famine still prevailing in some parts of the world to unemployment, to the debts of some third-world countries - close cooperation will be required from us all. To develop a world telecommunication system which left out the least developed countries would end up isolating the most advanced countries as well, with negative consequences for the whole world. The telecommunications system is there to bring us closer together, not to drive us farther apart.

Being fully aware of the importance of North-South cooperation, Italy allocates a high percentage of its gross national product to development aid. We have thus financed a number of programmes in the telecommunication sector under bilateral agreements.

Italy greeted the establishment of the Centre for Telecommunications Development with the greatest interest; it has already contributed financially to the Centre's activities and is ready to finance projects in this field if the Centre itself or Member countries wish to propose them.

The ITU is having to face up to an ever more complex situation. It therefore has to pursue and intensify the process of adapting its structure and bringing it up to date. Italy for its part is ready to contribute to this adjustment exercise, first and foremost by increasing its contribution to the Union's budget from 1991.

As regards certain aspects of the organization's work, we consider that Administrative Radio Conferences can play a very useful role provided that the programme of such conferences is limited to those subjects for which there is technical justification.

As far as the International Registration Frequency Board is concerned, we consider that for the time being there is no need to modify its role or membership. At all events, in order to make its task easier, it would be desirable for the Plenipotentiary Conference to take the necessary measures to launch studies on the revision and simplification of the Radio Regulations. At the same time, it would in our opinion be worth considering whether the definitions of services should not be revised, since they seem obsolete today in relation to the possibilities made available by modern technology.

Before concluding, Mr. Chairman, I should like to express my Government's gratitude to the Secretary-General, Mr. Richard Butler, for his high level of professional expertise and his profound dedication to the cause of the Union.

To you, Mr. Chairman, we address our best wishes for your success in the task entrusted to you, in which you can count on the Italian Delegation's full cooperation."

2.5 The delegate of the People's Republic of Bangladesh made the following statement:

"On behalf of the Delegation of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, I would like to convey to you our congratulations on your election to the chairmanship of this Plenipotentiary Meeting of the International Telecommunication Union. We hope and believe that with your vast experience you will be able to guide this Conference to a successful conclusion. We would also like to place on record our sincere thanks and appreciation for the warm welcome and hospitality extended by the Government and the people of the Republic of France particularly the French Telecom Administration to the Members of delegations of this Plenipotentiary Conference being held in this beautiful city of Nice, at a time when the French people are in the midst of celebrations of the bicentennial of the French Revolution.

Mr. Chairman, the dramatic development that took place in the field of telecommunications in a relatively short span of time has further widened the gap in the extent and quality of service between the developed and the developing countries. This is also true in the context of rural and urban areas of most of the countries.

The rapid development in this field has placed ITU in a situation when the organization needs extra efforts to help provide the world community intended telecommunication facility by the end of the current century.

In its Report on Telecommunication Policy, the Advisory Group formed by the Secretary-General of the ITU, keeping in view the phenomenal development in the field of telecommunications raised the question whether ITU's organizational structure, administrative capacity and procedures were capable of solving present and future international policy issues.

A number of speakers have already spoken before this august assembly stressing the need for restructuring the ITU to cope with the astounding development in this field to enable it to discharge its function more efficiently. We are sure the distinguished delegates present in this Conference will examine various proposals in this regard carefully and will be able to reach a consensus on the issues.

The ITU is known for rendering continuous and valuable service in promoting cooperation among the Member countries since its inception. The Recommendation known as the "Missing Link" made by the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development aptly pointed out the issues and proposed that the ITU should take the lead in providing world-wide telecommunication links so that everyone has easy access to a telephone by the beginning of the next century. These Recommendations, we feel, will go a long way to help formulate telecommunication policy by the developing countries who because of resource constraints are in a difficult situation in fixing priority among competing sectors of development.

Mr. Chairman, allow me to take this opportunity to present briefly to this meeting the state of development in this field in our country. Bangladesh is at present striving hard to ameliorate the economic hardships of its people and develop the national economy. In its endeavour for economic emancipation, telecommunications play a major role as a significant sector of infrastructure needed for rapid industrialization, modernization of agriculture and expansion of commercial activities.

The number of telephones in the country has increased more than five-fold since independence which is expected to reach a quarter of a million by the end of the current year. The open-air long-distance telephone network has been replaced to a large extent by microwave UHF links. Works are now in progress to interconnect 300 of 464 upazillas with digital systems. Forty-eight of the sixty-four districts have already been brought under nationalized direct-dialling systems. All the upazillas in the districts of the country will be brought under these schemes in the near future. Two satellite earth stations link the country with overseas telecommunication systems and a third satellite with digital technology is underway. Terrestrial microwave links have been established with the neighbouring countries. Bangladesh has at present established telecommunications with 160 countries and administrations with direct-dialling facilities with most of them.

Apart from its membership with the ITU, Bangladesh is a member of the Commonwealth Telecommunication Organization, Asia Pacific Telecommunity, Technical Committee of Telecommunications of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and INTELSAT. Bangladesh is actively considering to become a Member of the International Maritime Satellite Organization.

Bangladesh is at present manufacturing with joint collaboration electromagnetic exchange equipments and cable of various capacities. Manufacture of digital exchange equipments has been undertaken in the private sector.

Adequate numbers of training institutes offering both short- and long-term training courses have been established to train personnel in this field.

Mr. Chairman, we believe that the deliberations to be made in this Conference, possibilities to be explored during the discussions and the spirit of cooperation that is sure to be generated amongst the Member States will have the lasting influence in formulating telecommunications policies by the respective administrations.

We wish every success to this Plenipotentiary Conference and we are sure that it will attain the intended objectives under your able and professional leadership.

Before concluding, I would like to extend our compliments to Mr. Richard Butler, outgoing Secretary-General of the Organization for his invaluable contribution to the ITU and its Member countries. We wish him well."

2.6 The Head of the Delegation of France made the following statement:

"The French Delegation is extremely gratified by the kind words addressed to France, which has the honour of acting as host to this Conference. We hope that the arrangements made for these meetings will contribute to the success of our labours.

Mr. Quilès, French Minister of Posts, Telecommunications and Space, has already expressed to the Assembly some of the ideas which have arisen in France as a result of the new telecommunications environment. I can therefore allow myself to be brief.

There is some point in emphasizing once more the technical links and alliances, which have some weight in our deliberations, which have been woven between the telephone, television and sound radio by business technology, informatics and digitization.

Nor is it superfluous to reiterate that the existence of a world-wide communication network is the promoter of a universal awareness and at the same time enriches a common heritage of knowledge, aspiration and solidarity which, shared by all peoples, constitutes an incomparable force for peace and prosperity.

An essential feature of cultural identity, the diversity of languages, imposes on communication the constraints of which we are aware. The ITU is familiar with these constraints from the standpoint of interpretation, translation and the choice of working languages. It is not an easy matter to reconcile the essential linguistic pluralism of international organizations with their budgetary resources. It will no doubt be useful in our discussions to make full allowance for the progress of new technologies, particularly computer-aided translation. In a future which we hope will not be too distant, these technologies may help us to provide a partial response to the requirements of international cooperation.

Mr. Secretary-General, your attachment to the cause of telecommunications, your competence and your tireless activity constitute an example and an inspiration for all the staff of the Union. I call upon you to share with all levels of staff the esteem of the French Delegation and to inform the staff that it is aware of its concerns with regard to careers and anxious to find the best possible solutions.

I shall refer briefly to these two basic items of our agenda concerning technical cooperation and the preparation of a permanent basic instrument which has been so long desired.

The existence of an interconnected and standardized world-wide network calls for greater efforts on our part aimed at reducing the disparities in equipments and services to regions whose geographical isolation requires precisely the best possible external links.

For this purpose, a task of promotion is required, with both the donors of aid and with the developing countries which request it. It is essential that the two partners in cooperation, donors and beneficiaries, should accord to telecommunications the priorities which our changing societies are rendering increasingly essential.

This task of paramount importance, performed with eloquence and insistence, might draw off considerable sums for the benefit of telecommunications. The French Delegation will propose that these resources should be entrusted to the Centre for Telecommunications Development established recently with, in our view, excessively

anxious terms of reference. The Centre would abandon project studies to the TCD and devote its energies to the task of publicizing and promoting Telecoms and to the difficult but essential undertaking of coordination of ongoing projects for the purpose of reducing redundant schemes and the number of studies and master plans which remain dead letters.

The Technical Cooperation Department would then be solely responsible for cooperation activities in the field.

I would emphasize that France has been the main contributor with regard to experts and receiving trainees. Our Delegation is prepared to explore the means of bringing about a further increase in the resources of the TCD within a balanced budget.

The budgetary stringency which we consider so important does not imply any dogmatic intransigence on zero growth. It is clear, however, that priorities and choices are called for among the various proposals entailing fresh expenditure, whether they concern cooperation, languages, structural changes or the conference schedule.

I now turn to the basic instrument: whether this is presented as a single document consisting of two parts, such as the Nairobi Convention, or whether it is divided into a separate Constitution and a Convention (or general regulations) to which the Administrative Regulations are annexed, does not make any great difference for the French legal experts. We could accept immediately the draft of the Group of Experts, provided that its unitary character does not lend itself to any ambiguity.

The procedure for the transition from the Nairobi Convention, which does not provide for any qualified majority for its amendment, to a permanent instrument but by more less solemn qualified majorities) according to whether it is the Constitution, the Convention, or the Administrative Regulations which have to be amended, is a more delicate matter.

It seems important to us that the structures of the organization should appear largely in the Constitution, which secures the stability desired. The work of Committee 9 would be considerably facilitated if it were provided with clear and consistence guidelines on these two principles (three-tier but unitary basic instrument - stable structures). I repeat once more that the draft text produced by the experts appears to us to provide an admirable basis for the work of the committees which will have to discuss it. The draft should enable us to conclude our deliberations within the set time limits. It is clear that the basic act which we shall prepare and which, I hope, we shall approve in Nice, might enter into force and be improved by additional protocols, particularly with regard to the Union structures, which call for thorough consideration. The French Delegation will direct all its efforts towards this end, since the interests and the image of our organization are at stake. I thank you."

2.7 The Representative of the UNDP made the following statement:

Mr. Chairman,

It is, indeed, a great privilege and honour for me to be given the opportunity to address this meeting on behalf of the UNDP and its Administrator, Mr. William H. Draper III, who requested me to convey to you all his best wishes for a successful Conference.

I would like to join the speakers before me in congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, as well as the members of the Bureau of the Conference, for being elected to these important posts to conduct the work of this Conference - a prestigious task, of course, but also a heavy one. I am confident that, under your able guidance, the objectives of this Conference will be fully attained.

Mr. Chairman,

Just over a month ago, I represented my organization at the meeting of the Executive Council of UPU - a sister organization of ITU, where I emphasized why UNDP attaches so much importance to organizations working in the field of communications. I said there that it was not by a coincidence that ITU, followed by UPU, are the oldest specialized agencies in the UN system. I think that, by now, even the most sceptical are convinced that the contemporary world is unimaginable without communications. Communications, and particularly telecommunications, are not only an integral and basic part of overall development, but should be regarded as an indispensable pre-requisite for it. If world events are being seen and heard, almost simultaneously, in every part of the globe, it is thanks to the contemporary means of communications which in the past few years have developed at an accelerated pace. Dynamic progress in digital techniques and the convergence of computer and communication technologies, in long-distance, high-capacity cable systems, with optical fibre transmission systems, have resulted in major developments in all aspects of sound and television broadcasting. Mention should also be made, in this context, of the use of telecommunication satellites, which has greatly increased and thereby opened new opportunities for major advancement in a variety of spheres. Adequate telecommunications are recognized more and more as a key infrastructure in the promotion of economic and social development. Advances in this field have led to major changes at the national, regional and global levels, making telecommunication services, in all parts of the world, generally available to the public. On the other hand, however, it is no secret that, in other parts of the world, a sizeable percentage of the world's population is still having to do without the basic telephone. As we are seeing spectacular advances in technology, the creation of international rules and standards as well as the expansion of telecommunication networks are becoming overwhelmingly important. I thus fully agree with the statement contained in the Report of the Administrative Council for the Plenary Conference that the role of ITU as "the authority responsible within the UN family" cannot be underestimated in this global development process.

It is in this context that UNDP attaches great importance to the activities of ITU - a unique organization in the UN system, specialized in the field of telecommunications. UNDP has associated itself with ITU since its very inception and I would like to place on record that we are particularly happy with the results of our joint efforts in assisting developing countries in strengthening and modernizing their telecommunications. UNDP appreciates the ITU's highly professional input in our joint projects. It should be noted that ITU has maintained its delivery of UNDP-funded projects at a rate above the UN system's average, placing itself, in this regard, among the very best and this thanks to the most effective leadership of Mr. Butler and his associates in ITU.

If we look back at the history of UNDP/ITU co-operation, we note some important features in the evolution of our collaboration. In the period 1965 - 1972, the total volume of ITU technical co-operation activities amounted to US\$ 50 million (an average of US\$ 6.25 million per year) of which US\$ 40 million were funded by UNDP - 80% of the total. The period of the next nine years between two Plenipotentiary Conferences (1973 - 1981) was marked with a considerable increase in the volume of ITU technical co-operation activities, reaching US\$ 201 million (an average of US\$ 22.3 million per year) US\$ 165 million being financed by UNDP - nearly 82% of the total. During the last period, after the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, embracing seven years (1982 - 1989), the total volume amounted to US\$ 196 million (at US\$ 28 million on average per year) of which US\$ 159 million were UNDP funds - again 82% of the total. The volume of the UNDP/ITU technical assistance in the field of telecommunications rose dramatically during the period 1973 - 1981 - 3.5 fold of the volume of the previous period. During this last period - the period under review - the volume increased on the per year average basis by 24%, in spite of the financial constraints in the UN system and UNDP particularly.

You may recall that the Third UNDP Programming Cycle (1982 - 1986) which fell in the period under review, had a serious set-back in resources, imposing an across-the-board decrease of all country, regional and interregional IPFs by 45%, thus most of the UNDP executing agencies suffered a similar decline in UNDP funding. ITU was one of the unique agencies which was not negatively affected by this situation. We attribute this fact to two major reasons: high awareness of recipient governments of the importance of telecommunications, thus giving due priority to their development in this field, and the highly professional performance of ITU under the able leadership of Mr. Butler. I will not dwell on appraisal of the technical co-operation activities of your organization as the Report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference in its fifth part - as well as in the document reflecting the actions taken in response to the pertinent resolutions of the Nairobi Conference, gives an excellent, objective, and very elaborate picture of these activities, as well as a description of UNDP/ITU relations. We fully share the analysis reflected in these documents and appreciate their objectivity. All available information about the trends in UNDP approvals of telecommunication projects, including most recent computer print-outs, show a steady increase for the rest of the Fourth

UNDP cycle. At this point, I would like to invite your attention to the fact that the time for initiating the Fifth UNDP Cycle (1992 - 1996) is fast approaching and the first report of the Administrator on its preparation has already been circulated. The preparatory process will continue through this year, and the final decision will be taken at the 37th Session of the Governing Council in June 1990. We ask ITU to participate actively in the preparation of the Fifth Programming Cycle by assisting Governments of developing countries in assessing their needs for technical assistance, thereby ensuring that telecommunications receive due priority.

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me now to draw your attention to two important issues undertaken by UNDP which will have a bearing on the future development of the UNDP/ITU relationship; (a) successor arrangements for Agency Support Costs; and (b) the role of UNDP in the 1990s or better known as "UNDP and World Development in the Year 2000".

As regards the first issue, ITU was one of the particular cases in the UN system confronting difficult situations in the past. It was Resolution 16, of the Nairobi Conference, which put the Organization on an equal footing with other executing agencies of UNDP, thereby recognizing the administrative support costs burden-sharing in the tripartite partnership between UNDP, as funding agency, ITU as executing agency in respect to telecommunications and, of course, the recipient Government in the developing country. The UNDP Governing Council, at its 35th Session in June last year, decided, in view of the evolving nature of the partnership, to study the matter in depth. For this purpose the Administrator of UNDP was requested to prepare terms of reference for an expert group as well as a proposal for its composition. On the basis of this report, the Special Session of the Governing Council, in February this year, approved the terms of reference for the Expert Group and selected the following individuals for the same:

- Mr. William Eric ARMSTRONG - Barbados
- Mr. Christoph BERINGER - Federal Republic of Germany
- Mr. Abul Maal A. MUHIT - Bangladesh
- Mr. Gerben RINGNALDA - Netherlands

All these distinguished experts are known for their extensive knowledge of development issues, whether on the side of the donor, the recipient, or the UN agencies. I wish to reiterate that the study scope of the successor arrangements will not be limited merely to the study of upward or downward movement of the percentages paid to the agencies for the support costs in future, but will actually be a very broad and comprehensive study - a mini-capacity study - in which the group is expected to consider a wide range of issues including:

- role and functions of the partners in the tripartite arrangement;
- the capacity of the United Nations system to provide all the essential elements for technical co-operation;
- the proliferation of funding arrangements for technical assistance;
- alternative arrangements for support cost reimbursement.

The expert group commenced its activities at UNDP Headquarters, in the beginning of April 1989, and it is anticipated that its work programme for the next few months will include visits to several agency headquarters, selected field offices and member governments of the Programme. ITU is among the first agencies to be consulted and I should like to suggest that its secretariat takes full advantage of their visit, so that the views of the agency can be fully taken into account.

As regards the other issue, "UNDP and World Development in the Year 2000", Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to be philosophical, but there are times when the world community and international institutions must pause and reflect about their past performance and their future mission. The advent of the 1990s offers such an opportunity for introspection.

In many ways, the economic progress of the developing countries in the last 25 years, taken as a whole, has been quite rapid by historical standards. Yet, there is growing uneasiness about the unevenness of this progress and the evident deterioration of human conditions in many parts of the world. The debt burden, the threats to the fragile ecosystem, the growing urbanization, and the persistence of poverty, to mention a few, are areas which now call for decisive, co-ordinated action and innovative strategies.

For the 1990s, UNDP will play its part in helping developing countries meet these challenges within the context of the Consensus Resolution of 1970, the New Dimensions Resolution of 1975, and General Assembly Resolutions 42/196 and 43/199, which reaffirmed the co-ordinating role of the UNDP within the UN system, and called upon it to assist Governments in strengthening national capabilities to co-ordinate and manage international co-operation and assistance. UNDP has been continually adjusting its technical co-operation programme to the changing needs of world development. However, now that the Third International Development Decade draws to a close and the international community is focussing on strategies for the 1990s, it is important to see how far we have gone and where we should go from here.

The relation between UNDP and the executing agencies has changed from one in which the agencies were mainly expected to function as executors of UNDP-funded assistance to one in which they are called upon to perform increasingly diversified functions. Besides project execution, it is the intention of UNDP to have the agencies more fully involved in exercises of the NATCAP type, round table meetings, pre-project and sector analyses, in TCDC and advisory services linked to UNDP, and in NGO-executed and government-executed programmes and projects. Full use must be made of the specialized expertise of the specialized agencies. To this end, UNDP has been having a number of discussions with the agencies. Annual meetings have been held with various agencies on improving project quality and delivery. The involvement of the agencies in broader programming efforts has, moreover, been the subject of other joint UNDP-agency meetings, in part organized at a regional basis.

UNDP and the executing agencies should review jointly their response to some of the new and changing requirements of developing countries. There will be a greater demand for more high-technology and short-term advice, and faster, more flexible delivery mechanisms. Arrangements must be devised to

ensure that the growing trend towards government-execution of projects does not limit Government access to the wealth of technical expertise and experience accumulated in the specialized agencies. The agencies could also act as sub-contractors to Governments in government-executed projects. This would bring a new aspect into the existing tripartite relationship. These and other related issues will have to be examined in the context of the ongoing study by the group of experts on support-cost arrangements undertaken pursuant to Governing Council decision 88/50 of 1 July 1988.

It should be kept in mind that the future evolution of UNDP/agency relations must be guided more than ever by the objective of enhancing the capacity of Governments to design and manage external co-operation themselves as an integral part of their development strategies.

At this juncture, therefore, it is imperative that UNDP review its own capacity to respond to the challenges of the 1990s. Discussion on this issue was initiated, as you recall, in the June 1988 Governing Council session, when it was decided to devote to it the high-level segment of the Governing Council's thirty-sixth session from 12 to 14 June 1989, and the Administrator was requested to submit a comprehensive report on the subject.

The exercise carried out over the course of the year has started with discussions by in-house task forces, contributions from selected Resident Representatives and other experienced staff members, including a special consultation with a group of world development leaders. The results of this exercise were then subject to widespread consultation, at both headquarters level, among senior staff of UNDP and all concerned organizations in the UN system, and among the Resident Representatives and their agency and Government colleagues in the field. The views of Members of the Governing Council were widely and particularly sought.

All of these inputs have gone into preparing Document DP/1989/14 of 9 May 1989 which has now been finalized for presentation to the UNDP Governing Council in June. As you can see, in the course of this broad and intensive exercise, the Administrator has benefited from the valuable contributions of all concerned. We highly appreciate the ITU secretariat's active participation in this consultative process.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to add that in my new capacity as Director of the UNDP European Office in Geneva I have initiated some practical steps which will ensure in future a more active dialogue between the various UNDP Regional Bureaux and the Resident Representatives, and European Agencies and Governments. With regard to Resident Representatives, we are now providing special arrangements to make sure that all matters discussed with them during their agency briefing visits are followed up by the UNDP European Office on their behalf. Any suggestion in this respect from your Organization will, of course, be most welcome.

Let me conclude, Mr. Chairman, by reiterating UNDP's readiness to further strengthen the existing co-operation between UNDP and ITU for the benefit of the developing countries we serve."

3. Analysis of general policy statements and comments

3.1 The Chairman said that he had tried to highlight the points which had appeared to him significant and which he had noted in the course of the debate on general policy. Over eighty delegations had expressed their views on the development of telecommunications, on the response of the Union to the challenge of changing technology and on the way they considered approaching the questions before the Conference. The fact that some fifty ministers and deputy ministers had taken the floor showed what importance the Members of the Union attached to the Conference.

The first salient point to be noted was the increasingly changing environment and the growing place of telecommunications in societies and in nations. All the delegations had emphasized, however, that such developments should not detract in any way from the eminent role of the Union, which they thought should be strong and effective.

The second point was that standardization remained an essential function of the Union, as a way of coping with technical change. A large proportion of delegations, however, had advocated improvements in working methods and decision-making procedures.

An important point stressed by all delegations concerned international cooperation, which needed to be strengthened and within which all projects should be integrated, particularly at a regional and subregional level.

The question of the Centre for Telecommunications Development had been raised by a number of delegations. Some doubts appeared to have been expressed regarding the way the Centre had been started, since the expected results had not materialized owing to a lack of resources. There was also a problem of coordination with the Technical Cooperation Department. In more general terms, in the view of some Members, technical cooperation should be given a similar dimension to that of other functions of the Union.

The question of the structures of the Union had not given rise to any revolutionary proposals or suggestions for far-reaching alterations, although it had been considered that some changes were needed to keep pace with the changing objectives of the Union. The delegations agreed that some time for thought was required before final decisions were taken and that gradual change appeared preferable to total upheaval.

With regard to the basic instruments, the delegations supported the method adopted, they thought that the procedure of the Group of Experts constituted an acceptable basis. In the view of some delegations the new basic instrument should at least partially provide for structural change.

Although there had been no intention of proposing detailed guidelines, some general guidance which would be useful to committees in their work, did emerge from the statements.

The Chairman said that the delegations had been unanimous in recognizing the valuable contribution of the Secretary-General to the work and progress of the Union during his period of office and that he wished to add his own tribute.

All the delegations, moreover, had stated that they supported the Chairman in his efforts to make the Conference a success and the Chairman in turn hoped that he could count on that support.

Apart from the speeches by delegates on those major topics, the Chairman had also listened to the speeches of all the other delegations and had taken note of the comments which had been made.

In the general policy context, he wished to return to one very specific point, which concerned proposals for the possible exclusion or suspension of a Member. The proposals in question were QAT/13/5, ARS/14/1 and SYR/15/5 set out respectively in Documents 13, 14 and 15 and consolidated in Temporary Document DT/1 of 15 May 1989.

After hearing the statements of the various delegations which had spoken on the subject in the course of the general debate, and following the consultations he had held with all the delegations concerned, he had noted with appreciation that they were prepared to support the efforts deployed in favour of international cooperation and that, given the Conference's time constraints, they were clearly willing not to pursue the matter. He concluded, therefore, that the question would be taken no further by the Conference. Naturally, however, the decision on that point would not preclude a discussion from being held in due course by the Conference on the situation of telecommunications in the occupied Arab territories, in connection with the consideration of a draft Resolution in respect of which a significant number of delegations had indicated that they were currently holding consultations.

Consequently, he concluded that the Conference too could agree to that approach. After stressing the importance he attached to finding satisfactory solutions to outstanding problems, he declared the item closed.

3.2. The delegate of Saudi Arabia said that he differed from the Chairman with regard to the proposals of Qatar (QAT/13/5), the Syrian Arab Republic (SYR/15/5) and his own country (ARS/14/1) concerning the expulsion of a Member of the ITU. Those proposals should have been given the same attention as other proposals and should have been entered on the agenda of a Plenary Meeting. He insisted on that point and asked that the question should appear on the agenda of a forthcoming Plenary Meeting.

3.3 The delegate of Norway tabled a motion of order on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and its own country concerning the expulsion of a Member of the ITU and formally proposed that no action should be taken on the proposals referred to by the delegate of Saudi Arabia; he asked that his motion of order should be put to a vote by secret ballot in accordance with No. 551c of the Convention.

He said that his request was supported by the delegates of the Philippines, Canada, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay and the Federal Republic of Germany.

3.4 The delegate of the United States supported the proposal of the delegate of Norway.

3.5 The delegate of Kuwait, speaking on a point of order under Nos. 519 and 520 of the Convention, wondered whether the question of the expulsion of Israel from the ITU appeared on the agenda of the meeting. If not, he requested that the discussion regarding that question should be closed.

3.6 The delegate of Saudi Arabia was surprised that a vote by secret ballot should be requested regarding an item that was not on the agenda.

3.7 The Secretary-General thought that the procedure involved was complex. In fact, there had been two motions of order, one by the delegate of Saudi Arabia, who had asked for the question of the expulsion of a Member of the ITU to be included on the agenda of a forthcoming Plenary Meeting, and the other by the Delegation of Norway, supported by other delegations, requesting that no action should be taken during the current Conference.

In the course of discussions the Chairman came to a conclusion and apparently following discussions with various delegations there are two points of order i.e., under No. 507 put forward by Saudi Arabia and No. 514 by Norway.

He pointed out that it was nearly time for the meeting to end.

3.8 The delegate of Australia speaking on a point of order, would support a postponement but would be opposed to the matter being considered before the next Plenipotentiary Conference. He therefore proposed that the Saudi Arabian motion for postponement should be amended so as to specify that such postponement would be until the next Plenipotentiary Conference. Furthermore, in accordance with No. 551c of the Convention, he called for a secret ballot to be held on the amendment. His request was supported by the delegations which had stated their support for the proposal by the Nordic countries.

3.9 The Chairman asked whether, in accordance with No. 518 of the Convention, any delegations opposed the proposal of the delegate of Australia, seconded by the delegate of the United States.

3.10 The delegates of Qatar, the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon supported the proposal of the delegate of Saudi Arabia, requesting postponement of the question to another Plenary Meeting and supported the proposal for adjournment proposed by the delegate of Kuwait.

3.11 The delegate of Saudi Arabia while recognizing that the time available to the Conference was precious, said he was merely requesting that the proposals which he had referred to should be included on the agenda of another meeting. All the Arab countries asked that those proposals should be treated with respect and on an equal footing, in order to avoid setting a dangerous precedent.

3.12 The Chairman recalled that he had no other power than that of complying with the Convention and that the only solution was to hold a secret ballot on the proposal by Australia, seconded by the United States, to adjourn the discussion and postpone consideration of the question of the expulsion of Israel from the ITU to the following Plenipotentiary Conference.

3.13 The delegate of Tunisia suggested that it should only be a question of analysing the work done on the first days of the Conference and that the procedure which was being initiated appeared unnecessary.

3.14 The delegate of Algeria said that the Member Administrations had submitted proposals to the current 1989 Plenipotentiary Conference and not to that of 1994. The least the Conference could do was to consider the proposals in a Plenary Meeting. If the question was not on the agenda and there was no debate, he did not see how a vote could be taken. In his view, a country had requested that the meeting be suspended. That proposal had been seconded and the meeting should therefore be closed.

3.15 The delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran, speaking on a point of order, shared his colleagues' point of view and said that the proposal had not been included on the agenda of the current meeting. The documents referred to had not been discussed and there could not be any vote on documents which had not been presented.

3.16 The Secretary-General, on the basis of the comments made and the applicable procedure, pointed out that it was already after 1730 hours the time for the end of the Ninth Plenary Meeting. It was not a proposal of a Member.

3.17 The delegate of the United States, replying to the Secretary-General's comments, recalled that the delegate of Australia, with his support, had asked for a secret ballot and the adjournment of consideration of the matter until the next Plenipotentiary Conference, in accordance with No. 518. Although only two speakers were entitled to speak against a motion of order, more than two speakers had already taken the floor. In reply to the comments of several delegations, he said that the United States Delegation agreed with the Chairman's analysis of the general debate and with the conclusions he had expressed. A general discussion, which had just been closed, had been held regarding Documents 13, 14 and 15. The proposals they contained had been presented and circulated a long time ago. It could not be said, therefore, that delegations had not had time to see them. For the United States Delegation, those proposals had no legal basis since there was no provision in the Convention relating to the action proposed. The United States Delegation hoped that the proposal would be withdrawn and proposed immediately proceeding with the secret ballot, with a view to deferring consideration of Documents 13, 14 and 15 to the next Plenipotentiary Conference.

3.18 The Chairman gave his interpretation of the situation with reference to the Nairobi Convention.

There had first of all been a proposal for the debate to be postponed for a stated period, in accordance with No. 518 of the Convention, after which an amendment had been submitted by the delegate of Australia, seconded by the delegate of the United States. That amendment, according to Nos. 569 and 570 of the Convention, should be voted on first.

The debate had continued and had reached the voting stage (see No. 552 of the Convention). A delegate had then requested a vote by secret ballot in accordance with No. 551c of the Convention. More than five of the delegations present and entitled to vote had supported the request.

The quorum had been reached and the Chairman therefore decided to proceed with the vote by secret ballot on the amendment of the delegate of Australia, in accordance with No. 518 of the Convention.

3.19 The delegate of Saudi Arabia said that the procedure referred to by the Chairman concerned the debate, whereas there had in fact been no debate concerning the proposals which he had mentioned, since only speeches by Ministers and Heads of Delegations had been made in Plenary Meetings and no other subject had been discussed. Therefore, if a dangerous precedent was to be avoided, the questions concerned should be considered before there could be any question of deferring them to another conference.

He asked the Chairman not to take any decision for the time being and to include the question on the agenda of a forthcoming Plenary Meeting. He was only insisting because the purpose of the proposal was to facilitate the work of the Conference. If a vote did take place, however, he reserved the right to take the floor under No. 558 of the Convention in order to give some explanations.

3.20 The Chairman noted that, under No. 558 of the Convention, any delegations which so requested would be given the floor to explain their vote, after the vote had been taken.

3.21 The delegate of Kenya stressed the importance of adhering strictly to the provisions of the Convention in resolving the issue before the meeting. In particular, he asked whether it was necessary to await the report of the Credentials Committee before proceeding. Under No. 505 of the Convention, the Chairman should at once settle a point of order. The question was one of principle; the Conference should not deprive Members of the right to submit documents. The parties involved appeared willing to work towards a solution. He appealed to the Delegations of the Nordic countries and the United States to withdraw their proposal and allow the Chairman to resolve the matter.

3.22 The Secretary-General drew attention to No. 390 of the Convention which provided that "Pending the decision of the Plenary Meeting thereon, a delegation of a Member of the Union shall be entitled to participate in the Conference and to exercise the right to vote of the Member concerned". He further drew attention to Document 88(Rev.3) which listed Members that did not have the right to vote.

3.23 The delegate of Mali said that the documents in question should be placed on the agenda of the Conference so that they could be studied and a decision taken on them. He therefore supported the proposal to suspend the meeting.

3.24 The delegate of Iraq questioned whether the amendment proposed by the delegate of Australia constituted "a stated period", as required by No. 518 of the Convention.

3.25 The Chairman noted that the delegate of Algeria, supported by the delegate of Mali, had called for suspension of the meeting. Under No. 516 of the Convention, he asked whether any delegation opposed such suspension.

3.26 The delegate of the United States recalled that, following the Chairman's summary of the debate, the Delegation of Australia had proposed an amendment to a motion for postponement of debate and had requested a secret ballot. The procedures under No. 518 of the Convention had been completed; the vote should take place immediately under the priority accorded by No. 509 of the Convention. "Until the next Plenipotentiary Conference" was certainly "a stated period" in terms of No. 518.

3.27 The Chairman recalled that the subject of the vote was the motion to suspend the meeting.

3.28 The delegate of France said that the lengthy procedural debate should be brought rapidly to a close and asked for the voting procedure to be started.

3.29 The Chairman drew attention to the priority of motions of order and points of order, as set out in Nos. 507 to 514 of the Convention. It was clear that the proposal for suspension of the meeting took precedence over the proposal for postponement of the debate. The terms of No. 516 of the Convention having been fulfilled, the proposal for suspension of the meeting was put to the vote.

The proposal was carried by 47 votes to 23, with 20 abstentions.

The meeting was suspended at 1845 hours on Tuesday, 30 May 1989, and resumed at 1440 hours on Friday, 2 June 1989.

3.30 The Chairman announced that, as a result of numerous consultations held in the intervening period, the delegations which had submitted points of order before the suspension of the meeting were now prepared to withdraw them.

The meeting rose at 1445 hours on Friday, 2 June.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 174-E

30 May 1989

Original : English

PLENARY MEETING

Note by the Secretary-General

TRANSFER OF POWERS

Principality of Lichtenstein - Confederation of Switzerland

The Government of the Principality of Lichtenstein has informed me that it cannot send a delegation to the Conference.

In pursuance of 391 of the Convention, it has given the delegation of the Confederation of Switzerland powers to represent it.

The instrument for the transfer of powers has been deposited with the Secretariat of the Credentials Committee. Committee 2 at its first meeting has examined this instrument and has found it to be in order.

R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 175-E
30 May 1989
Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

Note by the Secretary-General

TRANSFER OF POWERS

Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan - Republic of Iraq

The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has informed me that it cannot send a delegation to the Conference.

In pursuance of 391 of the Convention, it has given the delegation of the Republic of Iraq powers to represent it.

The instrument for the transfer of powers has been deposited with the Secretariat of the Credentials Committee. Committee 2 at its first meeting has examined this instrument and has found it to be in order.

R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 176-E

30 May 1989

Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

Note by the Secretary-General

TRANSFER OF POWERS

Solomon Islands - Australia

The Government of the Solomon Islands has informed me that it cannot send a delegation to the Conference.

In pursuance of 391 of the Convention, it has given the delegation of Australia powers to represent it.

The instrument for the transfer of powers has been deposited with the Secretariat of the Credentials Committee. Committee 2 at its first meeting has examined this instrument and has found it to be in order.

R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 177-E

30 May 1989

Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

NOTE BY THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE 8
TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE

During the first meeting of Committee 8, it was noted that the proposals TUR/103/1 and TUR/103/2, originally allocated to Committee 8 (Document DT/5(Rev.2)) are dealing with a matter related to the future conference programme, subject to be dealt with by the Plenary Meeting itself.

Therefore, Committee 8 decided to resubmit the above two proposals to the Plenary for further consideration.

M.U.G. CASSAPOGLOU
Vice-Chairman of Committee 8

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989.

Document 178-E

31 May 1989

Original: Spanish

COMMITTEE 8

Argentine Republic

CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ARTICLE 2

Rights and Obligations of Members

ARG/178/1
MOD

10

- b) subject to the provisions of Nos. 122 and 175 of this Constitution, each Member shall have one vote at all ~~conferences of the Union~~ Plenipotentiary Conferences, at all world administrative conferences, at all meetings of the International Consultative Committees and, if it is a Member of the Administrative Council, at all sessions of that Council. At regional administrative conferences, only the Members of the Region concerned shall have a vote;

ARG/178/2
MOD

11

- c) subject to the provisions of Nos. 122 and 175 of this Constitution, each Member shall also have one vote in all consultations carried out by correspondence, subject to the provisions of No. 10.

Reasons:

MOD 10 b):

Only a regional administrative conference can deal with specific telecommunication questions relating to its own Region (No. 56 of the Constitution).

It is therefore logical and reasonable to restrict the right to vote to the Members of the Region concerned.

No. 156 h) of the Convention identifies as observers Members of the Union participating in a non-voting capacity in a regional administrative conference of a Region other than that to which the said Members belong.

This provision is in keeping with the definition contained in Annex 2 to the Convention, which defines an observer as a person sent by the government of a Member of the Union to participate in a non-voting capacity in a regional administrative conference (No. 2010).

We consider it advisable to place this provision, which is fundamental in character, in the body of the Constitution, for which purpose we submit this contribution for decision by the Members.

MOD 11 c):

Since the right to vote at regional administrative conferences is confined to the Members of the Region (No. 10 b) amended), the same criterion should be applied to consultations on regional questions carried out by correspondence.

**PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE**

NICE, 1989

Document 179-E
31 May 1989
Original: FrenchCOMMITTEE 4Note by the Secretary-General

TECHNICAL COOPERATION SUPPORT COSTS

(SECTION 2.2.6.6(4) OF THE REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
TO THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE)

In its report to the Plenipotentiary Conference, the Administrative Council describes the situation with regard to Technical Cooperation support costs. The report states that the shortfall in income to cover Technical Cooperation administrative and operational service costs amounted to 15,026,870.28 Swiss francs for the years 1980 to 1988 and that, by means of a three-stage financing plan, it had been possible to reduce the shortfall by 10,461,422.47 Swiss francs. At the end of 1988, therefore the shortfall amounted to 4,565,477.81 Swiss francs or, disregarding the additional resources of 500,000 Swiss francs from official postage stamps, 5,065,447.81 Swiss francs.

At the final meeting of its 44th session, the Administrative Council approved a fourth stage of the financing plan, as follows:

- Amount to be charged to the operating budget for 1990 (provisional budget)	765,000.-- Sw.frs.
- Withdrawal from the Operational Fund at the disposal of the Administrative Council (resources produced by the sale of ITU official postage stamps)	500,000.-- Sw.frs.
- Withdrawal from the ITU Reserve Account	950,000.-- Sw.frs.
- Withdrawal from the Store, Reprography and Technical Services Capital Account	850,000.-- Sw.frs.
- Amount to be charged to the 1989 accounts	447.81 Sw.frs.
Total	3,065,447.81 Sw.frs.

The shortfall still remaining for the years 1980 to 1988, amounting originally to over 15,000,000 Swiss francs, has been reduced to 2,000,000 Swiss francs as a result of the amortization measures taken in the various financing plans.

It should be emphasized, as is already pointed out in section 2.2.6.6(4), of the report of the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference, that the ITU - on account of its partnership with UNDP - has to meet any shortfall in income to cover expenses for the overall administration of project activities.

At the end of 1989, the remaining sums to be amortized will be increased by the shortfall in income for the financial year 1989, estimated at 2,200,000 Swiss francs (in round figures) in the provisional budget for 1990. It may be noted that this provisional budget was based on a Sw. Frs/US \$ exchange rate of 1.58, which has now become (30 May 1989) 1.75 Swiss francs to US \$ 1.

It is now for the Plenipotentiary Conference to take decisions in respect of:

- a) the total absorption of the shortfall in income on Technical Cooperation support costs up to the end of 1989, currently estimated at 4,200,000 Swiss francs,
- b) the methods to be introduced in order to remove the causes of the shortfall in income on the Technical Cooperation special accounts, and, in particular from 1990 onwards, to reflect adequately in the Union's regular budget the financial resources needed to meet the Union's partnership responsibility with UNDP, in accordance with the consensus approved by the UNDP Governing Council and the United Nations General Assembly.

R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 180-E
31 May 1989
Original: French

COMMITTEE 6

Republic of Cameroon

PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Article 4 of the International Telecommunication Convention provides in numbers 14, 15, 16 and 20 that:

1. The purposes of the Union are:

- to maintain and extend international cooperation between all Members of the Union for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds, as well as to promote and to offer technical assistance to developing countries in the field of telecommunications;
- to promote the development of technical facilities and their most efficient operation with a view to improving the efficiency of telecommunication services, increasing the usefulness and making them, as far as possible, generally available to the public;
- to harmonize the actions of nations in the attainment of those ends.

2. The Union fosters international cooperation in the delivery of technical assistance to the developing countries and the improvement of telecommunication equipment and networks in developing countries by every means at its disposal, including through its participation in the relevant programmes of the United Nations and the use of its own resources, as appropriate.

Moreover, technical evolution in telecommunications, the constant introduction of new services and the unequal spread of telecommunications throughout the world mean that effective and efficient cooperation is increasingly necessary.

In the developing countries, technical cooperation and assistance, will for some time to come, remain the best means of transferring know-how and technology.

For the achievement of its purposes, the Union carries out activities connected with standardization, regulation and development, the latter involving technical cooperation and assistance.

While, with the existing structure of the ITU, standardization is carried out by the CCIs, regulations are established by the world and regional conferences and applied, so far as radio matters are concerned, by the IFRB, the development function is diffuse and ill-defined, and remains largely in the hands of two bodies, namely, the Technical Cooperation Department and the Centre for Telecommunications Development, the

latter having been recently created following the Recommendations of the Maitland Commission. Furthermore, the funds allocated to the development function are inadequate for the tasks which the developing countries are entitled to expect of the Union. However, the contributions of the developing countries account for about 23% of the Union budget, whereas the funds allocated to development activities (technical cooperation and assistance) do not exceed 6.7% of this budget.

In view of the foregoing and given the importance which these countries in general, and Cameroon in particular, attach to the development function, Cameroon, having given careful consideration to Document 33 concerning ITU technical cooperation and related field activities, expresses its general approval of all the conclusions and recommendations contained therein.

Moreover, the Conference should explore the possibility of providing the Union with resources which would enable it to meet its assistance commitments to the developing countries.

For this purpose, the funds earmarked for assistance should be increased to at least 20% of the ordinary budget of the ITU and should form an integral part of this budget.

The reasons underlying these overall proposals will be reviewed below, following the structure of Document 33.

Beforehand, however, it should be pointed out that the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference adopted numerous Resolutions (19, 20, 21, 22), aimed at promoting the development of telecommunication networks in order to mitigate the imbalance observed between the countries of the North and those of the South. The Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development published "The Missing Link", drawing the attention of the entire world to the importance of telecommunications in the development process and recommending the establishment of a Centre for Telecommunications Development as an essential adjunct to the Union's technical cooperation activities.

Great hopes were placed in these initiatives, but we have unfortunately to acknowledge that the results achieved have proved disappointing.

For this reason, the proposals contained in Document 33 represent for our country an irreducible minimum - timid measures which the Conference should adopt, while at the same time continuing to seek a definitive answer to the technical cooperation problem. On the model of the other United Nations agencies, the ITU should include in its budget a technical assistance programme, essential both to the developed and to the developing countries.

This point brings out the dual role of the Union under the heading of cooperation, namely:

- 1) specialized agency of the United Nations for telecommunications
- 2) executing agency of UNDP-funded projects.

Reverting to Document 33, Cameroon wishes to put forward the following Recommendations:

CME/180/1

We recognize the need for a long-term action plan for the Union.

CME/180/2

We consider it necessary to explore the possibility of merging all technical cooperation activities in the interest of greater efficiency.

CME/180/3

We recognize that a minimum duration is required in all contracts for qualified and experienced staff. Hence, we strongly support Recommendation No. 3 to establish a core staff for project management at Union headquarters, comprising also outposted Area Representatives.

CME/180/4

In Nairobi, Cameroon strongly supported the creation of a regional presence of the Union, but the limited nature of the resources has allowed only a very reduced presence, despite the obvious requirement. We should be very much in favour of a strengthened and expanded ITU field presence, which would meet a real need.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 181-E
31 May 1989
Original: French

COMMITTEE 4

Note by the Secretary-General

ARREARS*

(Amounts owed to the Union)

1. The balance sheet of the Union at 31 December 1988 shows that on 31 December 1988 accounts in arrears amounted to a total of 19,160,940.30 Swiss francs; on 30 April 1989 the total was 17,244,660.60. Swiss francs. The breakdown of this sum by year is shown in Annex 1; Annex 2 gives the breakdown by individual debtor.
2. It will be recalled that the Malaga-Torremolinos Plenipotentiary Conference (1973) decided that the arrears relating to 1972 and earlier years of the nine major debtors of the Union should be transferred to a special arrears account. Annex 3 shows the position of this special account.
3. The Nairobi Conference (1982) took a similar decision with respect to the arrears for 1982 and earlier years of four Member countries of the Union. The position of this special account is shown in Annex 4.

R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

Annexes: 4

* The term "Arrears" refers to amounts more than one year overdue. In the present document it therefore covers the amounts due for 1987 and earlier years.

ANNEX 1

ACCOUNTS IN ARREARS

(amounts due by year)

	Contributions	Publications	Total
Year 1971	13,149.20	6,899.50	20,048.70
Year 1972	1,571.40	6,642.55	8,213.95
Year 1973	39,961.65	24,251.60	64,213.25
Year 1974	208,267.95	29,335.85	237,603.80
Year 1975	110,093.75	54,531.05	164,624.80
Year 1976	161,324.05	48,337.80	209,661.85
Year 1977	255,260.15	33,946.65	289,206.80
Year 1978	637,922.60	19,178.05	657,100.65
Year 1979	819,177.70	27,070.75	846,248.45
Year 1980	954,921.10	34,847.00	989,768.10
Year 1981	1,016,578.55	22,040.15	1,038,618.70
Year 1982	1,516,713.25	85,676.80	1,602,390.05
Year 1983	2,461,546.00	80,750.75	2,542,296.75
Year 1984	1,219,135.65	82,861.70	1,301,997.35
Year 1985	1,803,058.80	62,119.45	1,865,178.25
Year 1986	2,176,318.90	108,990.35	2,285,309.25
Year 1987	2,795,328.05	326,851.85	3,122,179.90
	<u>16,190,328.75</u>	<u>1,054,331.85</u>	<u>17,244,660.60</u>

ANNEX 2

A. Members of the Union	Year	Contributions	Publications	Total
Antigua and Barbuda	1987	28,153.60		28,153.60
Argentine Republic	1983-87	227,795.50	1,563.25	229,358.75
Benin (People's Rep.of)	1985-87	16,122.90	6,868.80	22,991.70
Bolivia (Rep.of)	1982-87	447,417.70		447,417.70
Burundi (Rep.of) 1)	1983-87	41,924.55		41,924.55
Cape Verde (Rep.of) 2)	1982-87	127,146.15	476.00	127,622.15
Central African Republic	1975-87	6,408.20	111,564.10	117,972.30
Chile	1987	6,338.05		6,338.05
Cyprus	1985-87		10,615.45	10,615.45
Comoros (Isl.Fed.Rep.of the)	1978-87	830,174.75	7,599.50	837,774.25
Congo (People's Rep.of the)	1986-87	134,894.30	10,188.00	145,082.30
Cuba	1987	316.20	25,951.90	26,268.10
Dominican Republic	1973-87	1,241,881.50	34,413.55	1,276,295.05
United Arab Emirates	1985-87	33,359.80		33,359.80
Ethiopia	1986		5,463.10	5,463.10
Gabonese Republic	1985-87		16,728.35	16,728.35
Ghana	1986-87	6,034.05	41,187.55	47,221.60
Greece	1987		12,634.00	12,634.00
Grenada	1981-87	219,755.85	5,545.55	225,301.40
Guatemala (Rep.of)	1982-87	242,444.90	26,665.85	269,110.75
Guinea (Rep.of)	1982-87	264,558.65	59,681.15	324,239.80
Guinea-Bissau (Rep.of)	1979-87	692,963.05	25,502.00	718,465.05
Equatorial Guinea (Rep.of)	1982-87	351,782.95	5,530.00	357,312.95
Guyana	1982-87	386,084.45	5,261.85	391,346.30
Haiti (Rep.of)	1986-87	14,260.25	3,573.10	17,833.35
Honduras (Rep.of)	1982-87	229,304.65	15,289.20	254,593.85
Iran (Islamic Rep.of)	1983-87	11,939.40	20,186.20	32,125.60
Ireland	1987	2,224.35	5,614.00	7,838.35
Jamaica	1984-87	66,666.75	4,793.00	71,459.75
Democratic Kampuchea	1971-87	1,849,017.75	48,253.95	1,897,271.70
Kenya (Rep.of)	1983-87	68,504.80	16,004.15	84,508.95
Kiribati (Rep.of)	1987	7,983.65	74.00	8,057.65
Liberia (Rep.of)	1978-87	1,476,479.10	281.70	1,476,760.80
Libya (Soc.Peop.Lib.Arab.Jam.)	1984-87	1,132,682.70	23,043.55	1,155,726.25
Madagascar (Dem. Rep.of)	1980-87	51,783.10	36,998.30	88,781.40
Mauritania (Islamic Rep.of)	1978-87	672,401.90	3,610.00	676,011.90
Mozambique (People's Rep.of)	1984-87	6,865.45	2,626.40	9,491.85
Nicaragua	1983-87	815,418.40	1,607.70	817,026.10
Nigeria (Fed. Rep.of)	1987	68,820.65	0.00	68,820.65
Uganda (Rep.of)	1983-87	208,974.75	12,633.40	221,608.15
Panama (Rep.of)	1987	0.00	6,776.00	6,776.00
Peru	1982-87	209,695.15	24,026.60	233,721.75
Philippines (Rep.of the)	1984-87	48,323.75	12,500.65	60,824.40
Qatar (State of)	1985-87		14,505.70	14,505.70
Romania (Soc. Rep.of)	1986-87	263,682.10		263,682.10
Sao Tome and Princ.(Dem.Rep.of)	1983-87	105,804.10	11,545.20	117,349.30
Sierra Leone	1976-87	989,716.30	14,725.20	1,004,441.50
Somali (Dem. Rep.)	1983-87	85,409.45	3,311.10	88,720.55
Sudan (Rep. of the)	1980-87	873,555.50	0.00	873,555.50
Suriname (Rep.of)	1986-87	3,057.70	7,222.25	10,279.95
Tanzania (United Rep.of)	1986-87	5,099.60		5,099.60
Chad (Rep.of) 3)	1971-87	124,989.70	38,547.05	163,536.75
Trinidad and Tobago	1987	86,496.50		86,496.50
Union of Soviet Socialist Rep.	1987		59,389.10	59,389.10
Uruguay (Eastern Rep.of)	1983-87	20,866.15	15,215.05	36,081.20
Venezuela (Rep.of)	1987	15,584.90	691.00	16,275.90

- 1) Payment of 29.110,95 sw.frs. received
2) Payment of 89.433,70 sw.frs. received
3) Payment of 70.000,-- sw.frs. announced

Zaire (Rep.of)	1982-87	528,593.95	50,795.75	579,389.70
Zambia (Rep.of)	1986-87	35,971.60	360.00	36,331.60
		15,393,731.20	869,639.25	16,263,370.45
B. Other administrative services	Year	Contributions	Publications	Total
United States of America				
- Dept.of Air Force,Washington	1986-87		16,818.60	16,818.60
- Fed.Comms.Commiss.,Washington	1987		6,802.00	6,802.00
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)				
- SETAR, Aruba	1987		7,600.00	7,600.00
		0.00	31,220.60	31,220.60
C. Recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations	Year	Contributions	Publications	Total
Belgium				
- Motorola SA, Bruxelles	1983-87	28,929.50		28,929.50
- GTE ATEA SA, Herentals	1982-87	9,332.45		9,332.45
Canada				
- Can.Ass.Broadcasters, Ottawa	1987	19,245.60		19,245.60
Chile				
- Telex Chile, Santiago	1986-87	52,886.65	1,242.35	54,129.00
United States of America				
- Infinet Inc., Andover	1983-86	64,480.55		64,480.55
- CBS Inc., New York	1987		2,014.00	2,014.00
- Graphenet Inc., Teaneck	1987	25,660.85		25,660.85
- Texas Instruments Inc., Dallas	1983-87	47,061.35		47,061.35
- Plantronics Inc., Frederick	1985	18,330.20		18,330.20
- IBC Corp., Hauppauge	1982-87	113,198.15		113,198.15
- Control Data Corp., Greenwich	1987	25,660.85		25,660.85
Israel (State of)				
- Tadiran, Petah-Tikva II	1986-87	52,886.65		52,886.65
Italy				
- FATME, Roma	1985-87	27,535.85		27,535.85
Switzerland				
- Service 800 SA, Nyon	1986-87	25,964.00		25,964.00
Venezuela (Rep. of)				
- Ipostel, Caracas	1982-87	110,330.85		110,330.85
- CANTV, Caracas	1982-87	10,625.95		10,625.95
Yugoslavia (Soc. Fed. Rep. of)				
- Iskra Kranj, Ljubljana	1979-87	109,884.60		109,884.60
- Inst.Comp.Inf.Systems, Sarajevo	1986-87	34,350.55		34,350.55
		776,364.60	3,256.35	779,620.95
International organizations	Year	Contributions	Publications	Total
- UNEP, Nairobi	1986		4,360.45	4,360.45
- UNIDO, Wien	1987		18,426.00	18,426.00
- UNDP, New York	1987		60,480.00	60,480.00
		0.00	83,266.45	83,266.45

Other Debtors	Year	Contributions	Publications	Total
Australia				
- UN Assoc. of Australia, Melbourne	1985-86		2,680.55	2,680.55
Korea (Rep. of)				
- Dae Woo Telecom Co Ltd, Seoul	1987		3,520.00	3,520.00
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland				
- Techn. Indexes Ltd., Blacknell	1986		2,915.00	2,915.00
Other debtors				
		20,232.95	57,833.65	78,066.60
		20,232.95	66,949.20	87,182.15
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		16,190,328.75	1,054,331.85	17,244,660.60
		=====	=====	=====

This statement includes only amounts of more than 5,000.- Swiss francs for Administrations Members of the Union and 2,000.- Swiss francs for other Administrative services, recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations, international organizations, etc.

ANNEX 3

SPECIAL ARREARS ACCOUNT

(Resolution No. 10 of the Plenipotentiary Conference,
Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973)

Member	Amounts transferred to the special account	Payments received	Special account balance
Bolivia	1,474,356.37	-	1,474,356.37
Chile	901,955.40	901,955.40	-
Costa Rica	119,472.65	119,472.65	-
Dominican Republic	1,294,616.25	-	1,294,616.25
El Salvador (Republic of)	1,350,607.50	1,275,000.--	* 75,607.50
Haiti (Republic of)	516,612.60	516,612.60	-
Peru	199,387.70	199,387.70	-
Uruguay (Eastern Republic of)	320,719.81	320,719.81	-
Yemen Arab Republic	382,287.90	382,287.90	-
Total	6,560,016.18	3,715,436.06	2,844,580.12

* To be paid in 1989

ANNEX 4

SPECIAL ARREARS ACCOUNT

(Resolution No. 53 of the Plenipotentiary Conference,
Nairobi, 1982)

Member	Amounts transferred to the special account	Payments received	Special account balance
Central African Republic	310,570.15	310,570.15	-
Guatemala (Republic of)	352,393.--	-	352,393.--
Mauritania (Islamic Rep. of)	170,525.--	-	170,525.--
Chad (Republic of)	629,793.50	-	629,793.50
Total	1,463,281.65	310,570.15	1,152,711.50

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 182-E
24 June 1989
Original: English

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

SECOND MEETING OF COMMITTEE 7

Replace paragraph 2.1 by the following:

"2.1 The delegate of Greece, speaking on the general principles underlying his Administration's proposals as set forth in Document 98, recalled that at the previous meeting he had asked whether any delegations did in fact wish to preserve the structure of the Union as it stood. The need to consider evolutionary changes had been documented for many years. As long ago as 1959 the question of the structure of certain United Nations bodies had been raised, as well as the need to consider changes to make them more responsive to their mandates. It had also been made clear, in the report on The Changing Telecommunication Environment, that the Union's structure must be looked at more closely. There seemed to be a general consensus that some change was needed. That did not necessarily mean that a major upheaval was sought. It was up to Committee 7 to deliberate and decide upon any changes. But the matter must be approached first and foremost in the light of future requirements.

The Union's decision-making fora were the Plenipotentiary and Administrative Conferences; the body controlling the implementation of those decisions was the Administrative Council; for implementation, the Administrative Council addressed itself not to one, but to four organs, the two CCIs, the IFRB and the office of the Secretary-General. Although those bodies had carried out admirable work in the past, problems had arisen from lack of coordination and cooperation. For that reason, a Coordination Committee had been created. But such a Committee was not mandated under Article 5 of the Convention as a permanent organ and it thus lacked power. The essence of Greece's proposal, therefore, was to amend the structure with a view to better management, efficiency and economy. Pursuant to those proposals, there would be a single body responsible to the Administrative Council, to which the others would be answerable. If his Delegation's proposals were broadly acceptable, the specific details, including those contained in Document 110, could be deliberated."

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 182-E

7 June 1989

Original: English

COMMITTEE 7

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE SECOND MEETING
OF COMMITTEE 7
(STRUCTURE OF THE UNION)

Wednesday, 31 May 1989, at 0940 hrs

Chairman: Mr. A. VARGAS ARAYA (Costa Rica)

Subjects discussed:

Documents

1. Organization of the Committee's work (continued)
2. General discussion on proposals and associated principles relating to the basic structure of the Union

DL/5 (Rev.1),
DI/13

1. Organization of the Committee's work (continued)

1.1 The Chairman drew attention to the documents listed on the agenda for the current meeting.

1.2 The delegates of Algeria and Ethiopia asked respectively for the inclusion of Documents 57 and 66.

After further discussion by the delegates of the United States, Chile, Morocco, USSR, Turkey, United Kingdom, Brazil, Islamic Republic of Iran and Qatar it was agreed that all administrations having documents relating to the general discussion should inform the Secretariat accordingly.

1.3 The Chairman invited those wishing to take the floor during the discussion to explain to him exactly which aspects of their documents were being referred to. It was expected that the general discussion would be completed by the end of the current week at the very latest.

1.4 The delegate of France said that the Committee should consider, under the general discussion, only documents listed in Document DL/5(Rev.1) plus those which had been added later.

1.5 The delegate of the United States also requested a DT/1-like working document specific to the matters before Committee 7.

1.6 The Chairman said that the various comments had been noted. Since delegations wishing to add their documents to the list would notify the Secretariat informally, he invited the Committee to proceed to the general discussion.

2. General discussion on proposals and associated principles relating to the basic structure of the Union (Documents DL/5(Rev.1), DT/13)

2.1 The delegate of Greece, speaking on the general principles underlying his Administration's proposals as set forth in Document 19, recalled that at the previous meeting he had asked whether any delegations did in fact wish to preserve the structure of the Union as it stood. The need to consider evolutionary changes had been documented for many years. As long ago as 1959 the question of the structure of certain United Nations bodies had been raised, as well as the need to consider changes to make them more responsive to their mandates. It had also been made clear, in the report on The Changing Telecommunication Environment, that the Union's structure must be looked at more closely. There seemed to be a general consensus that some change was needed. That did not necessarily mean that a major upheaval was sought. It was up to Committee 7 to deliberate and decide upon any changes. But the matter must be approached first and foremost in the light of future requirements.

The Union's decision-making forums were the Plenipotentiary and Administrative Conferences; its implementation body was the Administrative Council; and its executing organs were the CCIs, the IFRB and the office of the Secretary-General. Although those bodies had carried out admirable work in the past, problems had arisen from lack of uniformity and cooperation. For that reason, a Coordination Committee had been created. But such a Committee was not mandated under Article 5 of the Convention as a permanent organ and it thus lacked power. The essence of Greece's proposal, therefore, was to amend the whole structure with a view to better management. Pursuant to those proposals, there would be a single body, the Administrative Council, to which the others would be answerable. If his Delegation's proposals were broadly acceptable, the specific details, including those contained in Document 110, could be deliberated.

2.2 The delegate of India supported in principle the Greek Delegation's proposals.

2.3 The delegate of Indonesia, expressing his Delegation's support in principle for the Greek Delegation's proposals, stressed that any action taken must be cautious, guarding against anything in the nature of a "revolution". His own Administration's proposals took heed of the unprecedented growth of changes in telecommunication technology, the pressing need for international standards due to huge private-sector involvement and the danger of fragmented standardization, and the spread of deregulation, to all of which the ITU must respond.

The Union's structure had been evolving in stages since 1865. It had served its Members well in the past, but must improve its efficiency in order to face the challenge of the future. An integrated organization, under the Secretary-General's leadership, would optimize its operation, reduce costs, raise efficiency and improve services. As the agent of development the ITU would be instrumental in the progress of the developing countries, which, as the weakest link of the chain, should be given more attention. Therefore, Indonesia strongly recommended that the current Conference should take decisions on restructuring the Union, since all the requisite elements were already available. A sounder organization, in which the Secretary-General would be responsible for all the Union's matters, was the appropriate answer, instead of the current "federal structure". With that in mind, the Administrations of Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia sought to propose a new mechanism for the IFRB and a merging of the CCIs, as well as for technical cooperation. The relevant proposals were contained in Documents 51, 52, 55 and 162. The changes proposed in the IFRB would provide field training opportunities for frequency managers - an indirect transfer of technology. Such changes would benefit all Members.

The five ASEAN Administrations proposed that a restructured IFRB should consist of a Board, a Director and 19 Union Members, elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference with due regard to equitable regional representation. The proposals were detailed in Documents 51 and 162. The latter also contained the proposals' rationale, including the relevant findings by the Panel of Experts. Further details of the proposals could perhaps be tabled at a later stage.

2.4 The delegate of Japan said that his Administration's general approach to the subject was based on three major factors: technical standardization, international regulation and technical cooperation. In the field of standardization it recognized the important role played by ITU through CCITT and CCIR activities. The ITU was required to adapt itself so as to keep pace with advancing technology and cope with diversification of communication services. Both tasks increased the workload of standardization bodies. His Delegation recognized the importance of ITU's maintaining its pre-eminent world-wide position in standardization and the need for constant examination of standardization bodies' structure and working methods. Japan welcomed the results achieved at the recent CCITT Plenary Assembly and was closely scrutinizing the CCIR's procedures prior to the latter body's next Plenary Assembly. Whilst every effort was needed to maintain ITU's pre-eminence, reform of the CCIs should be evolutionary rather than revolutionary. The success of CCITT Study Group S with regard to the CCITT justified such an approach. Before any decisions were taken about reforming the CCIs' structure, various issues had to be discussed, including the differences in expertise. The standardization work of CCITT was not as closely linked as that of CCIR to regulatory issues - a possible obstacle to any merger. While his Delegation was willing to make every effort to enhance ITU's standardization it was not clear whether merging the two standardization bodies would improve efficiency and reduce costs while guaranteeing promptness and efficiency.

With regard to international regulation, the IFRB was the indispensable organ, and had done a good job in the period since the previous Plenipotentiary Conference, in preparing for conferences as well as in routine tasks. In his Administration's view,

the Board's current system was stable and reliable for recording frequency assignments, interpreting technically complex Radio Regulations and preparing for conferences. Its members should serve not as representatives of countries or regions but as custodians of an international trust, with expertise in radio frequency and orbit management. Collegiate decisions were essential and beneficial for all Union Members. Japan supported the present number of Board members. One each from regions A to E reflected the geographical situation and the needs. A Director system, whether by appointment or election, was contradictory to the collegiate system and no single person could be expected to tackle all the problems stemming from international radiocommunication regulation.

With regard to technical cooperation, the prevailing efforts by developing and developed countries could surely bring about the infrastructure indispensable to a country's economic and social growth and lead to healthy development of a global telecommunication network. His Delegation proposed that the Centre for Telecommunications Development (CTD) be fostered as a body separate from the conventional TCD because of its different fund-raising process to which Japan had contributed. To do so would enhance assistance and cooperation to developing countries. The proposal contained in Document 111, under which affiliate members would contribute funds based on their voluntary selection of units, should lead to stabilizing and expanding funds while maintaining their voluntary nature.

2.5 The Chairman, said that the current general discussion was associated with the structure of the permanent organs established under Article 5 of the Convention.

The Chairman suggested that the debate be divided into three stages:

In the first stage, delegations having submitted proposals of a global nature on the structure of the Union with specific reference to Article 5 would be allowed to give a 5-minute presentation of the reasons underlying their proposals, in the order listed in Document DL/5(Rev.1).

In the second stage, all delegations not having submitted proposals specific to Article 5 would be able to give a 5-minute presentation of their comments of principle on the structure of the Union.

The third stage would be for declarations of principle by any delegation concerning the existing organs or proposals for the structure of the Union. By the conclusion of the third stage the balance of the debate would become evident and the Committee would be able to proceed with the second part of its work, namely the specific aspects.

2.6 The delegate of Ethiopia said that the present structure of the Union had been instituted over forty years ago and despite phenomenal changes in telecommunication and computing technologies and the emergence of new services, its organizational structure and working methods had remained fundamentally unchanged. If the ITU was to fulfil its constitutional responsibilities and to respond effectively to its three purposes, namely standardization, regulatory matters and development, as enshrined in Article 4 of the Nairobi Convention, it required a structural adjustment to place it on firmer ground to meet its challenges.

In view of the urgent need to strengthen the Union and aware that structural changes had been advocated by eminent personalities on the development of telecommunications some three decades ago when technological changes were not as apparent and revolutionary as today, Ethiopia had submitted proposals for comprehensive structural changes and streamlining of activities. They called for the three substantive tasks of the Union to be organized on an equal basis, all accountable to the Secretary-General. The CCITT and CCIR were to be amalgamated under a new organ to

be headed by a Director, which would be an effective way of formulating a world standard for interconnectivity and interoperability of all new and traditional services throughout the world. It would also reduce costs, avoid duplication of work and trigger the creation of an even more effective mechanism to accelerate the preparation of Recommendations.

Also advocated was the creation of a new substantive organ, funded from the regular budget, the International Telecommunication Promotion and Development Bureau headed by a Director accountable to the Secretary-General, to address the issue of development of telecommunication networks and services, especially those in the developing world. A conference would have to be convened to institutionalize the organ and draw up the programme of work for the Union's development function. Such a conference, which would essentially set out definitive actions to be taken on network expansion, human resource development, mobilization of financial resources, etc. would not produce or sign any Final Acts.

The structure of the IFRB should be improved since the substantial investment in computerizing the work of the IFRB had rendered the existing structure superfluous. However, the Board's effectiveness and collegiate function should not be eroded. The Board was to be composed of part-time members for collegiate decision such as questions of interpretation of the Radio Regulations and the reconciliation of different interpretations, and would meet three or four times a year. The routine work could be handled by a Director of the Board elected by the Conference and accountable to the Secretary-General.

2.7 The delegate of Mali said that his Delegation's proposals on restructuration could be found in Document 144. As proposed by the delegate of Greece, he felt that the decision-making and executive power of the Secretary-General should be reinforced so that his responsibility would be similar to that in other UN organizations. The CCIs could be merged to form the CCIT. That would consolidate the structure and permit more efficiency and savings without the work suffering because Study Groups would be maintained. With respect to the IFRB, he was in favour of five members, one per Region, because that permitted more equity. However, the members should not have permanent status but be on a part-time rotation basis with a Director to manage the work. The resources economized could then be used elsewhere.

2.8 The delegate of Kenya, referring to Document 86, said that the world-wide telecommunications scenario had caused changes in the activities of the Union. The present structure had no inbuilt mechanism to respond to the dynamic and evolving activities. Proposal 19 of Document 86 reflected the need for the Plenipotentiary Conference to find mechanisms to ensure maximum use of resources, evaluate the future of the CCIs and the IFRB in the light of technological changes, and streamline management and the administrative protocols within the Union.

The position of the IFRB had been discussed in the Report of the Panel of Experts set up under Resolution No. 68 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference. Although much had been spent to computerize the activities of the IFRB, he was in favour of retaining the present structure but was open to further discussion on that point.

Under Article 6 of the Constitution, a new element was proposed concerning the possibility of holding an extraordinary session of the Plenipotentiary Conference to deal with questions arising between conferences and not mandated to any of the permanent organs.

2.9 The delegate of Kuwait, referring to Document 11, drew attention to problems related to satellite communications and the proposal to establish a new International Consultative Committee for Space Telecommunications. Other delegations had spoken on

merging the CCIs to effect savings. He was of the opinion that such savings could be used towards setting up the new space committee.

2.10 The delegate of Algeria asked if delegations were expected merely to state whether they agreed with Article 5 (Nos. 25 to 33) or go further, since Article 5 was closely related to Articles 6 to 12. With reference to No. 31 b), he was in favour of the existing structure of the IFRB and would comment on his proposal at a later stage.

2.11 The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany, speaking of Document 97, said that he was in favour of an overall review of the whole structure of the ITU. In an analysis of the structure and the question of improved efficiency and additional resources, the General Secretariat, as the largest of the organs with more than 700 staff members, should not be overlooked. Everyone was aware of the changing telecommunication environment but attention also had to be paid to the internal environment. Since it was difficult to address the structure of the Union without at the same time looking at financing, personnel and working methods, it was proposed that a committee be set up to study the matter, as contained in the draft Resolution in annex to the document.

Due to technical difficulties the meeting rose at 1220 hours.

The Secretary:

A. RUTKOWSKI

The Chairman:

A. VARGAS ARAYA

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 183-E

7 June 1989

Original: English

COMMITTEE 8

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

SECOND MEETING OF COMMITTEE 8

(PURPOSES, RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS)

Wednesday, 31 May 1989, at 1440 hrs

Acting Chairman: Mr. V.G. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece)

Subjects discussed:

1. Presentation and discussion of proposals related to the draft Constitution

Documents

Document A,
DT/8, DT/9,
151

1. Presentation and discussion of proposals related to the draft Constitution
(Documents A, DT/8, DT/9, 151)

1.1 The Acting Chairman invited the Committee to discuss the changes proposed by delegations to the draft Constitution prepared by the Group of Experts and contained in Document A. The proposals were set forth in Document DT/9.

Article 2

No. 7

1.2 The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire, introducing his Administration's proposal (CTI/132/6), said that the proposed wording was not a substantial amendment but rather one of form, offering simpler wording than that of the Group of Experts. The French text, however, appeared to be incorrect and should be aligned with the English and Spanish. The delegate of Zimbabwe supported the proposal.

1.3 The delegate of Brazil drew attention to the Brazilian and Paraguayan proposals for No. 7 to remain as it was.

1.4 The delegates of the United Kingdom and the United States were in favour of retaining the text of No. 7 as drafted by the Group of Experts. The latter added that the proposal by Côte d'Ivoire should nevertheless be submitted to the Editorial Committee, drawing particular attention to the error in the French text, where the word "prevues" should read "prevus".

On this understanding the provision No. 7 was approved without change.

No. 8

Approved without change.

No. 9

1.5 The delegate of Canada said that his Administration's proposal (CAN/72/1) was aimed at clarification by stating explicitly that all Members of the Union in good standing had the right to participate in all meetings except where they were restricted to a particular region. The reference to meetings had inadvertently been dropped at the previous Plenipotentiary Conference.

1.6 The delegate of Argentina fully supported that proposal because it would incorporate into the Constitution something which had always been a practice in the Union.

1.7 Although the delegate of Venezuela was in favour of maintaining No. 9 unchanged, he wondered whether the list of rights and obligations covered by Article 2 as a whole was exhaustive.

1.8 The delegate of the Netherlands wondered whether Canada's proposal was intended to cover meetings of the Administrative Council. In any event the present wording had not caused any difficulties since 1982 and could therefore be retained. The delegate of Canada replied that the proposal was aimed at participation in conferences and meetings of the CCIs, rather than of the Administrative Council.

1.9 After the delegates of Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Uruguay had expressed their support for Canada's proposal and the delegates of the Federal Republic of Germany, Islamic Republic of Iran, Lesotho, Malta, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Sweden and the USSR had expressed their support for the text of the Group of Experts, the Chairman suggested that Canada might prefer to withdraw its proposal.

1.10 The delegate of Canada said that his Administration's proposal had been aimed at avoiding a situation where it might be construed that Members had no right to attend certain meetings of the Union, such as those of the CCIR and CCITT. However, aware that once the Constitution was approved it would be difficult to amend and, in the interests of speeding up the work of the Committee, his Delegation would accept the wishes of the majority and withdraw its proposal.

No. 9 was approved without change.

No. 10

1.11 The delegate of Canada said that under the present wording of No. 10 a Member from one region could vote in the regional conferences of another region, which could be detrimental to the interests of the Members of the latter. The modification proposed in CAN/72/2 was designed to avoid that situation.

1.12 The delegate of the United States drew attention to Article 15, No. 120 [115], which stated clearly that all Members had the right to vote at all conferences of the Union, and hence at regional conferences for a region other than their own, provided they paid their appropriate share of the expenses of the conference concerned. That was a fundamental right of Union Members, which the Canadian proposal would remove. The Committee was reminded that it was also open to Members to attend a regional conference of a region not their own in a non-voting capacity as observer, as defined in Annex 2 of the Nairobi Convention, in that case paying only for the cost of documentation. For those reasons, he proposed, with the support of the delegates of the USSR and Venezuela, that the present text of No. 10 be retained unchanged.

1.13 The delegate of Mexico said it was uncertain whether the wording proposed by Canada would achieve the purpose intended. He therefore would prefer the present wording to remain unchanged.

1.14 The Acting Chairman, supported by the delegates of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Argentina, proposed that further discussion of No. 10 be deferred until the question of regional conferences was dealt with during consideration of Article 28 and Article 7.

It was so agreed.

No. 11

No proposals for amendment of the provision having been received, it was approved without change.

Article 14

Nos. 107 [105] and 108 [106]

No proposals for amendment of the provisions having been received, they were approved without change.

Article 18

No. 136 [131]

1.15 The delegate of China said that proposal CHN/78/5, which was similar in intent to proposal SLM/17/23, was intended to make the text clearer and avoid repetition.

1.16 The delegates of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands supported the proposed modification; the delegates of Mexico and France supported it with the wording given in proposal SLM/17/23.

1.17 The delegate of the United States reminded the Committee that Article 18 dealt only with public correspondence; its purpose was to solely ensure equality of treatment among users of that service. The delegate of the United Kingdom, endorsing that statement, said that the fact that public correspondence yielded priority to other services such as telecommunications concerning safety of life (Article 25) and government telegrams and telephone calls (Article 26) was not at issue in Article 18. The delegate of Sweden added further that other services, such as the aeronautical and maritime mobile services, also took priority over public correspondence in certain circumstances. In order to cover all those possibilities a lengthy cross reference would have to be added to No. 136; in his view such details of clarification should not appear in what was a basic document of the Union but in the relevant Regulations. Those delegates, supported by the delegates of Venezuela, Japan, New Zealand and Australia, proposed that the present wording of No. 136 be approved without change.

1.18 In view of the opinion of the majority of speakers, the delegate of China withdrew proposal CHN/78/5.

No. 136 [131] was approved without change.

Article 19

No support having been expressed for the modification proposed in CHN/78/6, the title was approved without change.

Nos. 137 [132] and 138 [133]

1.19 Referring to No. 137, the delegate of China said that proposal CHN/78/7, which was similar in intent to proposal PRG/95/48, had two purposes: the first was to take account of the various stages of acceptance, transmission and delivery in telecommunications, while the second was to apply the provision to the whole field of telecommunications and not just to telegrams.

1.20 The delegates of the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran opposed the first proposed amendment as unnecessary.

1.21 The delegate of the United Kingdom drew attention to the fact that the effect of the Proposals of China and Paraguay would be to combine Nos. 137 and 138 into a single provision, thus extending to all forms of telecommunication the obligation to inform the originating party that a communication had been stopped. Since such notification might not be possible in the case of forms of telecommunication other than telegrams, it would be unwise to impose that obligation on Members. For those reasons, the two separate provisions should be maintained and the wording left unchanged.

1.22 That proposal was endorsed by the delegates of Mali, Sweden, Australia, Brazil, the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany and France.

Nos. 137 [132] and 138 [133] were approved without change.

The meeting rose at 1750 hours.

The Secretary:

D. SCHUSTER

The Acting Chairman:

V.G. CASSAPOGLOU

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corridendum 1 to
Document 184-E
29 June 1989
Original : English

Note by the Chairman of Committee 7

Subject : Report of the Panel of Experts on the Long-term Future of the
International Frequency Registration Board

This corrigendum concerns only the French text.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 184-E
31 May 1989
Original: English

COMMITTEE 7

NOTE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE 7

Subject: Report of the Panel of Experts on the Long-term Future of the International Frequency Registration Board

Following discussions at the first meeting of Committee 7 on 30 May 1989, I attach herewith, for information, a copy of Circular-letter No. 228 along with its Annex - the report of the Panel of Experts on the Long-term Future of the IFRB - sent by the Secretary-General to the Members of the Union, in accordance with the decision taken by the 43rd session of the Administrative Council. Relevant extracts from the Summary Records of Council, as referred to in the Circular-letter, are also attached for ease of reference.

It would appear that although aware of its responsibilities with respect to Resolution No. 68 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference the Administrative Council did not approve the report in question, and decided only to forward it along with an appropriate covering letter to administrations, for consideration in their preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nice, 1989.

A. VARGAS ARAYA
Chairman of Committee 7

Annexes: As stated

ANNEX 1



UNION INTERNATIONALE DES TELECOMMUNICATIONS
INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE TELECOMUNICACIONES



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SECRETARIAT GÉNÉRAL

Geneva, 5 September 1988.

Référence à rappeler dans la réponse
When replying, please quote
Indíquese en la respuesta esta referencia

Circular letter No. 228
RM/CONF/PP-89

Tel

Subject: A Review in the Light of Changing
Circumstances of the Long-Term Future of the
International Frequency Registration Board

To the Members of the Union

To the Director General

Dear Sir,

Your attention is invited to Resolution No. 68 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi 1982, by which the Administrative Council is required, *inter alia*, to establish a Panel of Experts to conduct this review and to consider the Report and Recommendations of the Panel prior to forwarding the Report, together with their own conclusions thereon, to all administrations. The Administrative Council established the Panel of Experts at its 41st session by its Resolution No. 943 and the Panel completed its work and forwarded its Final Report through the Secretary-General to the 43rd session of the Council.

The Report was submitted to the Council in Document No. 6737/CA43 and Addendum 1, and was considered during the Second and Third Plenary Meetings on Thursday, 23 June, and Friday, 24 June 1988. The Report of the Panel of Experts will be found in Annex to this Circular-letter.

The 43rd session of the Administrative Council held an initial discussion of the Report of the Panel of Experts. Some Councillors spoke for or against certain aspects of the Report but many of the Councillors chose not to speak on the Report at that stage because they wished to reflect on it further. The summary records of the second and third Plenary Meetings of the Council contain the details.¹

Hence, notwithstanding the provisions of Resolution No. 68, the Council adopted a neutral attitude towards the Report and reached no conclusions of its own with regard to the substance.

1 Summary records Documents Nos. 6780/CA43 and 6783/CA43, section 2 - distributed to all Administrations following normal provisions.

(RELEVANT EXTRACTS NOW ATTACHED FOR EASE OF REFERENCE)

Having received the Report as a whole the Council concluded that the Experts had completed their assigned tasks in accordance with the Panel's terms of reference given in Administrative Council Resolution No. 943.

The Council concluded that the Report of the Panel of Experts be distributed to all administrations for consideration in their preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nice 1989.

The Council expressed its appreciation to the Chairman and members of the Panel of Experts which had been established in accordance with Resolution No. 68 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi 1982, and decided that the Panel should be dissolved.

In accordance with the provisions of Resolution No. 68, this subject will be included on the agenda of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nice 1989, and administrations are invited to consider the Report and the Recommendations of the Panel of Experts in their preparations for the discussions during this Conference.

Yours faithfully,



R.E. BUTLER
Secretary-General

Annex: 1

ATTACHMENT

EXTRACTS FROM THE SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE SECOND AND
THIRD PLENARY MEETINGS OF THE 43rd SESSION OF COUNCIL

Extracts from the Summary Record of the Second Plenary Meeting

1. A review in the light of changing circumstances of the long-term future of the IFRB (Resolution No. 68) (Document 6737 + Add.1)

1.1 The Chairman of the Panel of Experts submitted the final report to the Administrative Council, in accordance with Resolution No. 943 of the 41st session of the Administrative Council and Resolution No. 68 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference, noting that many experts had indicated that they were participating as individuals and that their contribution did not necessarily represent the views of their administrations. The Panel was composed of members from 21 countries. However, almost one third of the original Panel members had not been able to participate in the second and third meetings of the Panel, which had, in all, held three one-week meetings, two in 1987 and one in 1988.

The Panel had conducted a detailed study of all relevant factors such as the need for an international body for ensuring the orderly use of the radio-frequency spectrum, the IFRB or another alternative mechanism, essential duties and functions of such an organ, its quasi-judicial role, appeal mechanism for conflict situations, accountability and transparency, the specialized secretariat giving support in technical and regulatory activities, and the impact of the extended use of computers.

Bearing in mind the relevant circumstances and the environment in which radio technology and radio services would develop in the foreseeable future, the Panel unanimously agreed that it would be of vital importance for all Members of the Union, perhaps even more than in the past, to have an organ to undertake the essential duties dealing with the use of the radio-frequency spectrum as specified in the Convention and in the Radio Regulations. The Panel had then examined the form of the organ which would be the most appropriate and competent to perform such a task and unanimously concluded that a permanent organ of the Union consisting of a Board assisted by a specialized secretariat presented the optimum solution. Such a Board could neither work part-time in view of the permanent nature of its functions nor could it be under a single person (Director) since it was to function as a Board.

The Panel was aware that the collegiate nature of the Board in today's world was indispensable. Obviously, the minimum Board would comprise three members as proposed by one expert: another expert had proposed three to five members, while one expert had been in favour of 11 members, thus achieving better geographical distribution. A large majority of the Panel, however, had expressed a preference for a five-member Board.

Another important issue had been the every-day management of the specialized secretariat. In many written contributions, the opinion had been expressed that the current management of the specialized secretariat was not satisfactory: much time and effort was lost with the present arrangement and a proposal for one single appointed official (Director) heading the specialized secretariat had been put forward. Although a considerable number of the Panel members were in favour of that proposal, some members were opposed to such an appointment.

The Panel had also expressed the view that the process of devolution of routine work not necessitating collegiate decision should be continued, thus exploiting more efficiently the potential of the specialized secretariat.

The following problems, in particular, called for further consideration:

- the size of the Board
- the question of appointing a senior official as head of the specialized secretariat;
- and the question of statutory limitation of the number of mandates of members of the Board.

The preceding remarks should not be considered a negative reflection on the existing IFRB. They were presented with a view to achieving an improvement, recognizing that the IFRB had served the Members of the Union for over 40 years and had earned the respect of the administrations, although some crises had been confronted.

1.2 Speaking on behalf of the Council, the Chairman thanked the Panel of Experts and, in particular, its Chairman for their excellent work.

1.3 The representative of Peru, after congratulating the Chairman of the Group of Experts, said that consideration should be given to improving the representation of developing countries on the Board. He also expressed the developing countries' concern regarding the economic consequences arising from direct remote access to the IFRB data bank.

1.4 The representative of Algeria supported the conclusions drawn by the Panel of Experts. The Board should consist of five members and take collegiate decisions: there should, moreover, be rotation of members. The simplification of the regulatory procedures as referred to in paragraph 126 of the Report was important. He noted that the Report did not deal with the additional financial burden that the appointment of a Director of the specialized secretariat would surely entail. Financial considerations aside, no convincing argument had been put forward for the need for any such interface between the Board and its secretariat.

1.5 The representative of China approved the Panel's conclusions and recommendations. A collegiate Board was needed to ensure the present and future orderly use of the spectrum and a five-member Board was appropriate in terms of efficiency. He supported the Panel's recommendation that attention should be paid by the IFRB to the early publication of Technical Standards and Rules of Procedure and that a future WARC should be charged with simplifying the Radio Regulations. The Panel's report should be transmitted to administrations to enable them to prepare proposals for the forthcoming Plenipotentiary Conference.

1.6 The representative of France agreed with the conclusions set out in the Report. There was a need for a permanent organ of the ITU to deal with radio-frequency spectrum management. Efficiency required the modernization of operating procedures within the Board and its specialized secretariat as well as a simplification of the Radio Regulations.

1.7 The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany welcomed the Panel's proposals, especially as they ensured continuity in the development of the Board. In view of the increasing work-load and the difficulty of balancing national and international interests, routine work should be left to the specialized secretariat which, although responsible to the Board, would work largely on its own, leaving the Board members free to deal with qualitative

matters. In order to carry out its quasi-judicial role in interpreting the Radio Regulations, the Board required both expertise and independence. That independence would best be ensured by having a full-time Board working within the ITU. A five-member Board would be appropriate for future work. Direct access to the computer was most important, not only for the IFRB but also for Member countries. The Council should approve the Panel's Report and submit it to the forthcoming Plenipotentiary Conference for consideration.

1.8 The representative of the USSR said that the Report presented a businesslike conclusion with regard to the future of the Board, which should be an independent collegiate body made up of five independent members with the necessary professional expertise. There was no need to appoint a senior official to head the specialized secretariat. Liaison between the Board and its specialized secretariat flowed effectively through Heads of Divisions and Departments and could be made more efficient in future. Apart the extra expenditure that would be involved, the appointment of a Director would increase the separation between the Board and the specialized secretariat.

1.9 The representative of Pakistan noted that the Panel's conclusions, with which he agreed, did not seek to change the Board's functions but merely to improve its operation. Rather than facilitating the work of the Board, the appointment of a senior official to head the specialized secretariat would be likely to create a duplication of work and cause delays. Furthermore, accountability was easier to ensure if a single body were responsible. The fact that the Board had done its job well in the past did not mean that improvements could not be made in the future. Modern management techniques should be introduced and procedures simplified. Expert help to achieve those ends could certainly be provided if required by the Board. There should be rotation of Board members in order to broaden representation and facilitate the introduction of new ideas and approaches. Such proposals should be submitted to the forthcoming Plenipotentiary Conference for consideration.

1.10 The representative of Indonesia said that the present structure of the IFRB, i.e., the Board plus its specialized secretariat, should be maintained in the period between the next two Plenipotentiary Conferences. The long-term development of the IFRB would however depend on changing circumstances, especially the increased use of the computer. When most of the IFRB's routine tasks had been automated, consideration would have to be given to the most appropriate structure: an IFRB as at present, or only a specialized secretariat with a Director, controlled by a body such as the Administrative Council which met regularly to take collegiate decisions on a more representative basis.

1.11 The representative of the United States thought that the Panel's Report provided a balanced basis for discussion in the Plenipotentiary Conference. While expressing support for the Panel's conclusions and recommendations, he cautioned that such support did not imply agreement with the budgetary implications. The Council should endorse the report and forward it to the Plenipotentiary Conference for discussion, rather than itself attempting an assessment of the various recommendations.

1.12 The representative of Spain said that he had understood the intention of Resolution No. 68 to be to simplify the form of a future IFRB by seeking ways of allowing it to operate in an easier fashion. However, he was forced to note that the recommendations for a new IFRB appeared to make it more rather than less complicated and that the legal analysis attempted in the Report tended to some extent to confuse the situation further. He observed that at the current late stage the Council could only transmit the work of the Panel of Experts to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

1.13 The representative of Italy said that her Administration shared most of the conclusions reached by the Panel of Experts and was in favour of maintaining the collegiate nature of the Board. It was also in favour of the introduction of a post of Director as it believed that routine work should be transferred to the specialized secretariat.

1.14 The representative of Romania observed that the Report tended to look at the short- and medium-term rather than the long-term future. He did not understand the need for a Director as he considered that the Chairman of the IFRB currently fulfilled the functions which would be attributed to such a post. He agreed that at the current late stage the report could only be transmitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference for administrations to make their comments.

1.15 The representative of Canada said that the report would greatly facilitate discussion at the Plenipotentiary Conference and thanked the Chairman of the Panel of Experts for his professionalism and thoroughness.

1.16 The Chairman invited the Council to consider the final report of the Panel of Experts chapter by chapter.

Chapter III

1.17 The representative of India said that he had understood the purpose of the Panel to be to consider the long-term future of the IFRB and to make recommendations for changes appropriate to the future. However, he failed to see any suggestions which addressed the long-term future. In his opinion, the maintenance of the status quo was not the answer and he differed with a number of the recommendations contained in the Report. A five-member Board was quite a luxury for the Union and to Members as a whole; the Union could not really afford such a large Board, especially as its functions could to a great extent be fulfilled at less cost if the specialized secretariat were given the power to deal with day-to-day matters which did not require a collegiate decision. As a matter of fact, he was not convinced from the evidence presented to the Panel that a collegiate body was indeed required. Nevertheless, he wished to point out that as the Radio Regulations recognized three Regions it would seem more logical to have a three-member Board, each member representing a Region. Serious consideration should therefore be given to a smaller collegiate body. He would prefer to see either a single elected official or at best a three-member Board, whose efficiency would be increased if their functions excluded routine matters and concentrated on those which required interpretation. This would also provide the necessary insulation between the two functions.

1.18 The representative of Lebanon pointed out that within the three Regions to which the previous speaker had made reference there was a need for a certain proportionality. In his opinion it would be preferable to increase the number of members of Board so that Asia, the Americas and Africa were adequately represented. However if such an increase was not acceptable, he would agree with the previous speaker.

1.19 The representative of Japan emphasized the need to consider the matter of rotation not in isolation but in the context of the equally important requirement for continuity referred to in Resolution No. 56 as well as technical skill, competence and impartiality.

Chapter IV

1.20 The representative of India, referring to the question of an appeal body for conflict situations, to which reference was made in paragraphs 61-63, said that solutions based on Resolution No. 35 and Radio Regulation 1001.1 alone

were thoroughly dissatisfactory; an administration could not be expected to wait for eight or nine years for an administrative conference - which it might well have to do taking into account the current draft schedule of meetings - for a decision to be taken on an appeal. The representative of Lebanon endorsed that opinion.

1.21 In response to a request from the representative of Senegal for clarification of the second sentence of paragraph 70, the Chairman of the Panel of Experts said that, while the matter might be considered to exceed the mandate of the Panel, relations between the permanent organs had been examined and it had been suggested that certain difficulties or misunderstandings could be eliminated in the Coordination Committee.

Chapter V

1.22 The representative of Morocco said that while he agreed with most of the conclusions reached by the Panel, he differed from it on the matter of the specialized secretariat, raised in section V.1 of the Report. He could not agree to the nomination of a Director at the head of the specialized secretariat because it was not compatible with the objective of alleviating the administrative and financial burden currently imposed by the IFRB. Indeed the tasks which would fall to such a Director were already being accomplished by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The representatives of Lebanon and Japan endorsed that point of view.

1.23 The representative of Italy said that her administration was in favour of the appointment, which would promote the delegation to the specialized secretariat of such activities as financial and staff matters, relations with other organs, management of the work-plan, organization of work, training of fellows from developing countries and drafting Rules of Procedure, thus leaving the members of the Board free to deal with high-level policy questions requiring collegiate decisions. Moreover, the arguments against the appointment set out in paragraph 79a), b) and c) seemed to be unfounded. On the other hand, her delegation would not raise a formal objection to the decision of the majority of the Council, but reserved the right to raise the matter again in other forums.

1.24 The representative of the Philippines also supported the appointment of a director, who would assist the Board in the optimum discharge of its functions.

1.25 The representative of Spain said it was not clear in paragraph 81 whether the suggested appointment would be that of one official only or whether it would involve an additional secretarial infrastructure.

1.26 The representative of the German Democratic Republic said that his administration was opposed to the appointment of a Director. The Panel had concluded that the procedures of the IFRB needed to be simplified, and such simplifications should also extend to the specialized secretariat.

1.27 The representative of Algeria said that there was no need to appoint a Director since such an appointment would not only complicate communications within the IFRB but have considerable financial implications.

Chapter VI

1.28 The Chairman noted that the majority of the Councillors who had spoken generally agreed with the conclusions and recommendations in section VI, point 1.

1.29 The representative of Romania suggested that, since the Council could not amend the Panel's report, dissenting opinions could be conveyed to the Plenipotentiary Conference by attaching the relevant summary records to the Report.

1.30 The representative of the United Kingdom, observing that the Report would serve as a basis for wider discussion of the issues at the Plenipotentiary Conference, said he could not agree with that course, since attachment of the summary records might compel every delegation to state its views in the Council. It might be preferable to summarize the Council's debate in a covering note to the Conference. The representative of Canada supported that suggestion.

1.31 The Secretary-General pointed out that, under Rule 21 of the Council's Procedure, one copy of the summary records of the Plenary and Committee meetings was sent to each member administration as soon as possible after the Council's session.

1.32 The representative of Spain drew attention to a discrepancy between resolves further paragraphs 1.5 and 4 of Resolution No. 68, since under the first the Council was called upon to consider the Report and Recommendations of the Panel and to forward the Report with its own conclusions thereon to administrations, but under the second, it had to invite the Plenipotentiary Conference to consider the Panel's Report and Recommendations, after approval by the Administrative Council, and to take appropriate action. The action to be taken by the Council at the current section was therefore by no means clear. The representative of Argentina agreed that the procedure set out in Resolution No. 68 called for further reflection.

1.33 The representative of Saudi Arabia considered that the current debate should be regarded as a preliminary examination of the Report, which could be considered in depth at the next session, in January 1989. It was important to give Members of the Union time to examine the Report, despite the fact that the Panel had been set up much later than it should have been.

1.34 The representative of India suggested that the covering letter sent to administrations with the Report should refer to the summary records relating to the discussion. The representative of the United Kingdom supported that suggestion, adding that the letter should make it clear that the discussion had been a preliminary one.

1.35 The representative of the United States of America said he was somewhat concerned about the manner in which the Report was to be dealt with. The Document served as a well-balanced basis for the preparation of proposals to the Plenipotentiary Conference but the fact that certain delegations had not intervened in the debate because they wanted time to consider the Report in detail should not be construed as lack of interest in specific issues or acceptance of certain policies. The representative of Kenya agreed that many administrations, especially those which had not participated in the Panel, needed time to study the Report in detail in order to contribute to the debate at the Plenipotentiary Conference.

1.36 The Secretary-General suggested that councillors should consider a way in which the provisions of Resolution No. 68 should be precisely applied, including the interpretation of the word "approval", in the interval until the next Plenary Meeting, bearing in mind that the basic issues would be addressed by the Member States in their proposals to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

Extracts from the Summary Record of the Third Plenary Meeting

2. A review in the light of changing circumstances of the long-term future of the IFRB (Resolution No. 68) (Document 6737 + Add.1) (continued)

2.1 The Chairman said that in view of the exhaustive discussion on the substance of the Report of the Panel of Experts the only issue that remained to be decided was the manner in which the Report should be forwarded to administrations under resolves further paragraph 1.5 of Resolution No. 68. He suggested that the covering letter accompanying the Report should state that the Council had reached no unanimous conclusion of its own, that a majority of the limited number of Councillors who had spoken in the debate had given general support to various conclusions and recommendations in Chapter VI and that, on the other hand, some Councillors, who had spoken, had considered it too early to express a view on the Report, since their Administrations wished first to study the matter very carefully.

2.2 The representative of France said that, after making some general comments, he had wished to state his Administration's view that the membership of the Board should be maintained at five and that there was no need to appoint a senior official to do the work already carried out in a coordinated manner by the Heads of Department of the Specialized Secretariat.

2.3 The representative of the USSR said that he could not agree with the Chairman that a majority of the Councillors who had spoken had fully supported the Panel's conclusions and recommendations. His Administration for one did not concur with some parts of the Report.

2.4 The Secretary-General said that the summary to be sent with the Report should perhaps be drafted with more concern for readers who had not participated in the debate. They would not realize, for example, that the majority of the Councillors had not spoken, and therefore the text should be more balanced or neutral in context. The covering letter might state that the Council had held an initial discussion on the Report and he thus proposed the following text:

1. The 43rd session of the Administrative Council held an initial discussion of the Report of the Panel of Experts. Some Councillors spoke for or against certain aspects of the Report. The summary records of the second and third Plenary Meetings of the Council contain the details (see Document 6780/CA43 and Document 6783/CA43, section 2).
2. Having received the Report as a whole the Council concluded that the Panel of Experts had completed their assigned tasks in accordance with the Panel's terms of reference given in Administrative Council Resolution No. 943.
3. The Council concluded that the Report of the Panel of Experts be distributed to all administrations for consideration in their preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nice 1989.
4. The Council expressed its appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Panel of Experts which had been established in accordance with Resolution No. 68 of Nairobi 1982 and decided that the Panel should be dissolved.

2.5 The representatives of Romania, the United Kingdom and Canada supported the Secretary-General's suggestions.

2.6 The representative of the United States of America said that although the Secretary-General's suggestion struck the necessary note of neutrality, the covering letter should also indicate that many administrations had chosen not to speak on the Report at that stage, because they wished to reflect on it further. This could be added to the Secretary-General's suggested text.

2.7 The representative of Japan supported the Secretary-General's suggestion with the addition proposed by the United States representative and further stressed that the simplification of the Radio Regulations as a whole could not be achieved without the collaboration of Member administrations themselves - a point emphasized in the Report.

2.8 The representatives of Kenya, Peru, the USSR and Italy endorsed the Secretary-General's suggestion with the addition proposed by the United States representative.

2.9 The Chairman invited the Council to agree to the Report being forwarded to administrations with the covering letter suggested by the Secretary-General and supplemented by the United States representative.

It was so agreed.

2.10 The Chairman, speaking on behalf of the Council, congratulated the Panel of Experts and particularly its Chairman on the completion of a difficult and important task in such a short time.

2.11 The Chairman of the Panel of Experts thanked the Chairman and representatives for the kind words addressed to the Panel and himself on the way they had carried out their duty to the Administrative Council and the ITU.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION



A REVIEW IN THE LIGHT OF CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE LONG-TERM FUTURE
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL FREQUENCY REGISTRATION BOARD

FINAL REPORT

OF THE PANEL OF EXPERTS
TO
THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with Resolution No. 68 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi 1982 (Annex A) and Resolution No. R943 of the 41st Session of the Administrative Council in 1986 (Annex B), the Panel of Experts was charged with undertaking "a review in the light of changing circumstances of the long-term future of the IFRB". The Panel was also required to submit its report with recommendations to the Administrative Council which were to be forwarded, together with the conclusions of the Administrative Council, for consideration and appropriate action by the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nice 1989.
2. The Panel of Experts held three one-week meetings, in March and November 1987 and in March 1988, with the full cooperation of the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the members of the IFRB and the Directors of the International Consultative Committees together with officials of the secretariats. The agendas of the Panel Meetings and the structure of the Panel are given in Annexes C to F to this Report. In most cases the experts indicated that they were participating as individuals and that their contributions, whether written or oral, did not necessarily represent the views of their own Administrations.
3. The broad approach adopted by the Panel was first to consider the Board and to establish whether or not such an organ would continue to be essential to the ongoing process of international radio regulations. On the basis of a provisional conclusion the Panel then further considered the Board, its number of members, possible alternative mechanisms, rotation of membership, its workload and foreseen developments in that workload, its specialized secretariat, the impact of computerization, relations with the permanent organs and the possible consequences of direct remote access to the IFRB data bases. By an interactive process the Panel was able to co-relate these various aspects and arrive at a set of conclusions and recommendations on most of them.
4. At an early stage of its work the Panel came to the conclusion that the whole body of work done by the IFRB can be identified under two main headings. First there is the work of a collegiate character necessitating collective action by members of the Board, usually in the field of higher level decision-making designated "collegiate decision". Second is the work of a more or less routine nature which can be devolved to and performed by its secretariat. Management of this second type of work, in the opinion of the members of Panel offers opportunities for improvement.
5. From the outset of its deliberations the Panel recognized that the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi 1982, required members of the Panel to look ahead and to foresee "changing circumstances" which might affect the long-term future of the IFRB. Despite the view that changes may be necessary, the Panel was aware that the Nairobi Conference - in Resolution No. 68 - had also recognized and appreciated "the high service rendered to the Union by the Board since its founding" in 1947. Since the supreme organ of the Union has found the IFRB to be a valuable institution, the Panel took that view into account in its considerations.
6. The Panel was composed of members from 21 countries. It is regrettable that almost one third of the original Panel members had not been able to participate in the second and third sessions of the Panel.

7. A final point requiring clarification in this introduction concerns terminology.

Three terms are used in this Report with the meanings given below:

- a) the Board: elected members who together comprise the International Frequency Registration Board;
- b) the secretariat: the specialised secretariat of appointed staff members who assist the Board;
- c) the IFRB: the Board and the secretariat regarded as unified institution.

8. The Convention and the Radio Regulations frequently refer to "the IFRB" and "the Board" as if the two terms are fully interchangeable. Solely for the purposes of this Report, however, it is often necessary to differentiate, hence the use of the three terms defined above.

9. The results of the wide-ranging review conducted by the Panel of Experts are summarised in the following chapters of this Report.

CHAPTER II

THE NEED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL BODY FOR ENSURING THE ORDERLY USE OF THE RADIO-FREQUENCY SPECTRUM : PRESERVATION OF AN IFRB AS A PERMANENT ORGAN WITHIN THE ITU

10. Preliminary discussions concerning the need for a body such as the IFRB were held in Moscow in 1946 (later to be termed the Moscow Conference) attended by a limited number of Members of the Union. It was recognized that the accelerated growth in the use of radio and the disorder in the spectrum needed action to reintroduce order. This was followed by the Plenipotentiary Conference and an Administrative Radio Conference in Atlantic City in 1947.

11. The Convention and Radio Regulations adopted at Atlantic City in 1947 clearly identified the need to create a body to undertake the orderly recording and registration of frequency assignments and the procedures provided for:

- a) the selection and assignment of frequencies by each country to its own stations;
- b) the notification of certain types of assignments to the Board;
- c) the examination of these notifications by the Board following an established procedure leading to the formulation of findings;
- d) the recording of each assignment together with the associated finding defining its status in an international register.

12. At the time of the Atlantic City conferences virtually all international telecommunications depended upon the availability of frequency assignments in the bands between 3 and 30 MHz which was the main preoccupation of the IFRB. The International Frequency Registration Board created at Atlantic City comprised 11 members, all nationals of different Member countries of the Union. The members of the Board were required to be well qualified technically, to possess extensive practical experience in the assignment of frequencies and to be familiar with the economic, geographic and ionospheric conditions within a particular area.

13. Enormous changes have taken place in the development of telecommunication facilities and the regulatory environment since these early days and the duties of the IFRB and its individual members have evolved in both substance and complexity. The IFRB has served the Members of the Union as a permanent organ of the ITU for over 40 years and has earned the respect and support of all administrations although it was faced with some crises during this period. Therefore, proposals relating to the duties, composition and structure of the IFRB have been considered during a number of conferences during these 40 years and notably at the Plenipotentiary Conferences held in Buenos Aires, 1952, Geneva, 1959, Montreux, 1965, Malaga-Torremolinos, 1973, and Nairobi, 1982. As a consequence of the deliberations of these conferences the essential duties of the IFRB have been expanded and the size of the Board has been modified.

14. During the current review by the Panel, there has been much praise for the work of the IFRB. There have also been some criticisms of the working methods of the IFRB. Having reviewed the past performance and difficulties facing the Board, and having looked also at what may in future be expected of the Board, the Panel unanimously agreed on the need of the Union for a permanent organ to undertake the essential duties specified in the Convention and the Radio Regulations since these duties will be of vital concern and importance to all Members of the Union.

CHAPTER III

THE BOARD OR ANOTHER MECHANISM

15. In complying with its mandate as detailed in Annexes A and B of Chapter I of this report, the Panel considered a number of possible alternatives to the present mechanism, dealt with in detail in the following paragraphs. The Panel also considered the questions of the size of the Board and the rotation of membership.

III.1 The introduction of Part-Time Membership of the Board

16. During the Panel's deliberations it was suggested that the duties and functions of the IFRB could be discharged by a Board composed of part-time members meeting several times annually. These part-time members would be elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference from candidates nominated by Members of the Union. The elected part-time members would continue to serve in their national administrations but would meet in Geneva to discharge the collegiate functions of the Board. Such an arrangement might, it was also suggested, require a full-time resident chairman, an elected director or an appointed coordinator who would be responsible for the day-to-day activities of the specialized secretariat and other matters relating to the convening and holding of meetings of the Board. Other alternative detailed arrangements, which were suggested, concerning a full-time nucleus of Board members, supported by an appropriate number of part-time members, could be considered were this option to be retained.

17. After careful examination of the foregoing alternative the Panel prepared the following summary of the advantages and disadvantages perceived:

III.1.1 Advantages

- a) one possible advantage of this arrangement could be the somewhat reduced cost¹ when compared to the existing mechanism involving the maintenance of a Board comprising five full-time members, their associated offices and direct secretariat support as well as other related costs;
- b) administrations might more readily agree to detach senior, highly qualified officials to attend a number of meetings of limited duration during the year rather than lose the services of such an official for a continuous five year period or more, hence, the skills brought to the meetings of the Board could be expected to be of a very high order and quality;
- c) the present level of funding of the Board, if continued, could provide for more than five part-time members who could be drawn from more countries of the Union with a consequential improvement in the geographical distribution of the members of the Board.

1 The actual costs would depend upon the number of part-time members, the number of meetings they would be required to attend each year, and the average duration of such meetings, none of which can be forecast.

III.1.2 Disadvantages

- a) the value of continuity in constantly following the activities and performing the duties expected by the Members from a Board would be lost or greatly diminished if the alternative of a part-time Board was to be adopted;
- b) if the part-time members were obliged to attend administrative conferences in "an advisory capacity", the demands upon their time in any given year would be greatly increased and this could be unacceptable to their national administrations. On the other hand, if the part-time members of the Board were to be unable to attend conferences, the entire membership of the Union would be deprived of valuable specialist advice;
- c) a part-time Board could not comply with the requirement of RR1008 as to the holding of meetings "normally at least once a week";
- d) greater responsibility, normally exercised by the Board, would fall upon the specialized secretariat. The alternative would be delays in decision-making affecting the processing of certain notices and poorer service for administrations;
- e) the participation of part-time members of the Board in inter-sessional activities, between two sessions of a planning conference, could also present difficulties in respect of the physical availability of the member for participation in such activities;
- f) doubts were also expressed concerning the difficulty a part-time Board member could experience in acting in an impartial manner. While some members of the Panel felt that a government official exposed to the policies of his national Administration on a more or less continuous basis would inevitably have difficulties in acting and being seen to act, in a completely impartial manner in meetings of the Board, others felt that impartiality was a human trait, inherent in the individual and not dependent upon the duties being undertaken.

III.2 The Replacement of a Board by a Director

18. The Panel also examined the proposal that the Board should be replaced by a Director on the model already functioning satisfactorily in the case of each of the International Consultative Committees². The advantages and disadvantages in respect to such an alternative considered by the Panel may be summarized as follows:

2 It should be noted that no direct comparison is possible between the functioning of the CCIs and that of the Board because of the collegiate nature of much of the work of the latter, for example, in interpreting the meaning of the Radio Regulations, which is not found in the work of the CCIs.

III.2.1 Advantages

- a) the Panel noted that proportionate cost savings could be achieved if the existing Board was to be replaced by a single Director;
- b) improvement in the efficiency of handling various aspects of the work of the IFRB could result from the concentration of the decision-making process in one elected official.

III.2.2 Disadvantages

- a) in attempting to discharge the duties of the IFRB seen by the Panel as being of a collegiate nature it would, by definition, be impossible for collegiate action to be taken and it would also be very difficult for a single official consistently to demonstrate complete impartiality. Furthermore, a single official would risk having difficulties in defending himself against accusations of not acting impartially;
- b) it would be impossible for one person to have the necessary knowledge and breadth of experience in all the relevant factors in all the regions of the world;
- c) the existing workload of the Board would be too great to be shouldered effectively by a single official;
- d) the higher level functions of the IFRB, beyond the competence of the specialized secretariat, would come to a halt in the absence of the Director for any reason. Prolonged absence on sick leave for example would require the adoption of special measures such as the presence of an appointed or elected Deputy-Director.

III.3 The adoption of a Three-Member Board

19. The proposal that the Board be reduced to three members was considered by the Panel and the following summary indicates the advantages and disadvantages which were identified:

III.3.1 Advantages

- a) the costs of maintaining a three-member Board would be proportionately less than the expenses incurred in maintaining the present five-member Board;
- b) collegiate decision-making by a Board of three members could well be simplified with corresponding gains in time and efficiency.

III.3.2 Disadvantages

- a) it would be difficult, if not impossible for the Board to discharge its collegiate functions when any member was absent for any reason at all;
- b) geographical representation, although effected on the basis of the three Regions defined in Nos. 392 - 399 of the Radio Regulations, would be more restrictive than under existing provisions and there would be a consequential loss of regional knowledge;

- c) doubts were also expressed regarding whether a three-man Board could cope with the increasing workload of the Board and the IFRB as a whole.

III.4 The adoption of an Eleven-Member Board

20. The Panel also considered the proposal that the Board membership should be expanded to a total of eleven and subsequently prepared the following summary of advantages and disadvantages relating to this proposal:

III.4.1 Advantages

- a) with eleven members the Board could be represented, both in Geneva and abroad, at meetings, conferences and other events, organized in the interests of administrations by the ITU or other organizations having appropriate telecommunication interests, without prejudice to ongoing routine work in Geneva;
- b) the non-collegiate workload of the Board could be distributed among the eleven members with probably fewer problems arising out of overloading any individual member;
- c) geographical representation of the Members of the Union would be improved.

III.4.2 Disadvantages

- a) there would be a proportionate increase in the costs of maintaining the Board if its membership was to be increased to eleven;³
- b) it is probable that the work of the Board would be handled less efficiently with an increase in its membership. The Panel recalled that each member of the Board was required to brief himself fully on all matters coming before the Board for collegiate decision. This requirement being expressed by eleven members could well place a strain on the resources of the specialized secretariat in assisting the members.

III.5 Existing Structure of the Board

21. Before concluding its examination concerning "the Board or another mechanism", the Panel considered the existing structure of the Board in the light of the different possible alternatives with a view to determining whether some other modifications could be recommended. Apart from the alternatives already studied, no particular proposals were tabled concerning modifications of the present structure of the Board.

3 One member of the Panel felt that this increased cost could be offset by an improvement in the programming of conferences, however, no other member of the Panel saw a direct linkage between this and the size of the Board.

III.6 Rotation of membership of the Board

22. Resolution No. 56 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi, 1982, instructs the Administrative Council to study the methods that could be employed to achieve the objective indicated in the following paragraph:

"d) the advisability of promoting rotation of members of the Board, and, at the same time, of ensuring a degree of continuity of its functions;"

23. While Resolution No. 56 was not specifically included in the mandate of the Panel of Experts it was concluded that the requirements of this Resolution should be considered within the general mandate to review the long-term future of the IFRB.

24. The election of members of the IFRB is the subject of No. 73 of the Convention whereas No. 74 deals with the dates of commencement and termination of the term of office of the members. Thus, the Plenipotentiary Conference can, under the existing provisions of the Convention, exercise control over the rotation or retention of members of the Board.

25. The Panel considered the question of a statutory limitation on the number of mandates of the Board members similar to that defined in No 66 of the Convention for the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General. While concluding that the quality of the member of the Board, his technical skills, competence and impartiality should be the predominant considerations for the Plenipotentiary Conference when electing the officials to serve on the Board, views were expressed by the Panel for and against the statutory limitation of the number of mandates. The Plenipotentiary Conference will itself need to decide this issue.

III.7 Conclusions Concerning Alternatives to the Existing Mechanism

26. The Panel considered the possibility of a Board consisting of part-time members, or a mixture of part-time and full-time members and the possibility of replacing the Board by a single Director. Of these possibilities the Panel concluded that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages. The Panel, therefore, unanimously decided not to propose or recommend any alternative mechanism for consideration by the Administrative Council or the Plenipotentiary Conference.

27. The Panel considered the possibility of reducing the membership of the Board from five to three or of increasing it from five to eleven. The Panel could not agree on this matter, one expert preferring a Board of three one preferring a Board of three or five members and one preferring a Board of eleven members. The Panel recognized that while there is no absolutely correct number of members of the Board, nevertheless, the Board of five members has well served the interests of the Union and should be able to continue to do so in the years ahead. In reflecting the views of the large majority of experts, the Panel decided not to propose or recommend any change in the number of members of the Board for consideration by the Administrative Council or the Plenipotentiary Conference.

CHAPTER IV

IFRB DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS AND THEIR PERFORMANCE IN
THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

IV.1 Essential duties and functions of the IFRB

28. At its inception at the Plenipotentiary Conference of Atlantic City in 1947 the essential duties of the IFRB were defined as follows:

- a) to effect an orderly recording of frequency assignments made by the different countries so as to establish, in accordance with the procedure provided for in the Radio Regulations, the date, purpose and technical characteristics of each of these assignments, with a view to ensuring formal international recognition thereof;
- b) to furnish advice to Members and Associate Members with a view to the operation of the maximum practicable number of radio channels in those portions of the spectrum where harmful interference may occur.

29. While these basic duties remain in the Convention today, many additional duties and activities have been entrusted to the IFRB as a consequence of the explosive development of radiocommunication techniques and systems, regulatory mechanisms and the requirements of the Members of the ITU. Looking to the future, it is evident that even more additional tasks, related to the management of the radiofrequency spectrum, will continue to emerge in step with the evolution of such requirements.

30. At present, the "essential duties" of the IFRB are stated in Article 10 of the Convention (Nairobi, 1982) while the "functions" and "methods of work" of the Board are stated in Article 10 of the Radio Regulations. Various other provisions of the Radio Regulations (for example in Articles 11, 12, 13 and 14) and of their Appendices specify with great precision the actions to be taken by the Board in relation to various procedures involving the examination of notices and the recording of frequency assignments by the IFRB and the related coordination between administrations. In addition, numerous regional agreements involving frequency plans for various bands and radiocommunication services impose other precise duties and functions upon the Board.

31. Prior to conducting a detailed examination of the "essential duties" and "functions" of the IFRB, the Panel of Experts reviewed what may be termed the categories of duties and activities carried out by the Board and its specialized secretariat.

32. The action of the Board meeting as a college to arrive at collective decisions on matters on which only the Board is competent was identified as a "higher-level function" of the Board. Duties falling in this category would include inter-alia interpretations by the Board of the provisions of the Radio Regulations and of the intentions of Members as contained in the Final Acts of administrative radio conferences.

33. On the other hand, the Panel identified other activities of the IFRB which were categorized as purely routine in nature, activities which could be discharged as a duty of the specialized secretariat with only little intervention from the Board which would, however, retain the final responsibility for the proper execution of such activities.

34. It is evident that between these two extremes there are many duties undertaken by the IFRB which involve the Board members, individually and as a collegiate body, and require the closely supervised support of the specialized secretariat. Within this category fall, inter alia, assistance provided prior to, during and after administrative radio conferences, intersessional work following the first sessions of planning conferences and various activities of an advisory nature in response to requests from administrations. The Panel considered that the Board itself should develop guidelines for its members with regard to their activities during conferences when they might be called upon as individuals for advice or assistance without being able to engage in prior consultations with their colleagues. It was not considered either possible or appropriate to deal clearly and precisely with this matter in either the Convention or the Radio Regulations.

35. The Panel was of the opinion that the catalogue of the Board's "functions" as specified in Nos. 991 to 1006 of the RR requires separate examination in the light of the changed and continually changing circumstances. In each such examination the Panel took into account the actual work involved for the IFRB in an attempt to identify the higher level functions of work necessitating collegiate decisions or other actions by the Board and to distinguish these from the lower level functions of the IFRB work, which could be considered as being of a routine or repetitive character and could thus be undertaken by the specialized secretariat in assisting the Board. This examination also took into account an estimate given by the Board that approximately 90% of the work involved in processing notices of frequency assignments and other actions pertaining to the various coordination procedures is already undertaken by the specialized secretariat. As part of this examination the Panel attempted to foresee the likely trends in the various parts of the workload of the IFRB.

IV.1.1 Functions of the Board as specified in Nos. 992, 993 and 994 of the Radio Regulations (Processing of Frequency Assignment Notices and Preparation of HFBC Schedules)

36. The Panel requested and received the graph contained in Annex G showing the numbers of notices of frequency assignment received by the IFRB over the last 20 years or so. These notices are presented under six descriptions:

- 1) notices relating to terrestrial services (excluding HF broadcasting) which DID require technical examination by the IFRB;
- 2) notices relating to terrestrial services (excluding HF broadcasting) which DID NOT require technical examination by the IFRB;

- 3) notices relating to HF broadcasting;
- 4) notices relating to the Fixed/Mobile in shared bands;
- 5) notices relating to space radiocommunication services;
- 6) notices relating to cancellations of previously recorded assignments.

37. The Panel recognized that notices cannot all be equated in terms of actual work to be done by the IFRB. Some simple cases may involve only a few minutes of work to capture the data which can then be subjected entirely to computer processing. Other cases may involve many hours of work, while some may raise difficult questions concerning interpretation of the Radio Regulations, require enquiries with administrations, application of the coordination procedures, etc. Nevertheless, the graph in Annex C indicates the scale of the problems generated for the IFRB by the work to be done under Nos. 992, 993 and 994 of the Radio Regulations.

38. Looking to the future, the following changes and modifications may, in the Panel's view, be foreseen and need to be taken into due consideration:

- a) an increase in the number of notices relating to terrestrial services (excluding HF broadcasting) which will require technical examination by the IFRB. This is expected in particular from actions taken by the WARC for Mobile Services, Geneva 1987 and from those likely to be taken by the WARC-ORB(2), Geneva 1988. There is also a trend to be noted in some regions for increasing use of HF fixed services tending to offset the recent decline in the use of these services;
- b) an increase in the number of notices relating to HF broadcasting reflecting the expansion indicated in the Tentative Requirements File compiled for use by the IFRB in preparing draft plans for the second session of the WARC-HFBC, 1987. It is difficult to foresee the outcome of the WARC envisaged for 1992 and therefore the trend beyond 1992 remains unpredictable;
- c) an increase in the number of notices relating to space radiocommunications as a continuation of the present trend. Unlike notices relating to very many terrestrial services, virtually all notices relating to space stations must be seen by the Board. Certainly, space services demand much more work from the IFRB than do terrestrial services. The foreseen trend in notices relating to space services is expected to be confirmed when administrations begin to take up assignments in accordance with the Broadcasting-Satellite plans of Appendices 30(ORB-85) and 30A and the plans for the Fixed-Satellite Service to be made by the WARC-ORB(2), 1988.

39. The overall expectation, in the Panel's view, is that there will be a progressive increase in the total number of notices received annually by the IFRB (although the rate of increase cannot be forecast with confidence), and that the proportion of notices requiring collegiate action by the Board will also increase. Under these circumstances the already very heavy work-load of the Board could become untenable. In order to achieve the effective and timely discharge of the IFRB's responsibilities, the Panel considered that modifications should be introduced in the working methods of the Board and its specialized secretariat.

40. The duties in the area of coordination imposed on the Board under No 993 of the RR have grown in quantity and complexity since first conceived by the WARC for Space Services in 1971. The position of the Board when assisting administrations during coordination procedures requires careful attention and caution in order to avoid jeopardizing the required complete impartiality on the part of the Board and its members. Administrations may wish to consider what action might be taken to further define the role of the Board in the coordination procedures.

IV.1.2 Functions of the Board as specified in Nos 995 and 996 of the Radio Regulations (Compilation of data for "Lists" and Review of Entries in the Master Register)

41. In order to assess the actual scale of activities of the IFRB in respect of these functions, the Panel of experts requested and received the graph contained in Annex H showing the growth in size of the International Frequency List (IFL) over the last 20 years or so. The IFL, besides continually growing in size has also grown in complexity, having to be re-formatted to accommodate space service assignments, while Column 13 - relating to remarks of the Board - had to be rationalised and re-ordered in detail.

42. Both the Panel and the Board were equally aware that despite the efforts of the IFRB, supplemented by infrequent efforts of WARC's (e.g. under Resolutions Nos. 9 and 30 of the WARC 1979) to clean up the IFL, it still contains much "deadwood" in the form of unused or inaccurate assignments, most particularly in the HF bands. It was recognized that past efforts in this respect had failed to achieve their objective and the IFL, as it exists today, is of limited use to administrations.

43. The Panel agreed that further efforts were necessary to "tidy-up" the IFL and to ensure a realistic, reliable and accurate Master Register, although, the Board's powers to act under No. 996 of the Radio Regulations being necessarily limited, it remained to be studied further how this might be best accomplished. The Panel concluded, in particular, that proposals for improving the accuracy and usefulness of the Master Register in the fixed HF frequency bands below 30 MHz, and for simplifying and clarifying the regulatory procedures relating to these bands, should be properly addressed to a future world administrative radio conference for its consideration and appropriate decisions in this sector, which, the Panel felt, needs review and improved mechanisms.

IV.1.3 Function of the Board as specified in No. 997 of the Radio Regulations (Studies on a Long-term Basis of Use of the Spectrum)

44. It has long been known that the Board has never been able to take effective action in conformity with No. 997 of the Radio Regulations since the provision was first introduced by the WARC 1959. Other priorities, doubts about the ideal scope of such a study and a lack of data available to members of the Board on future trends in the different radio services (which is available only to administrations), were reasons given to explain the lack of action. The Panel recognized their validity and took the view that No. 997 of the Radio Regulations should indeed be reconsidered by a future WARC with a view to defining the appropriate type of studies to be carried out by the IFRB.

IV.1.4 Function of the Board as specified in No. 998 of the Radio Regulations (Investigation of Cases of Harmful Interference)

45. Annex I indicates the numbers of cases each year since 1965 in which the IFRB has taken action under No. 998 of the Radio Regulations. The need for this provision and for such action arises from various causes, eg. different administrations may have differing or divergent understandings of their regulatory commitments. Even if there is no such difficulty, harmful interference might occur although two, or more, administrations fully meet all their commitments. In such cases the Board may be able to act, by virtue of No. 998 of the Radio Regulations as the "friend of the parties", not in any sense as an arbiter between the administrations but as a link to stimulate the exercise of goodwill by all concerned. Annex I does not show any consistent trend in the number of cases, but, looking to the future, the Panel foresaw a rising trend necessitating continuation of the mandate for action by the IFRB under No. 998 of the Radio Regulations.

IV.1.5 Functions of the Board as specified in Nos. 999 and 1005, of the RR and No. 79 of the Convention (Advice and Assistance to Administrations)

46. Nos. 999 and 1005 of the Radio Regulations together with No. 79 of the Convention relate to the Board giving advice and assistance to administrations. In addition, numerous articles of the Radio Regulations also state specifically the action to be taken by the Board in providing assistance under various coordination procedures, searches for agreement or plan updating etc.

47. The Panel considered the various possible types of assistance given by the Board and the probable future needs of administrations, and then drew the following conclusions:

- a) the need for advice and assistance to administrations, particularly those of developing countries, is likely to increase rather than diminish;
- b) advice, when related to administrative, managerial or straight-forward technical matters, could be provided by officials of the specialised secretariat but on other, more delicate, matters advice and assistance must be given under the impartial authority of the Board, necessitating collegiate review and decision;

- c) the continued availability of the Board, in its authorised capacity as a participant in certain procedures, remains essential for the effective long-term operation of these procedures, particularly in cases complicated by political or technical difficulties;
- d) while the right to obtain advice and assistance from the IFRB must be equally available to all administrations, the Board and its specialized secretariat must have the ability and the related resources to permit adequate responses to requests from administrations. It was also noted that the special needs of certain administrations for extra assistance from the IFRB are recognized by the Convention. Such assistance could be provided, as appropriate, within the overall technical cooperation programmes of the Union.

IV.1.6 Function of the Board as specified in No. 1000 of the Radio Regulations (Results of Monitoring Observations)

48. RR1000 (see also Article 20 of the Radio Regulations) gives another function of the Board, e.g. in the field of "monitoring". The Panel recognized that the subject of "monitoring" of the radio-frequency spectrum is complex and generates particular difficulties for the IFRB which has no monitoring facilities directly under its control and can only use data provided by national administrations. Administrations establish their monitoring stations for national purposes leaving only limited time and effort for monitoring programmes established by the IFRB. Thus, routine monitoring of the radio-frequency spectrum generally is sporadic and uncoordinated. The submission of data to the IFRB suffers the same limitations, and the collation and publication by the IFRB of the data submitted under No. 1000 of the Radio Regulations are usually delayed and hence of little value. The Panel recognized these limitations and felt that a more rewarding and useful approach would require increased concentration by the Board on its special monitoring programmes. The Panel foresaw that with increasing use of the spectrum this line of action would help to focus the limited resources on particular problem areas of concern to the Union generally and would improve the value of the work of the IFRB in the field of monitoring.

IV.1.7. Function of the Board as specified in Nos. 1001 and 1001.1 of the Radio Regulations (Technical Standards and Rules of Procedure)

49. Nos. 1001 and 1001.1 of the Radio Regulations relate to the important function of the Board concerning technical standards and rules of procedures.

50. The Panel recalled that there are three sources of technical standards to be applied by the IFRB in the treatment of notices of frequency assignments and in its application of the various regulatory procedures:

- a) those embodied in the Radio Regulations and Appendices thereto and those adopted for planning purposes by regional conferences;
- b) those contained in Recommendations of a Plenary Assembly of the CCIR (to be applied in accordance with Resolutions Nos. 65 and 703 of the WARC 1979); and
- c) those developed by the Board for the guidance of the IFRB in all cases where no standards are available under a) and b) above.

51. The Panel recognized that the IFRB must have technical standards for the execution of its numerous duties and functions and that where there are no other standards specified, the Board - as a collegiate body - must develop, publish and apply its own technical standards, subject, of course, to the safeguards in No 1001.1 of the Radio Regulations and in Resolution No. 35 of the WARC 1979.

52. The rules of procedure of the IFRB are a body of rules developed and adopted by the Board for the guidance of its members and its specialized secretariat. Given the complexity of the IFRB's duties and functions such rules are, in the view of the Panel, essential to ensure the accurate, impartial and consistent application of the various procedures by the Board and to facilitate the awareness of administrations of the actions of the IFRB. This again is a collegiate activity of the Board which also equally remains subject to the safeguards of No. 1001.1 of the Radio Regulations and Resolution No. 35 of the WARC 1979. The Panel of Experts noted that due to the extreme pressure of work on the IFRB over the last few years, the rules of procedure are urgently in need of revision and should be re-published and distributed as quickly as possible, if necessary in sections.

53. In the context of its examination of the issues concerning technical standards and rules of procedure, the Panel also concluded that all interpretations adopted by an IFRB should be published and brought to the attention of administrations. Particular importance was attached to the early publication of the technical standards and rules of procedure. In addition, the texts of interpretative rulings might also be published separately, even earlier than the consolidated publication of the technical standards and rules of procedure.

IV.1.8. Function of the Board as specified in No. 1002 of the Radio Regulations (Questions to the CCIR)

54. No. 1002 of the Radio Regulations concerns the Board's particular relationship with the CCIR. The Panel considered that this provision is in some respects a reminder which obliges the Board, upon finding a significant area of technical or operational difficulty upon which it needs advice, to formulate and address an appropriate reference as a question to the CCIR. (See, in the same context also, No. 326 of the Convention.) The Panel saw no reason for any change in respect to these requirements. The Panel concluded that in the event of an IFRB question to the CCIR, administrations in a position to do so should be encouraged to contribute on a priority basis to CCIR studies of particular importance to the IFRB.

IV.1.9 Functions of the Board as specified in Nos. 1003 and 1004 of the Radio Regulations and in No. 81 of the Convention (Conferences and Meetings)

55. The Panel recognized that these three provisions, during the last decade - which has been marked by a succession of World and Regional conferences within the Union - have generated an enormous workload for the IFRB as a whole. The Board in its collegiate capacity has necessarily been deeply involved in determining the policy, scope and direction of its technical assistance for such conferences while its specialized secretariat (including various "project teams") have been committed to carrying out the related preparations. In several cases where conferences have been held in two sessions - as envisaged in No. 226 of the Convention - the Board and the specialized secretariat have become the executive agents for major tasks dictated by the first sessions, the completion of which were vital to the success of the second sessions. In the Panel's view these tasks are relatively new in character and effectively enlarge the role of the IFRB envisaged in No. 1003 of the Radio Regulations and No. 81 of the Convention. The Panel foresaw that in future this role is likely to continue but noted that a specific reference to the participation of the IFRB in such conferences of the Union, "in an advisory capacity" is not included in No. 81 of the Convention.

56. The Panel also examined the following aspects of this subject relating to conferences and meetings of the Union which it considered needed clarification:

- a) advice and assistance provided by the IFRB in the preparation for such conferences and meetings;
- b) the advice and assistance of the IFRB to the conference or meeting when in session;
- c) the activities undertaken by the IFRB as a consequence of decisions of a conference;
- d) regarding No. 81 of the Convention and the provision of assistance to the developing countries, the Panel of Experts took the view that such assistance could continue to be effectively and economically provided by the participation of the IFRB in conference preparatory seminars of the ITU - or of administrations or other organizations in cooperation with the ITU - to be held in appropriate locations.

57. The Panel recognized that this clarification if not done in the Convention would need to be pursued elsewhere, perhaps in the Administrative Council, the Coordination Committee or through inter-organ discussions. In this context, because of the great impact of frequency planning conferences upon the workload of the IFRB the Panel was of the opinion that it may be necessary for administrations to review the way that such conferences are prepared.

IV.1.10 Functions of the Board as specified in No. 1006 of the Radio Regulations (Other Duties)

58. The Panel considered No 1006 of the Radio Regulations as an omnibus clause requiring the Board "to undertake the discharge of such other functions as are specified in the Radio Regulations and in the Final Acts of administrative radio conferences". The Panel of Experts foresaw no reason for change in this provision.

IV.2 Legal Advice to the Board

59. As indicated in paragraph 33 of this report, the Panel agreed that an essential function of the Board was the interpretation of the provisions of the Radio Regulations where there were gaps or where the texts were ambiguous. In undertaking such interpretations the Board members - individually and as a collegiate body - had to rely upon, and apply in the first instance, their own knowledge and expertise. But since the provisions of the Radio Regulations could have direct or far reaching legal implications or repercussions and members of the Board are not required to possess general legal training qualifications or experience, it was evident that legal advice might be required for such interpretations on occasions when questions of a predominantly legal nature were involved.

60. Having considered this problem the Panel concluded that if the Board, in its interpretive role, collectively felt the need for qualified legal advice:

- a) there should be no need to go outside the Headquarters of the Union; (see the Convention, Article 57, No 319);
- b) in such a case legal advice should be sought from within the Headquarters of the Union (see the Convention, Article 56, No 281);
- c) the extent to which the Board may take such advice into account in making its interpretations would be solely for the Board to decide;
- d) nothing would therefore relieve the Board of its responsibility or affect its impartiality in making its interpretations of the meanings of regulatory texts.

IV.3 Appeal Body for Conflict Situations

61. In the course of its discussions the Panel considered a proposal concerning the introduction of a new mechanism to assist administrations wishing to appeal against a decision of the Board with which they were not in agreement. The Panel considered that while the impartiality of the Board was not in doubt, it would be unreasonable to expect that each and every collegiate decision of the Board would be completely acceptable to all administrations. On occasion, a decision of the Board could entail significant economic penalties for a given administration and the Panel gave consideration to whether an "appeal body" should be established to which an administration could have recourse if it wished to challenge a decision by the Board.

62. The Panel, after its discussion of the proposal to create an "appeal body", such as the Administrative Council concluded that Radio Regulation 1001.1 and Resolution No. 35 of the WARC 1979 provided a sufficient basis for the mechanism by which an administration could query or appeal not only rulings adopted by the board concerning technical standards and rules of procedure, but also those of an interpretative nature. It was noted that the members of the Board, both individually and as a collegiate body, were at the service of administrations and that the sovereign rights of countries, Members of the Union, must be respected at all times. It was agreed by the Panel that, after action by the CCIR on a technical question, the final decision concerning a disagreement of any kind would rest in the hands of the Members meeting in a World Administrative Conference.

63. Although not covered by Resolution No. 35, the question of an appeal against the technical standards or rules of procedure related to the Final Acts of a regional administrative conference could usefully be treated in the same way. The Panel makes a Recommendation to this effect. Since the status of the Final Acts of regional conferences is expected to be considered by the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nice 1989, the Recommendation may need to be reviewed in the light of the conclusions of that Conference.

IV.4 Methods of Work

64. The Panel recognized that in discharge of its functions as a collegiate body it is necessary for each member of the Board to be thoroughly familiar with all matters on which collective decisions are required. Hence each member of the Board has the right and the duty to pursue his own enquiries in connection with any matter coming before the Board. The Panel also noted that as a practical solution, to cope with the volume of work for which the Board is responsible, the Board, as an internal arrangement, has adopted the practice by which each member has the responsibility before the Board for all activities relating to a given service, function or duty. The Panel was informed that the objective was to ensure that the workload is evenly distributed among the members, each of them keeping the right to look at any detail of any case submitted to the Board for decision as a collegiate body. This practice of the Board is also of assistance to the staff of the specialised secretariat; an official of any department knows which Board member should be approached to discuss details of any case not covered by a Rule of Procedure and upon which instructions are required on how to proceed. In general, the Board member responsible for a given subject deals directly with the Head of the Department or the Head of the Division responsible for that subject. Matters for the formal consideration by the Board form the subject of a detailed document containing all the facts of the case under consideration.

65. The Panel noted that in accordance with No. 1008 of the Radio Regulations the Board meets formally at least once a week and sometimes, if the work so requires, it holds more than one meeting in a week so that during the course of a calendar year the total number of meetings is usually between 52 and 54. The absence of a Board member from one of these formal meetings, on mission, leave or sick leave, leads to the postponement of matters requiring the attention of the full Board, or alternatively, if a decision cannot be delayed, to consultations by telephone. The Panel took note of the pragmatic approach of the Board in respect to its own methods to cope with work of a collegiate nature and also noted the generally satisfactory results achieved. The comments of the Panel concerning the working methods of the Board with its specialized secretariat will be found in Chapter V of this report.

IV.5 Relations with other Permanent Organs

66. It was not within the terms of reference of the Panel of Experts to consider the future of the other organs of the Union. However, in his opening address to the first meeting of the Panel of Experts the Secretary General said that "the long-term future of the Board cannot be seen in isolation from that of the other permanent organs of the Union ...". Recognizing the wisdom of this statement the Panel considered the relations with the other permanent organs.

67. The General Secretariat

The relations between the IFRB and the General Secretariat, additional to those with the Computer Department, are many, varied and frequent. The Panel of Experts formed the view that most of these generate little difficulty but that some necessitate a cooperative effort, for example through the Coordination Committee. The federal unity of the permanent organs which constitutes the Headquarters of the Union, with each organ having its own degree of statutory autonomy, seems bound to generate some inter-organ difficulties but so long as these are resolved they should not have an adverse effect on the future work of the Union.

68. The Panel formed the view that the Computer Department of the General Secretariat has given outstanding support to the activities of the IFRB across the whole field of computerization. The IFRB is the largest single user of the Computer Department's facilities, utilizing the greater proportion of the overall total of computer resources. A very high level of support will be essential for most of the future activities of the IFRB but in the view of the Panel there will be no need to change the institutional arrangements which ensure this support. While the IFRB must go on developing its own competence in the field of software and its applications, the Panel foresaw no need for the IFRB to assume any responsibility for hardware. The Computer Department providing a common-user resource for all organs of the ITU should, in the view of the Panel, remain part of the General Secretariat.

69. The CCIR

The ongoing work of the CCIR in providing the scientific, technical and operational foundations for the technical standards of the Board will be vital. In the past the liaison between the IFRB and the CCIR has been good. In the future it must be sustained. Both permanent organs will therefore have to pay continuing attention to this liaison.

70. The Coordination Committee

Although not an organ of the Union, the Coordination Committee was established under the Convention, Articles 12 and 59, essentially to assist and advise the Secretary General in certain matters affecting more than one organ. The Panel formed the view that the effective functioning of the Coordination Committee will be essential to the long-term future of the IFRB. Whether or not Articles 12 and 59 of the Convention should reflect the specific function of the Committee in resolving differences among the permanent organs is a matter that the Plenipotentiary Conference may wish to consider.

IV.6 Accountability of the Board

71. The accountability of the Board was considered by the Panel in two senses. In a broad sense, accountability can be understood as "the state of being responsible or answerable to somebody for something". In this sense, accountability comprises the political, moral and objective aspects of performance. In a narrow sense, accountability can be considered to be only a financial matter.
72. The Board is accountable to all Members of the Union in the Plenipotentiary Conference for the performance of its own (and the specialized secretariat's) functions and duties under the Convention and the Administrative Regulations. The same degree of accountability to Members of the Union is discharged at the level of the Administrative Council whose 41 Members act on behalf of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Convention No. 60), and the Board is accountable to world administrative conferences which are empowered to review its activities (Convention No. 209).
73. The extent to which the Board may be responsible to regional administrative conferences is uncertain. As a consequence, the Panel recommends that administrations consider to what degree the IFRB should be made accountable to regional administrative radio conferences (RARCs), taking into consideration provision No. 209 of the Convention relating to WARCs.
74. In terms of financial accountability to the Plenipotentiary Conference and the Administrative Council, overall responsibility rests with the Secretary-General (Convention Nos. 67, 304 and 305) with the assistance of the Coordination Committee. With this background the Panel was given information showing that during the period from 1983 to 1987 the costs of IFRB activities, without the apportioned costs of the common services, were in the range of 20%-17% of total ITU costs. When the apportioned costs of the common services were added the range was 26%-23%. The cost of the Frequency Management System (FMS) investments are included in these figures for these years.
75. The Panel foresaw no need for any changes in the provisions relating to accountability for any aspect of the work of the IFRB except as regards RARCs.

CHAPTER V

THE IFRB'S SPECIALIZED SECRETARIAT AND THE IMPACT OF THE EXTENDED USE OF COMPUTERS BY THE IFRB

V.1 The Specialized Secretariat

76. The Panel, on the basis of No. 318 of the Convention, providing the Board with the assistance of a specialized secretariat, noted the changes in the number of staff over the years as shown in Annex J and also its present organizational structure as indicated in Annex K.

77. Looking further at the personnel and work done by the specialized secretariat, the Panel formed the view that the Union has been remarkably successful in recruiting and retaining many officials of high quality. However, the Panel also formed the opinion that, in the past, there has been an unacceptable degree of frustration and an under-utilization of the capabilities of the specialized secretariat as a whole. It was suggested that such short-comings probably have their roots in a number of negative aspects within the IFRB including the differences that have existed between the status and outlook of elected and appointed officials, the preoccupation on the part of members of the Board with detailed matters, which should have been principally of direct concern to the specialized secretariat, and matters related to the management structure. Management by a collegiate body was seen as a weakness of the existing situation.

78. Although the Panel has noted a marked improvement of late, in the past the Board apparently found it difficult to manage new developments, for example, the Frequency Management System (FMS) and the work done under Resolutions Nos. 8 and 9 of the WARC 1979. The Council therefore introduced the concept of "project teams" for these areas of work, not only to provide a temporary reinforcement of the secretariat, but also to ensure the identification of a senior appointed official as team manager or leader through whom the Board could control the direction, performance and timeliness of the team's work. The case of the FMS is particularly complex since the dimensions of the project closely involve the authority and responsibility of the Secretary-General. The Head of the FMS Project team, in addition to being responsible to the IFRB, reports to the Secretary-General on matters concerning the EDP environment, financial and contractual matters including resource use and interaction with the computer department concerning the optimum use of computer facilities. The Council's action has been fully justified in each case and it has in no way jeopardised the independence of the Board. By extension of this course of action to the whole body of the routine work of the IFRB, involving its designation of a senior officer, the Board could be relieved of much detailed work, and the IFRB as a whole could better serve the Union in the years ahead.

79. For these and other similar reasons it was proposed, during the deliberations of the Panel, that a single official (director) be appointed as the head of the IFRB specialized secretariat with the responsibility for managing the day-to-day work of the specialized secretariat in response to the changing and increasing workload and in support of the requirements of the members of the Board. This proposal received support from a number of members of the Panel but other members opposed the proposal which in their view would have the following disadvantages:

- a) the channelling of all work through such an official would tend to isolate the Board members from the staff of the secretariat and could have a negative effect on the independence of the Board;
- b) it would not be possible to find an official with a sufficiently wide range of knowledge and experience to manage the activities of the entire secretariat;
- c) the workload would be beyond the capacity of a single individual.

80. In response to these objections it was pointed out that the appointment of a head of the specialized secretariat would not preclude Board members from consulting any official. He would be concerned with avoiding duplication in the distribution of the work-load and would exercise some forward planning and managerial functions. In coping with both the range and quantity of work to be dealt with, the official would be in a position to call upon the expertise and assistance of his other colleagues in the specialized secretariat.

81. Some of the Experts urged that the appointment of an official to head the specialized secretariat should be recommended. However such an appointment must be based on a carefully prepared job description which must define not only his managerial responsibilities but also the responsibilities for the substantive work of the IFRB to be devolved on the secretariat and supervised by the head of the secretariat.

82. The Panel felt there were reasons to be dissatisfied with the existing working methods and the relationship between the Board and its specialized secretariat and believed that much more effective use could be made of the highly skilled staff at the disposal of the Board. If the Board is to cope efficiently with the ever increasing workload, a means must be found of charging the specialized secretariat with elements of the work for which the immediate attention or involvement of a Board member is not absolutely necessary. In dealing with these work elements the secretariat should be exercising its judgement and technical skills within clearly defined Rules of Procedure as adopted by the Board and should also be in a position to count upon the confidence of the Board in relation to this work performance. The Panel was of the view that:

- a) as much as possible of the routine work of processing notices of frequency assignment must be devolved upon the specialized secretariat;
- b) such devolution of work must be done in accordance with the Rules of Procedure and with any necessary priorities and other instructions adopted by the Board;
- c) the Board must periodically satisfy itself that the work is being done by its specialized secretariat to its satisfaction, and the Board must retain full responsibility for the performance of that work.

83. The Panel considered a number of areas in which a greater degree of devolution of responsibilities to the specialised secretariat could and should be achieved. In the view of the Panel such action would be appropriate, in particular, in the following.

V.1.1 Administrative and Financial Matters

84. The Secretary-General has the overall responsibility of assuring all the action required for the most effective and economical use of personnel and of the financial and other resources of the Union and of the supervision, for administrative management purposes, of the staff of the Headquarters of the Union. However, within the IFRB, there are many matters of a detailed administrative nature which do not require the direct attention of a Board member and which should be handled at the level of the specialized secretariat. The Panel noted the comment by the Board that collegiate action could be necessary in this area in a limited number of cases.

V.1.2. Processing of Information

85. With the automation of all activities relating to the capture of notices and similar information and the adoption of appropriate validation rules to declare the information complete and receivable, collegiate decisions of the Board are required only in exceptional cases. In the opinion of the Panel such work could progressively and usefully be undertaken by the specialized secretariat which had already been given by the Board a number of tasks concerning the processing of routine information.

V.1.3. Orderly Recording

86. The Panel realized that the main routine tasks of the IFRB concern the orderly recording of notices of frequency assignments received from administrations, and the processing of information in application of other procedures of the Radio Regulations and in the Final Acts of administrative radio conferences. In this process, the task of the regulatory and the technical examination itself represents a very large percentage of the activities of the IFRB and the Panel considered that appropriate parts of such work could be devolved to the specialized secretariat.

V.1.4 Service Documents

87. The routine preparation of information for certain Service Documents (such as the International Frequency List) and for the IFRB Weekly Circular should in the Panel's opinion be entirely handled by the specialized secretariat. In this connection the Panel noted the duties of the IFRB to contribute data to the General Secretariat for publication in the various Lists detailed in Article 26 of the Radio Regulations and considered that this was also an area where more of the work of the IFRB could be undertaken by the specialized secretariat, subject to the inclusion of safeguards to ensure that matters requiring collegiate action are referred to the Board.

V.1.5 Monitoring

88. In addition to comments in section IV.1.6 of the Report the Panel considered that in general, the work associated with the special monitoring programmes arranged by the Board should involve few collegiate decisions and the implementation could be largely entrusted to the specialized secretariat.

V.1.6 Concluding Remarks

89. The extent to which the Board may entrust the performance of IFRB work to its specialized secretariat, while still respecting the responsibility imposed upon it by existing legislative texts, was considered by the Panel. While it was felt that on one hand progress had already been achieved in devolving more work, a number of the Experts felt on the other hand that there should be a more rapid development in the necessary devolution of work from the Board to its specialized secretariat but that this could and should be done without any need to modify the legislative texts. It was emphasised by the Panel that the Board would have to retain overall responsibility for the activities carried out by its specialized secretariat, it being clearly understood that, in accordance with No. 318 of the Convention, the specialized secretariat is there to assist the Board.

90. Because opinion among the Experts was divided on the question of appointing an official as the head of the specialized secretariat, the Panel suggested that the Administrative Council should further consider the question before submitting its own Recommendations to the Plenipotentiary Conference in accordance with Resolution No. 68 of Nairobi 1982.

V.2 The Impact of Extended Computerization on the IFRB

91. The Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi 1982, when adopting Resolution No. 68 simultaneously endorsed the Administrative Council's action in initiating a project covering extended computerization of the work of the IFRB and made provision in Additional Protocol I for the financial support of that project up to 1989. The Conference also adopted Resolution No. 69 relating to the founding of a Voluntary Group of Experts (VGE) "to advise and assist in the regular monitoring" of that project. Clearly, there are strong interactions between the work of the Panel of Experts and that of the VGE.

92. The project of extended computerization will, when completed, enable the IFRB for most of its routine work under the Radio Regulations and under various world and regional plans and agreements to capture all inputs from administrations in machine-readable format (although most are still in paper form), to process most of them by automatic means, and for all relatively simple cases to prepare Findings or other conclusions for consideration by the Board. Plan up-datings, the search for agreement, various aspects of the coordination procedures, correspondence with administrations and many technical examinations will also be largely automated. The overall impact will be to relieve the IFRB of an enormous load of manual operations, to minimize mistakes, to ensure correct and consistent processing of notices, to prevent backlogs of routine work, to speed up and improve the quality of service to administrations, and to equip the IFRB to face the future workloads with a high degree of automation in which administrations, the Board and the secretariat can have full confidence.

93. The potential implications are that as the IFRB has been able it will continue to be able to cope with further increases in workloads without corresponding increases in staff. The secretariat will be able to discharge virtually all routine duties and functions for the Board without the day-to-day intervention or supervision of Board members. Thus the Board and the Senior Managers in the secretariat will be freed of much detailed work to concentrate upon higher levels of work. The Board will have more time to concentrate upon its collegiate activities, to give more aid to administrations in special need, and to help administrative radio conferences to reach prudent decisions on the problems of increased complexity that will arise in future. The Union as a whole should therefore expect a substantial upgrading of the quality of service, in all senses, to be provided by the IFRB.

94. In order to simplify consideration of the impact of computerization on the IFRB, it can best be seen from three aspects:

- a) the past impact and that foreseen to the end of 1989;
- b) that foreseen as a result of completion of the FMS in the post-1989 period, and the essential ongoing requirements for maintenance, development and support of the systems and its sub-systems;
- c) the impact of direct remote access in the post-1989 period.

95. Point a) has been dealt with above in terms of the operations of the IFRB. Additionally, it has in part resulted in the elimination of 12 posts from the specialized secretariat. Point b) will extend the improvements in the operations of the IFRB to the maximum that the design of the FMS and its sub-systems will allow, but associated with the final phase of implementation of the FMS will be a commitment to protect the 40 million Swiss francs invested in the software.

96. As explained in the report of the VGE to the 43rd session of the Administrative Council, the essential personnel of the FMS Project Management Team must be integrated into the specialized secretariat of the IFRB. Their task will be to maintain the software, to develop it further to meet new and changing commitments imposed on the Board and to deal with additional software tasks arising from future conferences. Further, there will need to be an element of reinforcement of the Computer Department to ensure adequate support for the use of the FMS and related sub-systems.

97. The Panel was of the view that the introduction of direct remote access would be a necessary and useful development for administrations and the IFRB. It would improve the method of cooperation between the national frequency management organisations of administrations and the IFRB. If, as the VGE recommended, the Council and the Plenipotentiary Conference decide to limit consideration of direct remote access only to data retrieval and data submission, there will be an initial relatively small workload of software refinement to enable the Board to accept data on-line without manual intervention, a further element of work will be required to facilitate on-line access to selected IFRB data bases for the purposes of data retrieval.

98. Once this work has been done, depending upon the speed and extent to which administrations take up and use these new facilities, it is possible to foresee a reduced need for personnel for the purposes of data capture and for providing data to administrations. However, this will be a developing process which cannot be forecast with any quantification of numbers of posts or grades. Therefore, while we can expect a better service from the IFRB, a faster service and the removal of much of the paperwork which now clogs the system, there will need to be:

- a) an initial detailed review of the staffing, in terms of numbers and grades, of the specialized secretariat in the period immediately after 1989;
- b) an annual review of the take-up of the direct access facilities and the consequent staff reductions that should then be possible.

99. The Panel emphasizes that the developments as foreseen will have no impact on the statutory duties and functions of the IFRB. The impact will be felt upon the numbers, grades and skills required of the specialized secretariat. It will also be felt in the beneficial effects on the services provided to all administrations in terms of a faster service, fewer errors in that service and a reduced workload for administrations.

100. For these reasons the Panel supports the VGE in urging that the Council, and subsequently the Plenipotentiary Conference, should continue to support the FMS Project to its completion and should take a positive view of the potentialities of direct access in the two forms described. There will be many interactions between these two forms and other ITU activities (e.g. the policy on and financial aspects of publications), most of which are outside the scope of the Panel's work. Since these will require detailed study by the Secretary-General and the permanent organs concerned with direct access, the Panel limits itself to suggesting that the Plenipotentiary Conference should give them a broad instruction to undertake the necessary studies and, through the Administrative Council, obtain the necessary authorizations to go ahead with direct access to the data bases of the IFRB as early as possible.

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

101. During its meetings, after having reviewed in detail "the long-term future of the IFRB in the light of changing circumstances", as explained and presented in the previous chapters of this Report, the Panel prepared a summary of conclusions and recommendations. The results of the work of the Panel are submitted to the Administrative Council in accordance with Resolution 68, Nairobi 1982.

VI.1 The Need for an Organ such as the IFRB, its Nature and Size

Conclusions

102. The Panel concluded that there will be a continuing need for an organ such as the IFRB in order to meet the foreseen requirements of Members of the Union in the field of radio regulations.

103. The Panel concluded that the collegiate nature of the Board will continue to be an essential element of this permanent organ of the ITU.

104. The Panel concluded that alternative mechanisms such as a single director replacing the Board, a Board composed of part-time members, or a hybrid solution consisting of full-time and part-time membership of the Board, would not satisfy the needs of the Union.

105. The Panel concluded that the optimum size of the Board will continue to be five members elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference in an equitable manner from amongst the regions of the world.

106. The Panel concluded that the Board should continue to be assisted by a specialized secretariat.

Recommendation

107. As a consequence of these conclusions, the Panel recommends the continuation of a five-member collegiate Board, assisted by its own specialized secretariat.

VI.2 The Legal Position of a Future Board and its Quasi-judicial Role

Conclusions

108. The Panel concluded that the IFRB has, and must continue to have, an interpretive function relating to the provisions of the Radio Regulations, and that recognition of this function was implicit therein and in the Convention. Opinions were divided as to whether this function should be referred to in the Convention in an explicit manner, and it was felt that this issue might be addressed by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

109. The Panel concluded that RR1001.1 and Resolution No. 35 of the WARC 1979 provided a sufficient basis for the mechanisms by which an administration could query or appeal not only rulings adopted by a Board concerning its technical standards and rules of procedure, but also those of an interpretive nature. It was agreed by the Panel that the final decision concerning a disagreement of any kind, after action by the CCIR on a technical question, would rest in the hands of the Members meeting in World Administrative Conferences. The provisions of RR1001.1 and Resolution No. 35 should be suitably reviewed in order to deal with appeals relating to regional conferences.

110. The Panel concluded that all interpretations adopted by an IFRB should be published and brought to the attention of administrations. Particular importance is attached to the early publication of draft technical standards and rules of procedure and its texts related to interpretative rulings of the Board should form an essential part of such a publication. In addition, the texts of such interpretive rulings might also be published separately and even earlier than the consolidated publication of the technical standards and rules of procedure.

111. On the question of obtaining legal advice in connection with the Board's interpretive function, the Panel concluded that the Board should use the services available in the headquarters of the Union. Seeking such advice within the Union would avoid any possible conflict with No. 319 of the Convention.

112. The Panel concluded that the Board was fully accountable to all Members of the Union as a whole through the Plenipotentiary Conference, the Administrative Council and administrative conferences as appropriate. The accountability to regional administrative conferences, not being at present covered in the same manner, requires further consideration.

Recommendations

113. As a consequence of these conclusions the Panel recommends that:
- a) the Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union, Nice 1989, should consider whether the interpretive function carried out by the Board and described in this report, should be incorporated in an explicit manner in the texts of the Convention.
 - b) RR1001.1 of the Radio Regulations and Resolution No. 35 of the WARC 1979 should be placed on the agenda of a future administrative radio conference with a view to extending the relevant provisions to include the interests of Members participating in Regional Administrative Radio Conferences;
 - c) attention should be paid by the IFRB to the early publication of its current technical standards and rules of procedure and drafts of additions thereto should be published for comment. In particular all new interpretations developed by the Board should similarly be published for comment as early as possible;
 - d) administrations should consider the question of IFRB accountability to RARCs, taking into account the provisions of No. 209 of the Convention relating to WARC's.

VI.3 Status of a future IFRB

Conclusions

114. The Panel concluded that the status of a future IFRB as detailed in Articles 5 and 10 of the Convention should be maintained.

115. The Panel concluded that the property/quality of independence of the Board as a whole and of its members separately is appropriately described in the relevant Articles of the Convention and should be preserved.

116. The Panel concluded that the characteristic of impartiality is essential in the individual and collective performance of their duty by members of the Board and must be preserved.

117. The Panel concluded that transparency and access by administrations to the work of the Board should be ensured through:

- a) early publication of the technical standards and rules of procedure and any proposed amendments thereto;
- b) the remainder of official texts and documents being available for inspection in the offices of the Board.

Recommendation

118. The Panel recommends that the present status of the IFRB, as included in the Convention, should be maintained. The requirements for independence and impartiality of the members of the Board should be reaffirmed.

VI.4 Specialized Secretariat

Conclusions

119. The Panel concluded that the Board must continue to be assisted by its own specialized secretariat as stated in No. 318 of the Convention.

120. The Panel concluded that the process, already started, of devolution of the routine work of the IFRB to the specialized secretariat should be continued.

121. The Panel concluded that the Council should consider the question of appointing a senior official as head of the specialized secretariat and make its own recommendation to the Plenipotentiary Conference.

Recommendations

122. Following these conclusions the Panel recommends that the specialized secretariat of the IFRB should be retained and there should be a greater devolution of routine work under the responsibility of the Board.

VI.5 Other activities of a future IFRB

Conclusions

123. The Panel concluded that direct access to the IFRB data bases should be encouraged to expedite the retrieval and submission of data by administrations.

124. The Panel concluded that while the right to obtain advice and assistance from the IFRB must be equally available to all administrations, so long as the special needs of certain administrations continue to be recognized in the Convention and other regulatory texts, the IFRB must provide such assistance.

125. The Panel concluded that there is a need for clarification of the role of the Board vis-à-vis administrative radio conferences.

126. The Panel concluded that the forthcoming Plenipotentiary Conference should instruct future administrative radio conferences to simplify the regulatory procedures falling within their agendas and standardize as far as possible, the related terminology, phraseology and procedures and mechanisms themselves. The Panel concluded that an evolutionary approach would be necessary to accomplish the enormous task involved in simplifying the Radio Regulations.

127. The Panel concluded that further efforts were necessary to clean up the Master Register, although it remained to be studied how this might be best accomplished. The Panel concluded, in particular, that proposals for improving the accuracy and usefulness of the Master Register in the fixed HF bands below 30 MHz and for simplifying and clarifying the regulatory procedures relating to these bands should be addressed to a future world administrative radio conference.

128. The Panel concluded that the Plenipotentiary Conference should refer for action by a future WARC the redefinition of the studies to be made by the IFRB under No. 997 of the Radio Regulations with a view to making recommendations for more effective use of the spectrum.

Recommendations

129. Following consideration of these conclusions, the Panel recommends that the Plenipotentiary Conference should:

- a) authorise the organs of the Union concerned to take the necessary action to expedite direct remote access to the IFRB databases for the purposes of retrieval and submission of data by administrations;
- b) clarify the role of the Board vis-à-vis administrative radio conferences;

- c) instruct future administrative radio conferences to simplify the regulatory procedures and mechanisms falling within their agendas and standardize the related terminology, phraseology and mechanisms;
- d) initiate action to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the Master International Frequency Register in the HF fixed bands and to simplify and clarify the regulatory procedures relating to these bands;
- e) initiate action to redefine the studies on a long-term basis of the usage of the radio-frequency spectrum to be carried out by the IFRB.

Annexes: 14 pages

ANNEX A

RESOLUTION No. 68

**A Review in the Light of Changing Circumstances
of the Long-Term Future of the International Frequency
Registration Board**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Nairobi, 1982),

considering

- a) the changes in circumstances since the founding of the IFRB by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Atlantic City, 1947);
- b) the nature, volume and duration of the additional tasks laid upon the IFRB by the decisions of recent administrative radio conferences;
- c) the further changes that may flow from the project relating to extended computerization of the work of the IFRB which the Union has initiated.

recognizing and appreciating

the high service rendered to the Union by the Board since its founding.

recognizing also

the dynamic nature of telecommunication developments which result in significant changes in the patterns and volumes of radio frequency usage, and the special services required to be rendered to the developing countries by the IFRB.

resolves

that there shall be a thorough review in the light of changing circumstances of the long-term future of the International Frequency Registration Board.

resolves further

1. to invite the Administrative Council:
 - 1.1 to establish a Panel of Experts from administrations to conduct the above-mentioned review;
 - 1.2 to request the Panel of Experts to conduct the review and to submit a report with recommendations to the Council by 1 January 1985;
 - 1.3 to invite the Panel of Experts to consider carefully whether an alternative mechanism could better serve the foreseen interests of the Union in the years ahead;
 - 1.4 to invite the Panel of Experts to include in their report a balanced summary of the advantages and disadvantages of any alternative mechanism submitted for consideration;
 - 1.5 to consider the report and recommendations of the Panel of Experts and to forward the report together with their own conclusions thereon to administrations by 1 July 1986;
 - 1.6 to include this subject in the agenda for the subsequent Plenipotentiary Conference;
2. to invite administrations to respond to the initiative to be taken by the Administrative Council by nominating appropriate specialists to join the Panel of Experts;
3. to invite the Secretary-General, the Chairman and members of the IFRB, and the Directors of the CCIs to afford the Panel of Experts all necessary assistance required for the successful completion of the review;
4. to invite the next Plenipotentiary Conference to consider the report and recommendations of the Panel of Experts, after approval by the Administrative Council and to take appropriate action.

ANNEX B

R No. 943 PANEL OF EXPERTS TO ASSIST IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION No. 68 OF THE NAIROBI PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE (A REVIEW IN THE LIGHT OF CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE LONG-TERM FUTURE OF THE IFRB)

The Administrative Council,

pursuant to Resolution No. 68 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi, 1982 and the decision taken at the 40th Session of Council, Document 6406,

considering

- a) the results of the consultations of all administrations conducted by the Secretary-General (see Document 6464/CA41 and Addenda 1-5 thereto),
- b) the need to establish a Panel of Experts from administrations with regard to both equitable geographical distribution and to the readiness of individual administrations to volunteer an expert,

resolves

1. to constitute a Panel of Experts consisting of one expert each from administrations as detailed in Annex I to the present Resolution;
2. that the terms of reference of the Panel of Experts shall be:
 - 2.1 to conduct a thorough review of the long-term future of the International Frequency Registration Board; bearing in mind:
 - a) the changes in circumstances since the founding of the IFRB by the Plenipotentiary Conference, Atlantic City, 1947,
 - b) the nature, volume and duration of the additional tasks laid upon the IFRB by the decisions of recent administrative radio conferences;
 - c) the further changes that may flow from the project relating to extended computerization of the work of the IFRB which the Union has initiated;
 - 2.2 to consider carefully whether an alternative mechanism could better serve the foreseen interests of the Union in the years ahead;
 - 2.3 to present an objective summary of the advantages and disadvantages of any alternative mechanism submitted for consideration;
3. that the Panel of Experts shall conduct its work by way of correspondence and meetings;
4. that the Panel of Experts is authorized to hold a meeting of one week maximum duration during 1987 and another during 1988;
5. that the support costs necessary for the meetings of the Panel, including interpretation and translation, shall be financed by the ordinary budget of the Union and within the limits of Additional Protocol I to the Convention;
6. that, in principle, the members of the Panel bear the expenses of their own participation,

instructs the Secretary-General

1. to make arrangements in consultation with the IFRB for the meetings of the Panel, mentioned in paragraph 4 above, to be held at the seat of the Union;
2. to draw on fellowship funds in order to assist with the expenses of those experts who might otherwise not be able to attend the meetings,

invites the Secretary-General, the Chairman and members of the IFRB, and the Directors of the CCIs to afford the Panel of Experts all necessary assistance required for the successful completion of the review;

invites the Panel of Experts

1. to submit a progress Report to the 42nd Session of the Council in 1987;
2. to complete its task and submit to the Council its final Report three months prior to the Council's 43rd Session in 1988.

List of members* of the Panel of Experts

Region A:

Argentina : Mr. Jorge A. TABOADA
Brazil : Mr. Arthur César de ARAUJO ITUASSU
Canada : Mr. Robert W. JONES
United States : Mr. Richard E. SHRUM

Region B:

Fed. Rep. of Germany : Dipl.-Ing. Franz MASSON
France : Mr. Jean-Louis BLANC
Italy : Mr. Andrea DELL'OVO
Norway : Mr. Arne BØE
United Kingdom : Mr. Michael P. DAVIES

Region C:

Hungary : Dr. Otto VILLÁNYI
German Democratic Republic : Mr. Herbert GOETZE
USSR : Mr. A.N. GROMOV
Yugoslavia : Prof. Dr. I. STOJANOVIC

Region D:

Algeria : Mr. Mahiddine OUHADJ
Morocco : Mr. Ahmed TOUMI

Region E:

Australia : Dr. T.P. McDONNELL
China : Mr. Liu ZHONGEN
India : Dr. M.K. RAO
Japan : Mr. Akira ARAI
Lebanon : Mr. Maurice GRAZAL
Viet Nam : Mr. Nguyen Ngoc CANH

* During the meetings of the Panel, members of the Panel may be accompanied by advisers.

ANNEX E

Schedule of the work of the Panel

1. Solicit the written contributions by December 1986.
2. Consolidate, circulate and prepare for the 1st Meeting early in 1987.
3. During the 1st Meeting progress the work identified under its terms of reference and prepare the progress Report of the work of the Panel for the submission to the Council at its 42nd Session.
4. On the basis of the results of the 1st Meeting receive further contributions by January 1988.
5. Consolidate, circulate and prepare for the 2nd Meeting in March 1988.
6. During the 2nd Meeting prepare the final Report of the work of the Panel to the 43rd Session of the Council.

Annex III

Basic Working Documents

1. Resolution 68 of the Nairobi Conference, 1982.
 2. Resolution 69 of the Nairobi Conference, 1982.
 3. Articles 10 and 57 of the Nairobi Convention, 1982.
 4. Article 10 of the Radio Regulations, 1985 edition.
-

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
PANEL OF EXPERTS
LONG-TERM FUTURE OF THE IFRB

AGENDA OF THE
FIRST MEETING OF THE PANEL OF EXPERTS ON THE
LONG TERM FUTURE OF THE IFRB

(Resolution No. 68 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi 1982)

Monday 9th March 1987 at 10.00 hours

Documents No.

1. Opening address by the Secretary-General
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Address by the Chairman, Prof. Dr. I. Stojanovic
4. Consideration of the terms of reference of the Panel of Experts
5. Introduction of Documents -
General discussion
6. The present and future tasks of the Board and its secretariat
7. The impact of the use of computers on the present and future activities of the Board
8. The strengths and weaknesses of the present mechanism in the service of Members of the Union
9. Progress report to the 42nd Session of the Administrative Council (June 1987)
10. Future work programme
11. Other business

Prof. Dr. I. Stojanovic
Chairman of the Panel of Experts
for the Long Term Future of the IFRB

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
PANEL OF EXPERTS
LONG-TERM FUTURE OF THE IFRB

AGENDA OF THE
SECOND MEETING OF THE PANEL OF EXPERTS ON THE
LONG TERM FUTURE OF THE IFRB

(Resolution No. 68 of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Nairobi 1982)

9 - 13 November 1987

- Opening Address by the Secretary-General
 - Address by the Chairman, Prof. Dr. I. Stojanovic
1. Approval of the Agenda.
 2. Introduction of contributions received between 1st and 2nd session of the Panel.
 3. Definition of the features required of a future IFRB.
 - 3.1. The need for such an ITU body and its collegiate nature.
 - Higher level functions - requirement for collegiate decisions;
 - how will these functions evolve in the future;
 - 3.2. Legal position of a future IFRB and its quasi-judicial role.
 - Interpretive functions;
 - conflict situations, Appeal/Review, Legal advice to a future IFRB;
 - rules of Procedure, Technical Standards;
 - coordination, notification, registration;
 - accountability.
 - 3.3. Status of a future IFRB.
 - Independence;
 - impartiality;
 - public trust;
 - transparency;
 - public Access.
 - 3.4. Specialized secretariat.
 - Routine functions capable of delegation;
 - how will these functions evolve in the future;
 - administrative/management functions;
 - senior official - director.

- 3.5. Aid to Member countries and interaction with Administrations.
- 3.6. Assistance to Conferences.
- 3.7. Simplification of a future IFRB operation and the problem of clarification of the Radio Regulations.
- 3.8. Consideration with respect to Master Frequency Register.
- 3.9. Studies required of a future IFRB.
- 3.10. Computerization and its effects.
- 3.11. Structure and size of a future IFRB.
- 3.12. Relationship with other ITU organs.
4. Consolidated description of a future IFRB.
5. Structure of the Final Report.
6. Other business.

Prof. Dr. I. Stojanovic
Chairman of the Panel of Experts
for the Long Term Future of the IFRB

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
PANEL OF EXPERTS
LONG-TERM FUTURE OF THE IFRB

Agenda of the third meeting of the Panel of Experts
on the long term future of the IFRB

Monday 21 March 1988 at 10.00hrs

Opening address by the Secretary-General

Address by the Chairman, Prof. Dr. I. Stojanovic

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Consideration of items not completed during previous meetings
 - 2.1. The impact of the use of computers on the present and future activities of the IFRB
 - 2.2 The accountability of the Board
 - 2.3 Rotation of members of the Board
 - 2.4 Relationship of the IFRB with other organs of the ITU
3. Consideration of the draft report of the Panel
4. Adoption of the Final Report
5. Any other business
6. Closure of the meeting

Dr. Ilija Stojanovic
Prof. Dr. I. Stojanovic
Chairman

ANNEX F

Experts provided by the Administrations to participate in the review, in the Light of Changing Circumstances, the Long-Term Future of the International Frequency Registration Board
(Res. 68 - Nairobi 1982)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
in one or more Meetings of the Panel of Experts

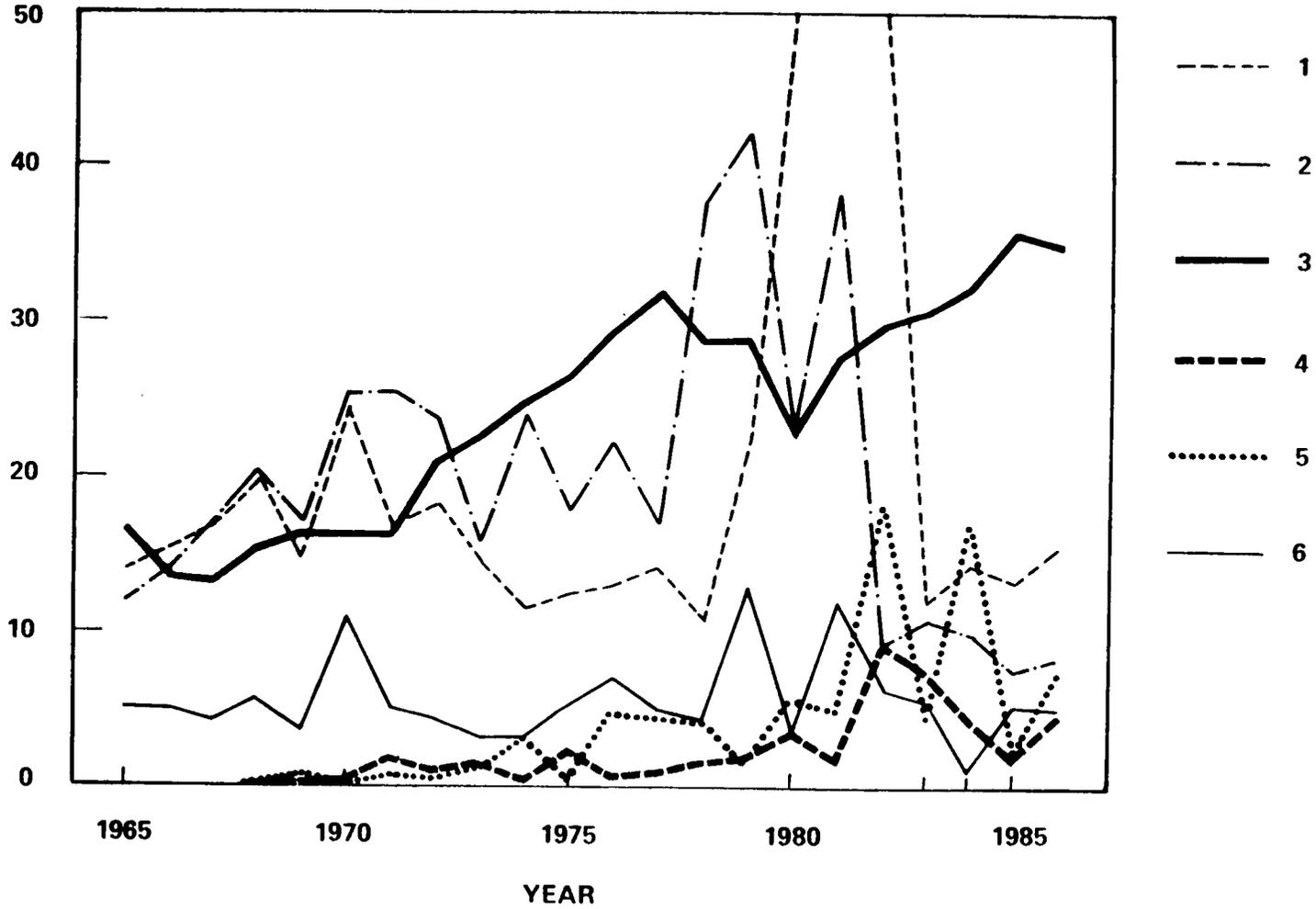
ARGENTINA	E.	Ing. Jorge TABOADA
AUSTRALIA	E.	Mr. Peter MCDONNELL Mr. Robert S. GREENEY
BRAZIL	E.	Mr. Arthur ITUASSU
CANADA	A.	Mr. Roberto BLOIS
CHINA	E.	Mr. Robert W. JONES
	E.	Mr. LIU Zhongen
	A.	Mr. SUN Benji
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	E.	Eng. Franz MASSON
FRANCE	E.	Mr. Jean-Louis BLANC
	E.	Mr. Francois SILLARD
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	E.	Mr. Herbert GOETZE
HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC	A.	Mrs. Hannelore CALOV
	E.	Dr. Otto VILLANYI
INDIA	A.	Mr. Jozsef PETE
ITALY	E.	Dr. M.K. RAO
	E.	Mr. Adrea DELL'OVO
JAPAN	A.	Mrs. Giovanna DAMIA
	E.	Mr. Akira ARAI
	A.	Mr. Chiyohiko HAKOISHI Mr. Kiyoshi SATO Mr. Hikaru CHONO
LEBANON	E.	Mr. Maurice H. GHAZAL
MOROCCO	A.	Eng. Antoine SAID
NORWAY	E.	Mr. Ahmed TOUMI
UNITED KINGDOM	E.	Mr. Arne BOE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	E.	Mr. Michael DAVIES
	E.	Mr. William JAHN
	A.	Mr. Lawrence PALMER
	A.	Mr. Francis K. WILLIAMS Mr. Harry M. MONTGOMERY
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS	E.	Mr. Valeri TIMOFEEV
VIET NAM	E.	Mr. Alexei TROFIMOV
SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA	E.	Mr. NGUYEN NGOC CANH Prof. Dr. Ilija STOJANOVIC
		Chairman of the Panel of Experts
	E.	Mr. Zivorad STOJKOVIC

E. Expert
A. Advisor

NUMBER OF NOTICES RECEIVED

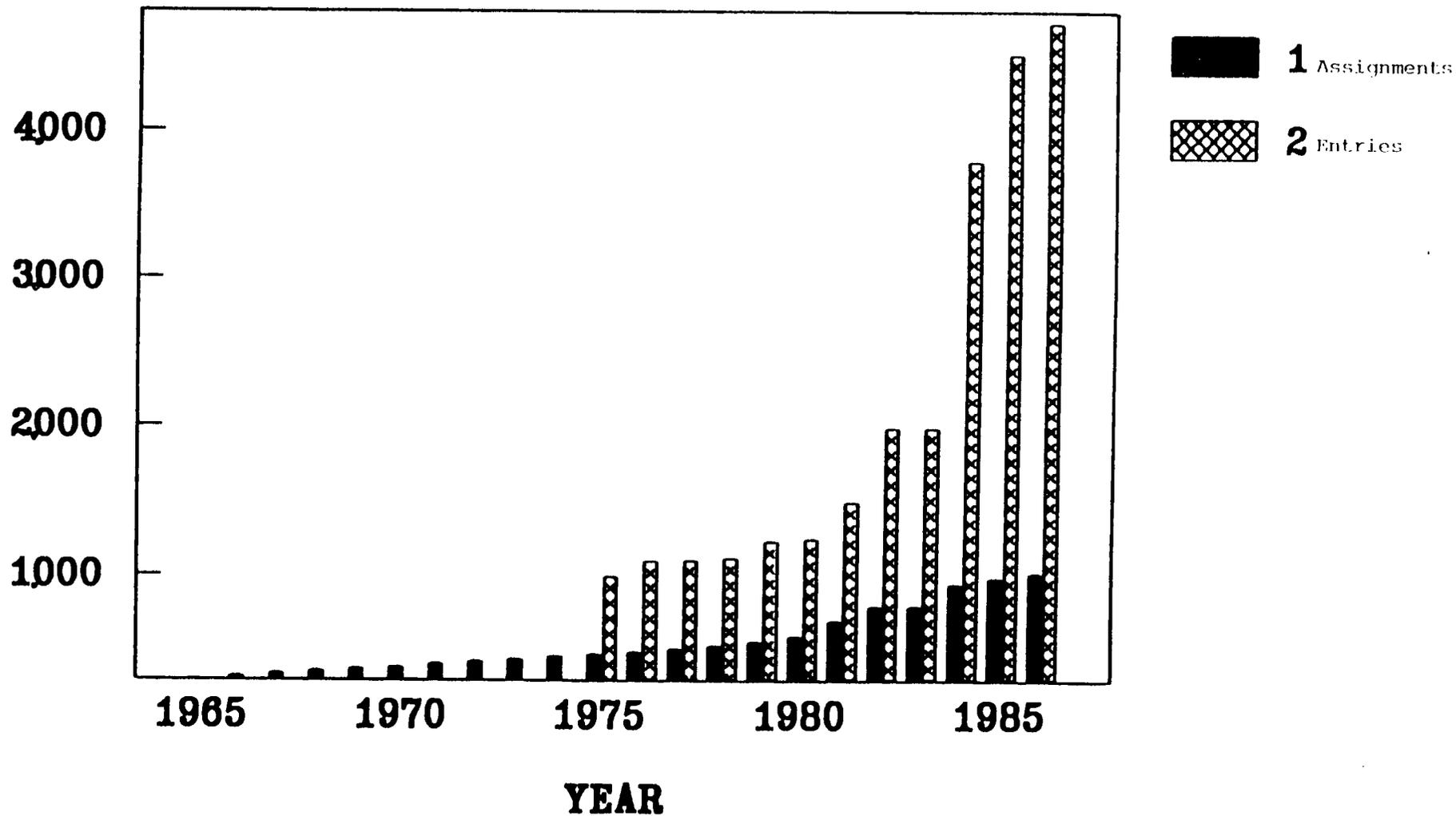
THOUSANDS

- 1. Terrestrial (excluding MF8C+shared) not requiring tech. examination
- 2. Terrestrial (excluding MF8C+shared) requiring technical examination
- 3. MF8C notices
- 4. Fixed/Mobile in shared bands
- 5. Space notices
- 6. Cancellations



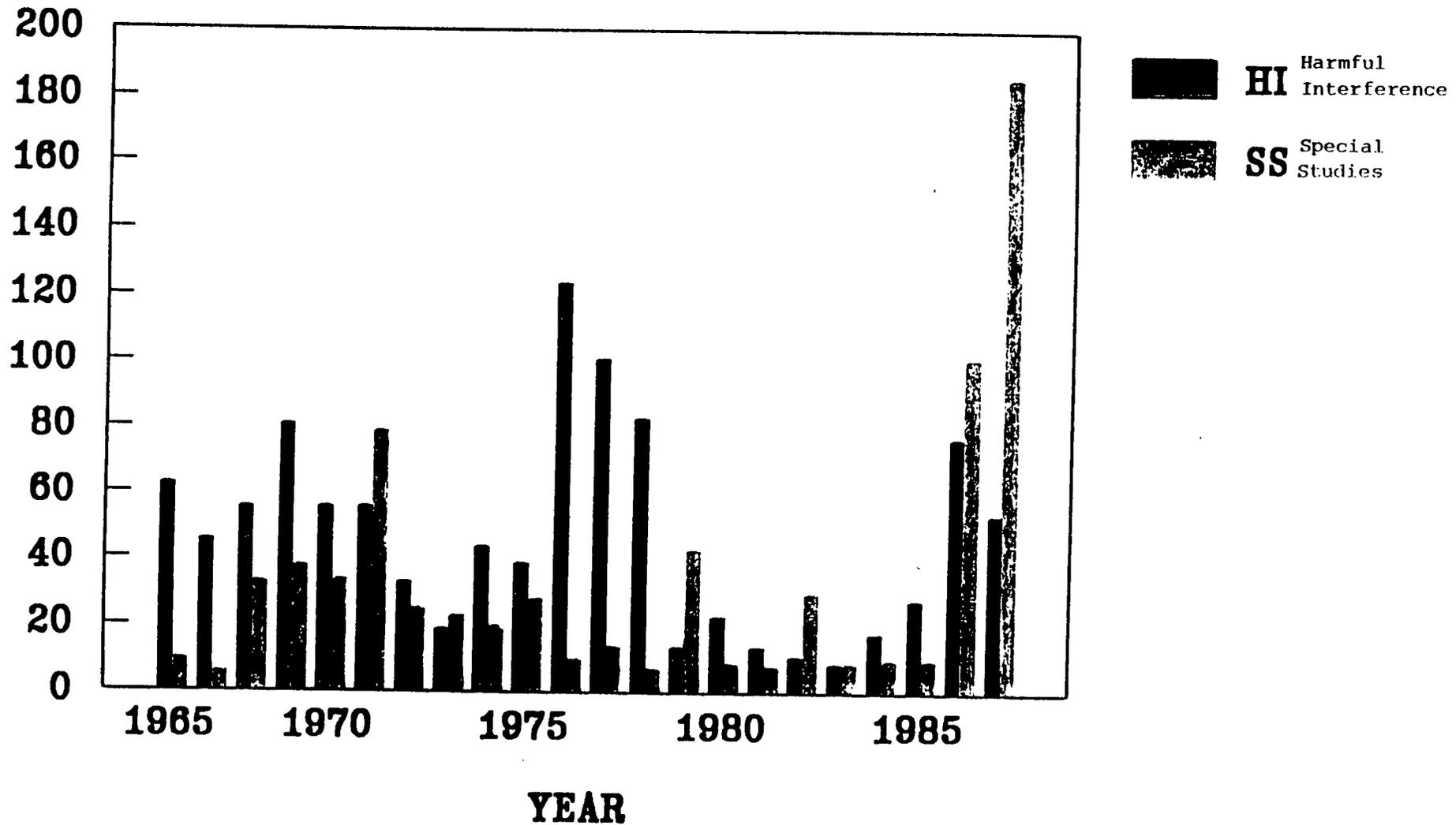
ASSIGNMENTS AND ENTRIES IN THE MIFR

MILLIONS



CASES OF HARM. INTERF. AND SPECIAL STUDIES

NUMBER



ANNEX J

IFRB STAFF

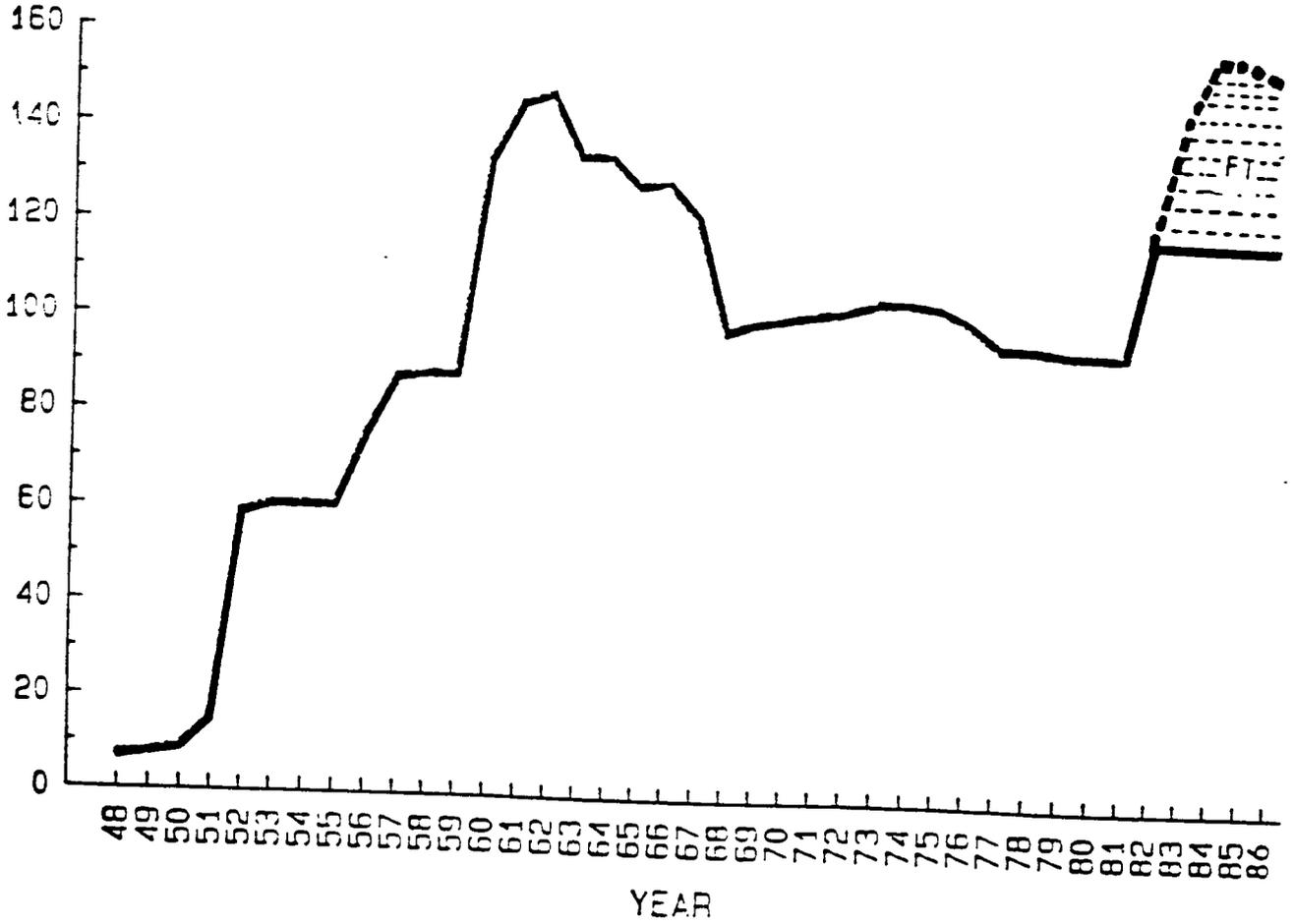
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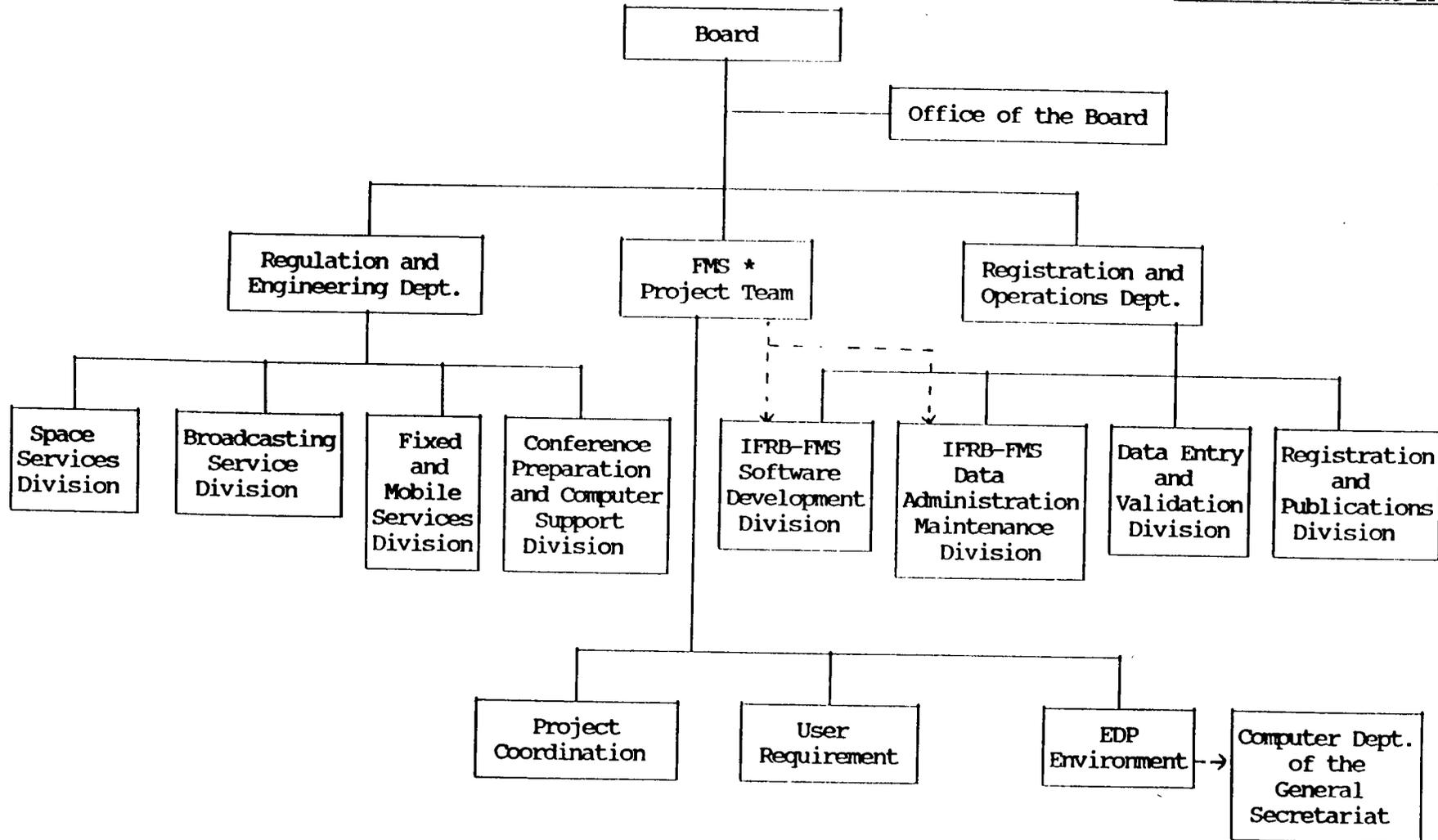
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48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86

YEAR



Present Structure
of the Specialized
Secretariat of the IFRB



ANNEX K

*** NOTE:**

The Project Manager, who is the Head of the FMS Project Team, is responsible to the IFRB except for EDP environment, financial and contractual matters and optimum use of computer facilities on which he reports directly to the Secretary General.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 185-E

31 May 1989

Original: French

COMMITTEE 6

Burkina Faso

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

I. Introduction

After 124 years of existence, the ITU has proved its worth as an instrument of multilateral cooperation in the field of communications. It would not have been able to achieve so much, nor would it have gone from strength to strength, if it had not been responsive at all times to the main concerns of all its Members.

From 1865 in Paris to 1989 in Nice, the substance of telecommunications has changed considerably, as have the statistical and economic characteristics of its Members.

Nice 1989 is therefore a major turning point in the Union's history. In submitting its contribution to the Plenipotentiary Conference, Burkina Faso is keen to ensure that, over and above the individual interests of each Member, the Union should be further strengthened for the common benefit of all.

II. Technical cooperation

Technical cooperation is one of the Union's three poles of activity. Just as standardization and regulation have been the overriding questions for Members at various stages in the history of the ITU, so now is technical cooperation a vital issue for a large majority. The ITU has grown in strength over the years because its key objectives have always reflected its Members' concerns and it has been provided with the financial, human and organizational or structural resources required to meet its Members' expectations. There can be no doubt today that technical cooperation ranks among the Members' preoccupations. Accordingly, the ITU should not encounter any major difficulty in obtaining the financial, human and structural or organizational resources which it will need to provide a response.

II.1 Technical cooperation funding

The financial accounts for the years 1984 to 1989 show that technical cooperation expenditure accounted for 5.01% in 1984, 6.65% in 1985, 6.7% in 1986, 6.6% in 1987, 6.87% in 1988 and 6.77% in 1989, whereas over the same period the countries which directly benefited contributed from 23 to 25% of the ordinary budget. Funding of the other technical cooperation activities is both inconsistent and insubstantial.

Most technical cooperation projects are financed from countries' indicative planning figures, which are laid down by the UNDP Governing Council for a 5-year period and reflect priorities in which the telecommunication authorities of the various countries have no say whatsoever.

II.2 Centre for Telecommunications Development

The Centre for Telecommunications Development was set up in 1985 in response to a recommendation of the Maitland Commission, with a view to providing additional annual resources amounting to some 10 million dollars in order to promote the development of telecommunications in the least developed countries.

Regrettably, after three years of operation, the Centre has a very long way to go in order to meet the immense hopes placed in it as a new vehicle of technical cooperation for the developing countries. So far, the Centre has received only US \$ 5 million in cash as against 3.6 million Swiss francs in kind. At the World Telecommunications Development Conference held at Tunis in January 1987, the African countries expressed their concern about that state of affairs. In view of the situation, and in order to avoid dissipating resources and duplicating work, Burkina Faso considers that the time has come to merge the Centre with the Technical Cooperation Department, as indeed is advocated not only by the Maitland Commission but also by the group of eight Members of the ITU Administrative Council in its report on technical cooperation.

BFA/185/1 However, having regard to the view expressed by a number of delegations that the Centre should continue to operate before any decision is taken, Burkina Faso proposes that it should be given an additional 2-year period in order to prove its worth. If, at the end of that period, the situation has not changed, the Administrative Council should take the necessary steps to merge the Centre with the Technical Cooperation Department in 1991.

In putting forward this proposal, Burkina Faso is aware that merging the two bodies would not adversely affect the contributions expected from the various countries and from private industry, particularly as the machinery already exists in the Technical Cooperation Department in the form of the Voluntary Programme, which received contributions from several countries in the 1984-1988 period. As the case of the Voluntary Programme and the Centre for Telecommunications Development shows, increasing resources for the promotion of technical cooperation activities is a matter of will rather than a legal problem.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 186-E

30 May 1988

Original : French

COMMITTEE 4

Note by the Secretary-General

EXAMINATION OF THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE UNION BY THE

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

(YEARS 1982 TO 1988)

I hereby transmit to the Plenipotentiary Conference the report of the Administrative Council relating to the examination of the financial management of the Union during the years 1982 to 1988.

R. E. BUTLER

Secretary-General

Annex : 1

ANNEX

Report of the Administrative Council
to the Nice Plenipotentiary Conference

EXAMINATION OF THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE UNION BY THE
PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE
(YEARS 1982 TO 1988)

The International Telecommunication Convention, Nairobi, 1982, states with regard to the examination of the financial management of the Union :

Article 56. point 305

The Secretary-General shall

- aa) with the assistance of the Coordination Committee, prepare a financial operating report and accounts to be submitted annually to the Administrative Council and a recapitulative account immediately preceding each Plenipotentiary Conference; these documents, after verification and approval by the Administrative Council, shall be circulated to all Members and submitted to the next Plenipotentiary Conference for examination and final approval;

Article 55. point 255

The Administrative Council shall

- i) arrange for the annual audit of the accounts of the Union prepared by the Secretary-General and approve them, if appropriate, for submission to the next Plenipotentiary Conference;

Article 6. point 40

The Plenipotentiary Conference shall

- e) examine the accounts of the Union and finally approve them, if appropriate;

Annexed below are the statements of the accounts of the Union for the years 1982 to 1988 as published in the financial operating reports and approved by the Administrative Council.

R.E. BUTLER

Secretary-General

Annexes :

Statements of the accounts for the years 1982 to 1988
Draft Resolution

Annex 1

BUDGETS, EXPENDITURE AND INCOME OF THE
INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
FOR THE YEAR 1982

as published in the Financial Operating Report of the Union and approved by the Administrative Council.

See in this regard :

Resolution No. 878 concerning the approval of the Financial Operating Report for 1982.

Resolution No. 883 approving the accounts of the Union for the period 1 January to 31 December 1982, as submitted, and, as audited, by the External Auditor appointed by the Swiss Confederation.

STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS

Management account, 1982

EXPENDITURE	1982 budget *)	1982 accounts
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION		
	- Swiss francs -	
Section 1 - Administrative Council	807,600.-	960,633.85
Common headquarters expenditure :		
Section 2 - Staff	40,486,000.-	40,438,078.40
Section 3 - Social security	9,706,000.-	9,218,311.70
Section 4 - Premises	3,604,000.-	3,769,396.25
Section 5 - Missions	150,000.-	143,165.35
Section 6 - Office and miscellaneous	2,886,000.-	3,308,469.25
Section 7 - Technical aid for the Group of Engineers	310,000.-	311,234.90
Section 8 - Official reports	180,000.-	162,044.35
Section 9 - Extended use of the computer by the IFRB	8,493,000.-	8,329,970.65
	66,622,600.-	66,643,304.70
Section 11.1 - Plenipotentiary Conference	3,115,000.-	2,886,408.70
Section 11.2 - WARC Mobile Services	15,000.-	15,000.-
Section 11.3 - WARC	325,000.-	325,000.-
Section 12 - CCIR meetings	634,000.-	677,643.95
Section 13 - CCITT meetings	3,290,000.-	2,557,978.80
Section 14 - RAEC, Region 2	(3,387,800.-**)	(3,033,240.-**)
RAEC, Regions 1 and 3	2,199,300.-	1,715,925.-
Additional IFRB requirements in connection with RAEC, Region 2	370,000.-	323,400.-
Section 15 - ITU Seminars	-	-
Section 16 - Seminars of ITU Member Administrations	100,000.-	81,309.30
Section 17 - Common expenditure for conferences and meetings	4,879,500.-	4,750,855.65
	81,550,400.-	79,976,826.10
Equipping of CCITT Laboratory	80,000.-	70,954.40
Maintenance and renewal of simultaneous inter- pretation and other sound reproduction equipment	30,000.-	27,928.35
	81,660,400.-	80,075,708.85
Payment into ITU Reserve Account under Resolution No. 11, Torremolinos Convention, 1973	1,435,000.-	1,435,000.-
	83,095,400.-	81,510,708.85
Surplus income to be paid into the ITU Reserve Account.		1,880,891.03
	83,095,400.-	83,391,599.88

*) 1982 budget, including additional credits.

***) 1981 budget and accounts drawn up on 31 March 1982.

FOR 1982

INCOME	1982 budget*)	1982 accounts
<u>I. BUDGET OF THE UNION</u>	- <u>Swiss francs</u> -	
Contributions :		
- Contributions by Union Members for the current year	69,331,300.-	69,498,754.15
- Contributions by Union Members to meet expenses of regional conferences :		
- RABC, Region 2	3,387,800.-**)	3,033,240.-
- RABC, Regions 1 and 3	2,199,300.-	1,715,925.-
- Additional IFPS requirements in connection with RABC, Region 2	370,000.-	323,400.-
- Contributions by recognized private operating agencies and scientific or industrial organizations to meet expenses of meetings under Sections 12 and 13 :		
- CCIR	2,212,550.-	2,379,433.30
- CCITT	4,199,000.-	4,491,045.85
Sundry income	77,150.-	288,058.88
	78,389,300.-	78,696,617.13
Withdrawal from CCITT Reserve Fund for equipping the CCITT Laboratory	80,000.-	70,954.40
Withdrawal from the Renewal Fund for simultaneous interpretation and other sound reproduction equipment	30,000.-	27,928.35
	78,499,300.-	78,795,499.88
Withdrawal from ITU Reserve Account to cover additional credits	4,596,100.-	4,596,100.-
	83,095,400.-	83,391,599.88

*) 1982 budget, including additional income.

***) 1981 budget and accounts drawn up on 31 March 1982.

Management account, 1982 (cont.)

EXPENDITURE	1982 budget*)	1982 accounts
	- <u>Swiss francs</u> -	
II. <u>TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET</u>		
Section 21 - Technical Cooperation -		
Administrative costs in 1982	10,582,000.-	10,287,827.10
Excess expenditure carried forward from 1981		21,985.17
	10,582,000.-	10,309,812.27
III. <u>SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET</u>		
Sections 24 and 25 - Cost of publications issued during 1982, including overheads	10,208,700.-	9,928,580.28
Section 26 - Cost of the Journal and the List of Addresses	1,618,000.-	1,574,706.95
Section 27 - Sundry	150,000.-	251,088.05
	11,976,700.-	11,754,375.28

*) 1982 budget, including additional credits.

INCOME	1982 budget ^{*)}	1982 accounts
- <u>Swiss francs</u> -		
II. <u>TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET</u> UNDP contribution to defrayal of project costs Contributions from Funds-in-Trust Contribution from Special Fund for Technical Cooperation <u>Other income :</u> - balance of account for payments using credits granted for 1981 - sundry - balance of the Fund for the retirement of staff members	10,582,000.-	7,990,838.15 1,644,425.45 1,244.85 10,252.40 374,899.80 24,750.-
	10,582,000.-	10,046,410.65
Excess expenditure carried forward to 1983		263,401.62
	10,582,000.-	10,309,812.27
III. <u>SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET</u>		
Sale of publications issued during 1982 and previous years	10,360,000.-	10,330,015.75
Sale of Journal and List of Addresses	300,000.-	221,042.15
Advertisements in the Telecommunication Journal	1,100,000.-	863,802.-
Sundry	170,000.-	281,538.50
	11,930,000.-	11,696,398.40
Excess expenditure debited to the Publications Capital Account	46,700.-	57,976.88
	11,976,700.-	11,754,375.28

*) 1982 budget, including additional income

Annex 2

BUDGETS, EXPENDITURE AND INCOME OF THE
INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
FOR THE YEAR 1983

as published in the Financial Operating Report of the Union and approved by the Administrative Council.

See in this regard :

Resolution No. 901 concerning the approval of the Financial Operating Report for 1983.

Resolution No. 903 approving the accounts of the Union for the period 1 January to 31 December 1983, as submitted, and, as audited, by the External Auditor appointed by the Swiss Confederation.

STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS

EXPENDITURE	1983 budget *)	1983 accounts
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION		
A. ORDINARY BUDGET OF THE UNION		
Section 1 - Administrative Council	678,000. -	662,927.10
Common Headquarters expenditure:		
Section 2 - Staff	46,001,000. -	45,869,091.05
Section 3 - Social security	10,386,000. -	10,282,440.91
Section 4 - Premises	3,672,000. -	3,671,658.65
Section 5 - Missions	150,000. -	207,990.20
Section 6 - Office and miscellaneous expenses	4,857,000. -	4,931,518.21
Section 7 - Technical Cooperation and assistance	2,543,000. -	2,371,347.65
Section 8 - Official reports	110,000. -	121,344.60
	68,397,000. -	68,118,318.37
Section 9 - Extended use of the ITU computer for IFRB activities	4,030,500. -	3,963,916.20
	72,427,500. -	72,082,234.57
Section 11.1 - Plenipotentiary Conference	-	6,760.15
Section 11.2 - WARC Mobile Services	1,141,000. -	971,108.50
Section 11.4 - WARC HFBC-84	507,100. -	329,034.75
Section 11.5 - WARC ORB-85	150,000. -	44,485.05
Section 12 - CCIR meetings	1,840,000. -	1,715,033.70
Section 13 - CCITT meetings	3,186,000. -	2,804,560.65
Section 15 - ITU seminars	300,000. -	201,383.55
Section 16 - Seminars of ITU Member Administrations	300,000. -	280,975.50
Section 17 - Common expenditure for conferences and meetings	3,735,000. -	3,289,377.87
Section 18 - Implementation by the IFRB of the decisions of world and regional administrative conferences	50,000. -	43,715.75
	83,636,600. -	81,768,670.04
Fitting out of CCITT Laboratory	70,000. -	26,322. -
Maintenance and renewal of simultaneous interpretation and other sound reproduction equipment	15,000. -	7,855.40
	83,721,600. -	81,802,847.44
Transfer to ITU reserve account (Resolution 11, 1973 Convention)	1,400,000. -	1,400,000. -
	85,121,600. -	83,202,847.44
Surplus income to be paid into ITU reserve account	-	2,338,252.31
	85,121,600. -	85,541,099.75
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCES BUDGET		
Section 14.3 - RABC (SAT-R2)	3,037,000. -	2,784,018.75

*) 1983 Budget, including additional credits.

FOR 1983

INCOME	1983 budget *)	1983 accounts
Swiss francs		
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION		
A. ORDINARY BUDGET OF THE UNION		
Contributions:		
- Contributions by Union Members for the current year	75,514,900. -	75,514,895. -
- Contributions by recognized private operating agencies and scientific or industrial organizations to meet expenses of meetings under Sections 11 to 13:		
WARC Mobile Services	-	14,700. -
CCIR	2,507,720. -	2,591,798.35
CCITT	4,803,520. -	5,012,305. -
Sundry income	134,860. -	297,624. -
	82,961,000. -	83,431,322.35
Withdrawal from CCITT reserve fund for equipping the CCITT Laboratory	70,000. -	26,322. -
Withdrawal from the renewal fund for simultaneous interpretation and other sound reproduction equipment	15,000. -	7,855.40
	83,046,000. -	83,465,499.75
Withdrawal from ITU reserve account to cover additional credits	2,075,600. -	2,075,600. -
	85,121,600. -	85,541,099.75
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCES BUDGET		
Contributions RABC (SAT-R2)	3,037,000. -	2,784,018.75

*) 1983 Budget, including additional credits.

Management account, 1983 (cont.)

EXPENDITURE	1983 budget *)	1983 accounts
	Swiss francs	
II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET		
Section 21 - Technical Cooperation:		
Administrative costs in 1983	9,781,000. -	9,740,630.90
Excess expenditure carried forward from 1982	-	263,401.62
	9,781,000. -	10,004,032.52
III. SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET		
Sections 24 and 25 - Cost of publications issued during 1983, including overheads	5,445,300. -	9,690,331.50
Section 26 - Cost of the Journal and the List of Addresses	1,632,000. -	1,495,063.15
Section 27 - Sundry	200,000. -	202,189.35
	7,277,300. -	11,387,584. -
Surplus income paid into the Publications Capital Account	-	657,545.90
	7,277,300. -	12,045,129.90

*) 1983 Budget, including additional credits.

INCOME	1983 budget *)	1983 accounts
	Swiss francs	
II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET		
UNDP contribution to defrayal of project costs		5,689,660.90
Contributions from Funds-in-Trust	9,781,000. -	1,879,269.40
Contribution from Special Fund for Technical Cooperation		4,986. -
Other income:		
- balance of account using payments granted for 1982	-	21,277.15
- sundry	-	145,958.10
- balance of the Fund for the retirement of staff members	-	55,417.30
	9,781,000. -	7,796,568.85
Excess expenditure carried forward to 1984	-	2,207,463.67
	9,781,000. -	10,004,032.52
III. SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET		
Sale of publications issued during 1983 and previous years	5,838,000. -	10,444,626.80
Sale of Journal and List of Addresses	300,000. -	293,778.65
Advertisements in the Telecommunication Journal	900,000. -	1,086,876.20
Sundry	220,000. -	219,848.25
	7,258,000. -	12,045,129.90
Excess expenditure	19,300. -	-
	7,277,300. -	12,045,129.90

*) 1983 Budget, including additional credits.

Annex 3

BUDGETS, EXPENDITURE AND INCOME OF THE
INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
FOR THE YEAR 1984

as published in the Financial Operating Report of the Union and approved by the Administrative Council.

See in this regard :

Resolution No. 918 concerning the approval of the Financial Operating Report for 1984.

Resolution No. 919 approving the accounts of the Union for the period 1 January to 31 December 1984, as submitted, and, as audited, by the External Auditor appointed by the Swiss Confederation.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 1984
Management account, 1984

EXPENDITURE	1984 budget*)	1984 accounts
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION		
- <u>Swiss francs</u> -		
A. ORDINARY BUDGET OF THE UNION		
Section 1 - Administrative Council	802,000.-	803,210.65
Common Headquarters expenditure :		
Section 2 - Staff	48,132,000.-	48,516,137.10
Section 3 - Social security	11,775,000.-	11,404,222.85
Section 4 - Premises	3,869,000.-	4,031,623.86
Section 5 - Missions	150,000.-	237,631.85
Section 6 - Office and miscellaneous expenses	6,018,000.-	6,552,708.57
Section 7 - Technical cooperation and assistance	3,872,200.-	3,851,835.25
Section 8 - Arabic, Chinese and Russian translation	1,350,000.-	1,350,000.-
	75,968,200.-	76,747,370.13
Section 9 - Extended use of the computer by the IFRB	3,121,800.-	2,966,561.50
	79,090,000.-	79,713,931.63
Section 11.4 - WARC HFBC-84	2,577,900.-	2,313,262.90
Section 11.5 - WARC ORB-85	1,271,600.-	1,191,729.95
Section 12 - CCIR meetings	1,858,500.-	1,626,108.40
Section 13 - CCITT meetings	3,826,000.-	3,675,439.72
Section 15 - ITU seminars	-	5,141.40
Section 16 - Seminars of ITU Member Administrations	200,000.-	178,131.55
Section 17 - Common expenditure for conferences and meetings	5,242,000.-	4,657,214.85
Section 18 - Implementation by the IFRB of the decisions of world and regional administrative conferences	180,500.-	172,860.05
	94,246,500.-	93,533,820.45
Fitting out of CCITT Laboratory	70,000.-	94,638.-
Maintenance and renewal of simultaneous interpretation and other sound reproduction equipment	15,000.-	79,320.20
	94,331,500.-	93,707,778.65
Transfer to ITU Reserve Account under Art. 79 of the Nairobi Convention (1982)	2,000,000.-	2,000,000.-
	96,331,500.-	95,707,778.65
Surplus income to be paid into ITU Reserve Account		1,640,735.07
	96,331,500.-	97,348,513.72
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCES BUDGET		
Section 20.3 - RARC-1	3,953,300.-	3,444,512.50

*) 1984 budget including additional credits

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 1984 (cont.)

INCOME	1984 budget*)	1984 accounts
	- <u>Swiss francs</u> -	
<u>I. BUDGET OF THE UNION</u>		
<u>A. ORDINARY BUDGET OF THE UNION</u>		
Contributions :		
- Contributions by Union Members for the current year	81,980,250.-	82,049,916.-
- Contributions by recognized private operating agencies and scientific or industrial organizations to meet expenses of meetings under Sections 11 to 13	-	-
CCIR	2,612,500.-	2,764,565.05
CCITT	5,475,800.-	5,959,983.25
Sundry income	47,450.-	269,591.22
	90,116,000.-	91,044,055.52
Withdrawal from CCITT Reserve Fund for equipping the CCITT Laboratory	70,000.-	94,638.-
Withdrawal from the Renewal Fund for simultaneous interpretation and other sound reproduction equipment	15,000.-	79,320.20
	90,201,000.-	91,218,013.72
Withdrawal from ITU Reserve Account to cover additional credits	6,130,500.-	6,130,500.-
	96,331,500.-	97,348,513.72
<u>B. REGIONAL CONFERENCE BUDGET</u>		
Contributions RARC-1	3,953,300.-	3,444,512.50

*) 1984 budget including additional credits

Management account, 1984 (cont.)

EXPENDITURE	1984 budget *)	1984 accounts
	- <u>Swiss francs</u> -	
II. <u>TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET</u>		
Section 21 - Technical Cooperation - Administrative costs in 1984	10,359,000.-	10,039,662.97
Excess expenditure carried forward from 1983		2,207,463.67
Deficit for 1981		1,793,958.80
	10,359,000.-	14,041,085.44
III. <u>SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET</u>		
Sections 24 and 25 - Cost of publications issued during 1984, including overheads	6,362,400.-	5,780,239.30
Section 26 - Cost of the Journal and the List of Addresses	1,622,000.-	1,083,262.65
Section 27 - Sundry	250,000.-	199,199.05
	8,234,400.-	7,062,701.-
Surplus income paid into the Publications Capital Account		150,444.13
	8,234,400.-	7,213,145.13

*) 1984 budget including additional credits

Management account, 1984 (cont.)

INCOME	1984 budget *)	1984 accounts
<u>- Swiss francs -</u>		
II. <u>TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET</u>		
UNDP contribution to defrayal of project costs] 10,359,000.-	6,082,322.-
Contributions from Funds-in-Trust		1,327,063.-
Contribution from Special Fund for Technical Cooperation		4,457.-
<u>Other income :</u>		
- balance of account using payments granted for 1983		13,791.55
- sundry		168,765.95
- balance of the Fund for the retirement of staff members		25,125.-
	10,359,000.-	7,621,524.50
Excess expenditure carried forward to 1985		6,419,560.94
	<u>10,359,000.-</u>	<u>14,041,085.44</u>
III. <u>SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET</u>		
Sale of publications issued during 1984 and previous years	6,735,000.-	5,830,752.71
Sale of Journal and List of Addresses	300,000.-	322,122.95
Advertisements in the Telecommunication Journal	900,000.-	846,055.70
Sundry	270,000.-	214,213.77
	8,205,000.-	7,213,145.13
Excess expenditure	29,400.-	
	8,234,400.-	7,213,145.13

*) 1984 budget including additional credits

Annex 4

BUDGETS, EXPENDITURE AND INCOME OF THE
INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
FOR THE YEAR 1985

as published in the Financial Operating Report of the Union and approved by the Administrative Council.

See in this regard :

Resolution No. 939 concerning the approval of the Financial Operating Report for 1985.

Resolution No. 942 approving the accounts of the Union for the period 1 January to 31 December 1985, as submitted, and, as audited, by the External Auditor appointed by the Swiss Confederation.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT
Management account for 1985

EXPENDITURE	1985 budget	1985 expenditure
	- Swiss francs -	
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION		
A. Ordinary budget of the Union		
Section 1 - Administrative Council Common Headquarters expenditure :	798,000	751,760.15
Section 2 - Staff	50,156,000	50,567,433.29
Section 3 - Social security	12,643,000	12,163,272.19
Section 4 - Premises	3,740,000	3,951,284.68
Section 5 - Missions	200,000	233,795.05
Section 6 - Office and miscellaneous expenses	6,662,000	7,057,964.76
Section 7 - Technical cooperation and assistance	6,169,400	5,423,128.19
Section 8 - Implementation of Resolution No. 65 (PP 1982)	1,350,000	1,350,000.00
Section 9 - Extended use of the computer by the IFRB	81,718,400	81,498,638.31
	3,569,400	3,453,424.45
Section 11.2 - WARC mobile services 1983	85,287,800	84,952,062.76
Section 11.4 - WARC HFBC-84	0	15,004.00
Section 11.5 - WARC ORB-85	1,827,200	1,795,500.95
Section 12 - CCIR meetings	2,330,800	2,166,109.63
Section 13 - CCITT meetings	3,209,000	2,852,422.43
Section 15 - ITU seminars	2,633,000	2,347,938.60
Section 16 - Seminars of ITU Member Administrations	50,000	22,231.35
Section 17 - Common expenditure for conferences and meetings	200,000	227,270.30
Section 18 - Implementation by the IFRB of adm. conf. decisions	5,226,500	5,434,308.70
	374,700	254,257.35
Payment into the ITU Reserve Account	101,139,000	100,067,106.07
	800,000	800,000.00
Fitting out of CCITT Laboratory	101,939,000	100,867,106.07
Maintenance and renewal of simultaneous interpretation and other sound reproduction equipment	70,000	45,532.35
Excess expenditure Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development	15,000	49,344.05
		490,631.80
Surplus income	102,024,000	101,452,614.27
		1,828,013.77
	102,024,000	103,280,628.04
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCES BUDGET		
Section 20.2 - RARC, SAT-R2 (1983)	720,000	715,680.00
Section 20.3 - RABC, Reg. 1+ (1984)	242,100	206,189.00
Section 20.4 - RARC, MM-R1 and EMA-R1 (1985)	2,141,500	1,607,265.00
Section 20.7 - RAC, EUR, Geneva 1985	59,000	26,610.00
Section 20.7 - RAC, AFR, Geneva 1985	46,000	22,785.00
	3,208,600	2,578,529.00

1985 budget including additional credits

INCOME	1985 budget	1985 income
- Swiss francs -		
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION		
A. Ordinary budget of the Union		
Contributions :		
- Contributions by Union Members for the current year	86,899,500	87,010,200.00
- Contributions by recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations to meet expenses of conferences and meetings under Sections 11 to 13 :		
WARC HFBC-84	0	42,595.00
WARC ORB-85	0	0.00
WARC MOB-87	0	0.00
CCIR	2,789,640	2,878,200.00
CCITT	6,110,640	6,629,395.00
- Sundry income	158,220	153,729.84
Subsidy from the supplementary publications budget	95,958,000	96,714,119.84
	250,000	250,000.00
	96,208,000	96,964,119.84
Withdrawal from the ITU Reserve Account to cover additional credits	5,731,000	5,731,000.00
Withdrawal from the CCITT Reserve Fund for equipping the CCITT Laboratory	70,000	45,532.35
Withdrawal from the Renewal Fund for simultaneous interpretation and other sound reproduction equipment	15,000	49,344.05
Withdrawal from the Reserve Account to cover excess expenditure of the Independent Commission for World-Wide Telecommunications Development		490,631.80
	102,024,000	103,280,628.04
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCE BUDGET		
Contributions - RARC, SAT-R2 (1983)	720,000	715,680.00
- RABC, Reg. 1+ (1984)	242,100	206,189.00
- RARC, MM-R1 and EMA-R1 (1985)	2,141,500	1,607,265.00
- RAC, EUR Geneva (1985)	59,000	26,610.00
- RAC, AFR Geneva (1985)	46,000	22,785.00
	3,208,600	2,578,529.00

1985 budget including additional credits

Management account, 1985 (continued)

EXPENDITURE	1985 budget	1985 expenditure
II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET		
Section 21 - Technical Cooperation - Administrative costs in 1985	10,534,000	9,356,339.29
Excess expenditure carried forward from 1984		6,419,560.94
	10,534,000	15,775,900.23
III. SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET		
Sections 24 and 25 - Cost of publications issued during 1985, including overheads	10,713,500	10,511,903.93
Section 26 - Cost of the Journal and the List of Addresses	1,630,000	1,331,806.45
Section 27 - Sundry	245,000	354,613.15
	12,588,500	12,198,323.53
Surplus income paid into the Publications Capital Account	1,076,500	1,364,077.32
	13,665,000	13,562,400.85

1985 budget including additional credits

INCOME	1985 budget	1985 income
II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET		
UNDP contribution to defrayal of project costs	10,534,000	6,925,180.50
Contributions from Funds-in-Trust		1,334,938.35
Contribution from Special Fund for Technical Cooperation		0.00
Other income		
- balance of account using payments granted for 1984		51,896.55
- sundry		26,652.90
- balance of the Fund for the retirement of staff members		36,258.55
Excess expenditure carried forward to 1986	10,534,000	8,374,926.85 7,400,973.38
	10,534,000	15,775,900.23
III. SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET		
Sale of publications issued during 1985 and previous years	12,000,000	11,970,482.05
Sale of Journal and List of Addresses	400,000	322,882.05
Advertisements in the Telecommunication Journal	1,000,000	868,945.00
Sundry	265,000	400,091.75
	13,665,000	13,562,400.85
	13,665,000	13,562,400.85

1985 budget including additional credits

Annex 5

BUDGETS, EXPENDITURE AND INCOME OF THE
INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
FOR THE YEAR 1986

as published in the Financial Operating Report of the Union and approved by the Administrative Council.

See in this regard :

Resolution No. 958 concerning the approval of the Financial Operating Report for 1986.

Resolution No. 957 approving the accounts of the Union for the period 1 January to 31 December 1986, as submitted, and, as audited, by the External Auditor appointed by the Swiss Confederation.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1986
(Management account) (in Swiss francs)

EXPENDITURE	1986 budget	1986 expenditure
	- <u>Swiss francs</u> -	
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION		
A. Ordinary budget of the Union		
Section 1 - Administrative Council	783,800	666,365.25
Common Headquarters expenditure:		
Section 2 - Staff	50,109,000	50,363,761.80
Section 3 - Social security	11,632,000	11,500,799.30
Section 4 - Premises	3,980,000	3,962,031.20
Section 5 - Missions	278,000	273,295.40
Section 6 - Office and miscellaneous expenses	7,357,000	7,425,364.25
Section 7 - Techn. cooperation and assistance	5,910,900	5,480,112.00
Section 8 - Implementation of Resolution No. 65 (PP 1982)	1,350,000	1,350,000.00
- Contr. TC prog., admin. support	740,000	740,000.00
	82,140,700	81,761,729.20
Section 9 - Extended use of the computer by the IFRB	3,236,600	3,183,373.65
	85,377,300	84,945,102.85
Section 11.4 - WARC HFBC-84	1,740,100	1,737,525.20
Section 11.5 - WARC ORB-85	900,000	794,231.95
Section 11.6 - WARC MOB-87	308,400	195,195.75
Section 12 - CCIR meetings	940,500	1,073,526.40
Section 13 - CCITT meetings	3,332,400	3,298,929.80
Section 15 - ITU seminars	69,300	69,154.65
Section 16 - Seminars of ITU Member Administrations	200,000	62,922.30
Section 17 - Common expenditure for conferences and meetings	4,093,400	3,680,414.40
Section 18 - Implementation by the IFRB of adm. conf. decisions	397,500	335,910.35
	97,358,900	96,192,913.65
Payment into the ITU Reserve Account	2,500,000	2,500,000.00
	99,858,900	98,692,913.65
Fitting out of CCITT Laboratory	70,000	70,384.60
Maintenance and renewal of simultaneous inter- pretation and other sound reproduction equipment	15,000	9,008.35
Cancellation of bad debts	0	35,587.65
	99,943,900	98,807,894.25
Surplus income		2,120,332.46
	99,943,900	100,928,226.71
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCES BUDGET		
Section 20.3 - RABC, Reg. 1+ (1984)	389,300	393,108.00
Section 20.4 - RARC, MM-R1 and EMA-R1 (1985)	248,400	235,200.00
Section 20.5 - AFBC(1) - 1986	1,048,200	953,490.00
Section 20.6 - BC-R2(1) - 1986	1,128,300	1,026,724.00
	2,814,200	2,608,522.00

1986 budget including additional credits

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1986
(Management account) (in Swiss francs)

INCOME	1986 budget	1986 income
	- <u>Swiss francs</u> -	
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION		
A. Ordinary budget of the Union		
Contributions :		
- Contributions by Union Members for the current year	91,254,600	91,027,237.00
- Contributions by recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations to meet expenses of conferences and meetings under Sections 11 to 13 :		
WARC HFBC-84	0	0.00
WARC ORB-85	0	0.00
WARC MOB-87	0	0.00
CCIR	3,041,820	3,200,490.00
CCITT	6,725,120	7,156,630.00
- Sundry income	72,460	663,989.11
	101,094,000	102,048,346.11
Subsidy from the supplementary publications budget	250,000	250,000.00
	101,344,000	102,298,346.11
Payment into the ITU Reserve Account to cover additional credits	-2,225,100	-2,225,100.00
Withdrawal from the CCITT Reserve Fund for equipping the CCITT Laboratory	70,000	70,384.60
Withdrawal from the Renewal Fund for simultaneous interpretation and other sound reproduction equipment	15,000	9,008.35
Withdrawal from the Reserve Account to cover Technical Cooperation deficit	740,000	740,000.00
Withdrawal from the ITU Reserve Account to write off bad debts	0	35,587.65
	99,943,900	100,928,226.71
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCE BUDGET		
Contributions - RABC, Reg. 1+ (1984)	389,300	393,108.00
- RARC, MM-R1 and EMA-R1 (1985)	248,400	235,200.00
- RAC, AFBC(1) (1986)	1,048,200	953,490.00
- RAC, BC-R2 (1986)	1,128,300	1,026,724.00
	2,814,200	2,608,522.00

1986 budget including additional credits

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1986
(Management account) (in Swiss francs)

EXPENDITURE	1986 budget	1986 expenditure
II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET		
Section 21 - Technical Cooperation - Administrative costs in 1986	9,931,500	8,354,329.75
Excess expenditure carried forward from 1985		7,400,973.38
	9,931,500	15,755,303.13
III. SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET		
Sections 24 and 25 - Cost of publications issued during 1986, including overheads	7,495,800	7,331,191.42
Section 26 - Cost of the Journal and the List of Addresses	1,440,000	1,316,696.84
Section 27 - Sundry	260,000	244,228.72
	9,195,800	8,892,116.98
Surplus income paid into the Publications Capital Account	294,200	101,372.43
	9,490,000	8,993,489.41

1986 budget including additional credits

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1986
(Management account) (in Swiss francs)

INCOME	1986 budget	1986 income
II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET		
UNDP contribution to defrayal of project costs	9,931,500	5,458,614.55
Contributions from Funds-in-Trust		858,204.00
Contribution from Special Fund for Technical Cooperation		0.00
Other income		
- balance of account using payments granted for 1985		69,217.46
- sundry		62,427.02
- balance of the Fund for the retirement of staff members		25,880.00
Absorption of excess expenditure for previous years		3,251,422.47
	9,931,500	9,725,765.50
Excess expenditure carried forward to 1987		6,029,537.63
	9,931,500	15,755,303.13
III. SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET		
Sale of publications issued during 1986 and previous years	8,000,000	7,685,301.65
Sale of Journal and List of Addresses	350,000	261,725.00
Advertisements in the Telecommunication Journal	850,000	729,540.70
Sundry	290,000	316,922.06
	9,490,000	8,993,489.41
	9,490,000	8,993,489.41

1986 budget including additional credits

Annex 6

BUDGETS, EXPENDITURE AND INCOME OF THE
INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
FOR THE YEAR 1987

as published in the Financial Operating Report of the Union and approved by the Administrative Council.

See in this regard :

Resolution No. 972 concerning the approval of the Financial Operating Report for 1987.

Resolution No. 973 approving the accounts of the Union for the period 1 January to 31 December 1987, as submitted, and, as audited, by the External Auditor appointed by the Swiss Confederation.

BUDGET AND ACCOUNTS FOR 1987

EXPENDITURE	1987 Budget	1987 Expenditure
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION	- Swiss Francs -	
A. ORDINARY BUDGET OF THE UNION		
Sect. 1 - Administrative Council Common Headquarters expenditure	778,000	745,410.00
Sect. 2 - Staff	51,100,300	51,083,683.15
Sect. 3 - Social security	10,747,700	10,886,033.85
Sect. 4 - Premises	4,202,000	4,186,213.00
Sect. 5 - Missions	225,000	224,131.90
Sect. 6 - Office and miscellaneous expenses	7,670,000	7,591,465.40
Sect. 7 - Technical cooperation and assistance	5,941,000	5,432,531.85
Sect. 8 - Implementation of 1982 PP Res. No. 65	1,350,000	1,350,000.00
Sect. 0 - Contribution to TC Progr., support cost	750,000	750,000.00
	82,764,000	82,249,469.15
Sect. 9 - Extended use of the computer by IFRB	3,529,200	3,528,186.00
	86,293,200	85,777,655.15
Sect. 11.4 - WARC HFBC(2)	2,068,600	1,934,352.30
Sect. 11.5 - WARC ORB-85	910,100	847,483.40
Sect. 11.6 - WARC MOB-87	1,862,200	1,818,422.45
Sect. 12 - CCIR meetings	2,602,300	2,190,988.00
Sect. 13 - CCITT meetings	3,032,700	3,092,218.45
Sect. 15 - ITU seminars	74,700	43,089.75
Sect. 16 - Seminars of ITU Member Administrations	200,000	240,107.70
Sect. 17 - Common expend. for conf. and meetings	7,265,700	7,030,315.40
Sect. 18 - Implem. by IFRB of dec. of adm. conf.	585,800	579,589.70
	104,895,300	103,556,222.30
Fitting out of CCITT Laboratory	60,000	84,829.30
Maintenance and renewal of simlts. interp. equipment	15,000	2,896.10
Cancellation of bad debts	0.00	82,449.60
	104,970,300	103,726,397.30
Surplus income		2,077,239.16
	104,970,300	105,803,636.46
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCES BUDGET		
Sect. 20.3 - RARC-1 + (1984)	175,500	134,890.00
Sect. 20.5 - RARC, AFBC (1) (1986)	436,100	155,944.00
	611,600	290,834.00

1987 budget including additional credits

INCOME	1987 Budget	1987 Income
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION	- Swiss Francs -	
A. ORDINARY BUDGET OF THE UNION		
Contributions :		
- Contributions by Union Members for the current year	90,778,675	90,848,697.00
- Contributions by recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations to meet expenses of conferences and meetings under Sect. 11 to 13 :		
WARC HFEC-84	0	0.00
WARC ORB-85	0	0.00
WARC MOB-87	0	30,380.00
CCIR	3,082,940	3,279,969.65
CCITT	6,907,640	7,182,936.25
- Sundry income	78,745	244,178.56
	100,848,000	101,586,161.46
Subsidy from the supplementary publications budget	250,000	250,000.00
	101,098,000	101,836,161.46
Withdrawal from the ITU Reserve Account	6,000,000	6,000,000.00
Payment into ITU Reserve Account to cover additional credits	-2,202,700	-2,202,700.00
Withdrawal from CCITT Reserve Fund for equipping the CCITT Laboratory	60,000	84,829.30
Withdrawal from the Renewal Fund for simultaneous interpretation and other sound reproduction equip.	15,000	2,896.10
Withdrawal from ITU Reserve Account to write off bad debts	0	82,449.60
	104,970,300	105,803,636.46
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCES BUDGET		
Contributions - RARC-1 + (1984)	175,500	134,890.00
- RARC, AFBC (i) (1986)	436,100	155,944.00
	611,600	290,834.00

1987 budget including additional credits

BUDGET AND ACCOUNTS FOR 1987 (cont.)

EXPENDITURE	1987 Budget	1987 Expenditure
	- Swiss Francs -	
II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET		
Sect. 21 - Technical Cooperation - Administrative costs in 1987	9,251,000	8,317,635.57
Excess expenditure carried forward from 1986		6,029,537.63
	9,251,000	14,347,173.20
III. SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET		
Sections 24 and 25 - Cost of publications issued during 1987, including overheads	8,245,500	8,593,442.93
Section 26 - Cost of the Journal and the List of Addresses	1,510,000	1,720,519.33
Section 26 - Sundry	300,000	218,230.35
	10,055,500	10,532,192.61
Surplus income paid into the Publications Capital Account	950,500	823,623.77
	11,006,000	11,355,816.38

1987 budget including additional credits

INCOME	1987 Budget	1987 Income
- Swiss Francs -		
II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET		
UNDP contributions to defrayal of project costs	9,251,000	4,086,827.20
Contributions from Funds-in-Trust		834,662.55
Contribution from Special Fund for Technical Cooperation		0.00
Other income		
- balance of account using payments granted for 1986		39,068.46
- Sundry income		65,796.59
- balance of the Fund for the retirement of staff members		41,512.15
Amortization of excess expendit. for previous years		1,877,000.00
	9,251,000	6,944,866.95
Excess expenditure carried forward to 1988		7,402,306.25
	9,251,000	14,347,173.20
III. SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET		
Sale of publications issued during 1987 and previous years	9,436,000	9,733,071.70
Sale of Journal and List of Addresses	340,000	300,125.80
Advertisements in the Telecommunication Journal	900,000	1,108,552.65
Sundry	330,000	214,066.23
	11,006,000	11,355,816.38
	11,006,000	11,355,816.38

1987 budget including additional credits

Annex 7

BUDGETS, EXPENDITURE AND INCOME OF THE
INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
FOR THE YEAR 1988

as published in the Financial Operating Report of the Union and approved by the Administrative Council.

See in this regard :

Resolution No. 986 concerning the approval of the Financial Operating Report for 1988.

Resolution No. 987 approving the accounts of the Union for the period 1 January to 31 December 1988, as submitted, and, as audited, by the External Auditor appointed by the Swiss Confederation.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1988 (Management account) (in Swiss francs)		
EXPENDITURE	1988 Budget	1988 Expenditure
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION	- Swiss francs -	
A. ORDINARY BUDGET OF THE UNION		
Sect. 1 - Administrative Council Common Headquarters expenditure	794,500	828,137.60
Sect. 2 - Staff	51,882,000	51,423,720.90
Sect. 3 - Social security	11,089,000	11,147,670.60
Sect. 4 - Premises	4,180,000	4,386,632.75
Sect. 5 - Missions	230,000	236,875.90
Sect. 6 - Office and miscellaneous expenses	7,700,000	7,701,821.26
Sect. 7 - Technical cooperation and assistance	5,686,100	5,000,142.55
Sect. 8 - Implementation of 1982 PP Res. No.65	1,425,000	1,425,000.00
Sect. 0 - Contrib. to TC Progr., support cost	753,000	753,000.00
	83,739,600	82,903,001.56
Sect. 9 - Extended use of the computer by IFRB	3,368,200	3,410,977.80
	87,107,800	86,313,979.36
Sect. 11.4 - WARC HFBC-2	535,300	418,703.25
Sect. 11.5 - WARC ORB-88	3,152,200	3,036,388.05
Sect. 11.6 - WARC MOB-87	30,000	41,709.05
Sect. 11.7 - WATTC-88	466,500	443,924.30
Sect. 12 - CCIR meetings	2,254,000	1,804,581.10
Sect. 13 - CCITT meetings	4,416,400	4,835,784.20
Sect. 15 - ITU seminars	71,600	68,566.25
Sect. 16 - Seminars of ITU Member Admins.	200,000	176,999.70
Sect. 17 - Common expend. for conf. and mtgs.	7,179,700	7,300,855.60
Sect. 18 - Implem. by IFRB of dec. of adm. conf	1,731,100	1,730,626.00
	107,144,600	106,172,116.86
Fitting out of CCITT Laboratory	60,000	9,453.05
Maintenance and renewal of simult. interp. equipt.	15,000	12,043.60
Cancellation of bad debts	0.00	22,224.45
	107,219,600	106,215,837.96
Surplus income		1,637,333.56
	107,219,600	107,853,171.52
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCES BUDGET		
Sect. 20.5 - RARC, AFBC (1)	646,200	603,665.00
Sect. 20.6 - RARC, BC-R2 (1)+(2)	869,800	846,498.00
	1,516,000	1,450,163.00

1988 budget including additional credits

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1988 (Management account) (in Swiss francs)		
INCOME	1988 Budget	1988 Income
I. BUDGET OF THE UNION	- Swiss francs -	
A. ORDINARY BUDGET OF THE UNION		
Contributions:		
- Contributions by Union Members for the current year	89,909,250	89,978,668.00
- Contributions by recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations to meet expenses of conferences and meetings under Sections 11 to 13:		
WARC HFBC-84	0	0.00
WARC ORS-88	0	47,100.00
WARC MOB-87	0	0.00
WATTC-88	0	9,300.00
CCIR	3,125,280	3,190,390.00
CCITT	6,618,240	6,932,300.00
- Sundry income	108,230	268,092.42
	99,761,000	100,425,850.42
Subsidy from the supplementary publications budget	250,000	250,000.00
	100,011,000	100,675,850.42
Withdrawal from the ITU reserve account	6,000,000	6,000,000.00
Withdrawal from the ITU reserve account to cover additional credits	1,133,600	1,133,600.00
Withdrawal from the CCITT for equipping the CCITT Laboratory	60,000	9,453.05
Withdrawal from the renewal fund for simultaneous interpretation and other sound reproduct. equip.	15,000	12,043.60
Withdrawal from the ITU Reserve Account to write off bad debts	0	22,224.45
	107,219,600	107,853,171.52
B. REGIONAL CONFERENCES BUDGET		
Contributions - RARC, AFBC (1)	646,200	603,665.00
- RARC, BC-R2 (1)+(2)	869,800	846,498.00
	1,516,000	1,450,163.00

1988 budget including additional credits

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1988 (Management account) (in Swiss francs)		
EXPENDITURE	1988 Budget	1988 Expenditure
II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET	- Swiss francs -	
Sect. 21 - Technical Cooperation - Administrative costs in 1988	9,200,000	8,619,114.63
Excess expenditure carried forward from 1987 excess 7,402,306.25 amortization - 4,068,000.00 ----- 3,334,306.25		3,334,306.25
	9,200,000	11,953,420.88
III. SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET		
Sections 24 and 25 - Cost of publications issued during 1988, including overheads	6,750,700	4,532,659.55
Section 26 - Cost of the Journal and the List of Addresses	1,480,000	1,455,694.09
Section 26 - Sundry	280,000	185,572.24
	8,510,700	6,173,925.88
	789,300	
	9,300,000	6,173,925.88

1988 budget including additional credits

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1988 (Management account) (in Swiss francs)		
INCOME	1988 Budget	1988 Income
II. TECHNICAL COOPERATION SPECIAL ACCOUNTS BUDGET	- Swiss francs -	
UNDP contributions to defrayal of project costs	9,200,000	4,111,568.65
Contributions from Funds-in-Trust		1,255,780.80
Contribution from the Special Fund for Technical Cooperation		0.00
Other income		
- balance of account using payments granted for 1987		26,542.17
- sundry income		2,345.90
- balance of the Fund for the retirement of staff members		5,322.55
UNDP reimbursement for project costs in 1987		721,413.00
	9,200,000	6,122,973.07
Excess expenditure carried forward to 1989		5,830,447.81
	9,200,000	11,953,420.88
III. SUPPLEMENTARY PUBLICATIONS BUDGET		
Sale of publications issued during 1988 and previous year	7,800,000	4,780,028.15
Sale of Journal and List of Addresses	340,000	190,667.40
Advertisements in the Telecommunication Journal	860,000	665,529.38
Sundry	300,000	199,973.05
	9,300,000	5,836,197.98
Excess expenditure debited to the Publications Capital Account		337,727.90
	9,300,000	6,173,925.88

1988 budget including additional credits

Annex 8

DRAFT RESOLUTION

R No. APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE UNION FOR THE YEARS 1982 TO 1988

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union, Nice, 1989.

considering

- a) the provisions of Number 40 of the International Telecommunication Convention, Nairobi, 1982;
- b) the Report by the Administrative Council to the Plenipotentiary Conference, Document No. 6738 relating to the financial management of the Union during the years 1982 to 1988 and the Report of the Finance Committee of the present Conference (Document No.);

resolves

to give its final approval of the accounts of the Union for the years 1982 to 1988.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 187-E

1 June 1989

Original: French

COMMITTEE 7

France

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

FUTURE ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO CONFERENCES

At its 44th session, the Administrative Council put forward a draft outline programme of major ITU conferences and meetings for the next five years.

It deliberately confined itself to one major conference or meeting a year, in order to avoid having such a heavy programme as in the period now coming to an end and thus:

- reduce the operating costs involved;
- allow proper preparations to be made for the conferences scheduled.

It is in fact essential, before deciding to convene a conference, to make sure that there is a good enough chance of achieving concrete and positive results.

Given the meetings that must be held (Plenary Assemblies of the CCI, next Plenipotentiary Conference) and the time required for preparation, it will only be possible to convene one conference between 1990 and 1994, which might be held in 1992.

It will be necessary to establish priority between the various possible subjects (in the light of the requests made by previous conferences), applying the principle stated above of a reasonable chance of success and considering the urgency of the decisions to be taken and the logical sequence of such decisions; it seems sensible, for example, to allocate frequency bands to a new service before planning the bands for that service.

In the light of these various considerations, the following proposals are submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference:

F/187/1

A WARC should be convened in 1992 to consider a limited reallocation of the radio-frequency spectrum, in particular for:

- 1) the mobile and mobile-satellite services and the UHF space research and operation services;
- 2) satellite broadcasting (sound broadcasting, HDTV);
- 3) HF broadcasting.

Reasons: These services are expanding vigorously, but they cannot develop correctly if they do not have the frequencies they need. They have been the subject of resolutions adopted by the WARC's held since the last Plenipotentiary Conference. It therefore does not seem reasonable to wait for a WARC on a general reallocation, which might be held at the end of the 1990s. A reallocation of the kind indicated is the first thing that has to be done before any study on the planning of these services (particularly in the case of HF broadcasting).

F/187/2

Groups of Experts should be set up to:

- prepare a revision of the definitions of services (Article 1) in the Radio Regulations so as to take account of the development of new technology and prepare for a subsequent revision of the table of frequency allocations (Article 8), with a view to making more effective use of the frequency spectrum;
- to consider how to improve and simplify the Radio Regulations.

Reasons: It is essential to revise the definitions of services so as to allow for the contribution of new technology in the use of frequencies and thus, by making better use of the spectrum, try to ward off the day when it will become saturated.

Formal simplification of the Radio Regulations is a complex matter which should be tackled cautiously. It is however urgently necessary if the Regulations are to remain easy to use, which is essential for the harmonious development of radiocommunications.

F/187/3

The holding of a conference to plan HF broadcasting should be contingent upon the conclusions reached by a Group of Experts convened first.

Reasons: To make sure that the conference has a reasonable chance at arriving at concrete and positive results.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 188-E

1 June 1989

Original: French

Note by the Chairman of the Conference

I have the honour to transmit to the Conference herewith the text of a letter I have just received from the Delegation of Zaire.

J. GRENIER
Chairman

Annex: 1

29 May 1989

Mr. J. Grenier,
Chairman of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference,
Nice,

Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you on behalf of my country, the Republic of Zaire, on your election as Chairman of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference being held in Nice. Your election bears witness to your eminence in the field of telecommunications.

In Zaire we have not forgotten the work you have done for the development of our telecommunications and we count on you to continue it.

Mr. Chairman, this Plenipotentiary Conference is being held at a time when the world is going through a very difficult economic and financial crisis. The developing countries are the ones most affected. Their telecommunication requirements are not matched by their financial capacity.

You, Mr. Chairman, are one of those who are very familiar with the problems faced by the Third World countries, and particularly those in Africa. We rely on you to make our problems and difficulties known and help find an equitable solution.

In Zaire, the founding President of the MPR and President of the Republic, Marshal Mobutu, has included telecommunications in his programme of action as a priority of priorities. That is to say, telecommunications are a major concern for all my country's leaders.

We hope that the ITU's new structure under your Chairmanship will be in line with our aims.

The ITU has constantly worked to improve the telecommunications system in my country. At the moment it is in the process of relaunching the training centre, which could in the near future become a regional centre for Central Africa.

The ITU's achievements in Zaire under Mr. Butler's leadership are many in number, and Zaire remains very grateful to him.

I cannot conclude without expressing my thanks to the French Government for kindly extending an official invitation to the State Commissioner for the PTT, whom I have the honour to represent. My thanks also go to France Telecom for the facilities made available to us and to the city authorities of Nice for the hospitality which is characteristic of this city.

(signed) Gbaligaza Yangamo
Chairman and Managing
Director of the National
Posts and Telecommunications
Office of Zaire (ONPTZ)

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 189-E
8 June 1989
Original: English

COMMITTEE 5

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
SECOND MEETING OF COMMITTEE 5
(STAFF MATTERS)

Thursday, 1 June 1989, at 0930 hrs

Chairman: Mr. F. MOLINA NEGRO (Spain)

Subjects discussed:

Documents

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 1. | Statement by the Chairman of the ITU Staff Council | - |
| 2. | Pension matters (continued):
Planned Pension Purchasing Power Protection
Insurance (continued) | 30, 131 |

1. Statement by the Chairman of the ITU Staff Council

1.1 The Chairman of the ITU Staff Council said that he had been encouraged by the tone of the opening remarks made by delegates at the previous meeting. He thanked those who had recognized that ITU staff worked well even under less than favourable conditions. The ITU was highly rated among the specialized agencies because it worked more efficiently than most and that was in large measure due to the efforts of its staff. However, where staff treatment was concerned, ITU's rating was far from being the most favourable. He said that he would be happy to provide any information in the possession of the staff which would help advance the work of the Committee.

2. Pension matters (continued)

Planned Purchasing Power Protection Insurance (continued) (Documents 30, 131)

2.1 The delegate of the Netherlands said that the Conference had to ensure that the working conditions of the staff were just and equitable, so as to guarantee high morale. The Planned Purchasing Power Protection Insurance was a difficult and indeed controversial matter. It appeared to provide facilities tailor-made to special circumstances rather than a more general approach within the UN Common System, with adjustments to particular situations that would not have "oil-spill" effects for the United Nations family.

The scheme was based on a certain set of assumptions, but the Swiss franc/dollar exchange rate could fluctuate up or down. The question also arose as to whether the income replacement ratio between New York and Geneva should be fully bridged. Moreover he wondered whether the staff of the ITU assumed that all Member States allowed pensionable benefits for their civil servants or diplomats posted abroad in addition to their base salary and whether an international agency employing staff from many countries should be the sole guardian of the financial interests of its retired employees.

His Delegation believed that the report by ICSC due in the autumn, analysing the pension scheme in the United Nations and the specialized agencies, should not be pre-empted.

2.2 The Deputy Secretary-General pointed out that the ICSC report expected in the autumn would not deal with questions of pension adjustments or equality of purchasing power which were not within its terms of reference but those of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board.

He stressed again that the staff were eagerly awaiting the decision of the Conference on the proposed scheme.

2.3 The delegate of the German Democratic Republic enquired what the ITU on the one hand and the staff on the other would pay into the proposed fund.

2.4 The Chief of the Budget/Budget Control Service said that the financial implications of the proposed scheme were explained on page 5 of Document 30. The annual cost of the voluntary insurance scheme would be at the most 700,000 Swiss francs; it was, however, expected that the scheme would interest only about 80% of the staff and that the cost per year would therefore be 560,000 Swiss francs for future years of service to which must be added 500,000 Swiss francs for past years (a total of 1,060,000 Swiss francs if the ITU decided to make an annual payment of 500,000 Swiss francs for past years of service instead of a single capital payment). In that connection, he drew the Committee's attention to paragraphs 19 and 20 of Document 30.

2.5 The delegate of Colombia asked whether the proposed scheme took into account the number of insured persons involved, since insurance companies made reductions for large numbers. The Deputy Secretary-General confirmed that that was the case.

2.6 The delegate of the United States drew attention to the various steps taken by the General Assembly of the United Nations as a response to cost of living changes, listed in Section 2.2.5 of the Report of the Administrative Council. Pension benefits had therefore been adjusted regularly to the cost of living, and indeed that had been done during the period of low inflation in the United States, the comparator country.

The operative paragraph of Resolution No. 61 of the Nairobi Conference instructed the Administrative Council "to follow the evolution of this issue, with a view to ensuring that the level of pensions is maintained and to take the appropriate action to achieve this end." The Report of the Administrative Council showed that the Council had taken what his Delegation considered to be appropriate action in the form of Resolutions expressing its concern to the appropriate pensions authority.

The insurance scheme under discussion had been transmitted to the Joint Staff Pension Board, and he understood that the item was on the Board's agenda at its forthcoming meeting. The Board should be allowed to do its work, and the Conference should confine its attention to matters on which the ITU had competence including working conditions and career development.

2.7 The delegate of Australia felt there was a need for further information to be provided. There had been no reference in the documentation to the comprehensive review of pensionable remuneration and pensions under way, whose conclusions would be considered by the General Assembly in 1990. The fact that the interim measures guaranteeing a floor rate of 2.10 Swiss francs to the dollar instituted in 1988, referred to in a footnote on page 3 of Document 30, would only last until the end of 1990, was due to the timing of that review. The measure was a significant Common System response to an acknowledged problem of staff retiring in high cost countries and deserved more than a footnote.

The Committee would also have found it useful to have information on the background of the proposed Pension Purchasing Power Protection Fund which he understood was not an original scheme but a variation on others considered in the United Nations system. It would have been useful to have both sides of the picture and to know the reasons for the rejection of a similar scheme by the Governing Body of the ILO in 1983 and whether the General Assembly had made any comment on such proposals in the past.

Whatever measures were adopted by the Plenipotentiary Conference would have potential implications beyond the ITU. Document 30 might have given greater emphasis to the fact that most organizations in the Common System did not offer special conditions in respect of retirement benefit. Instead it had emphasized the exceptions, including the UPU which was not part of the Common System and WIPO, where practices were being brought into conformity with it. The paper should have indicated that unilateral implementation of the scheme in the ITU would not be consistent with the trend towards a stronger common approach to the issue and should have noted the differences between the scope and cost of the current limited divergences from that approach and against the proposed new scheme.

His Delegation was reluctant, given the review of the Common System, to consider new arrangements which would create further anomalies in the system, although it acknowledged that the proposal represented one way of dealing with a matter of serious concern to the staff, and would support efforts to address the problem.

2.8 The Deputy Secretary-General said that Annex 3 of Document 30 showed that so far as the legal aspects were concerned, the PPPPI plan was perfectly compatible with a) the Nairobi Convention, in particular Resolution No. 61; b) the Joint Pension Fund regulations; c) the principles of the international civil service; and d) the agreement between the United Nations and the Union. There was therefore nothing to prevent it being approved by the Plenipotentiary Conference. The proposal in Document 30 deals only with the protection of the purchasing power of pensions. This proposal cannot be compared with the ILO scheme which sought to establish an additional pension and was found to be unacceptable for that reason. Stressing the unique nature of the ITU scheme, he urged delegates to give it favourable consideration as a possible solution.

2.9 The delegate of the United Kingdom, reaffirming his Administration's commitment to the Common System, said that the views expressed in Annex 3 of Document 30 constituted one legal view but there might be others concerning the compatibility of the proposed scheme with the Common System. He did not think the Committee should take a hasty decision on the matter without further advice from competent legal advisers.

2.10 The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany said, with due respect for the view expressed by the Deputy Secretary-General, that the competent authorities who had studied the subject in his country considered that the proposed scheme would not be compatible with the Common System. However, the financial consequences of the proposal were relatively small and he believed that the Committee should study all possible solutions with an open mind.

2.11 The delegate of Switzerland said that the problem of pensions had concerned the organization for many years. The financial consequences of the insurance scheme were small, ITU's specialized staff were a valuable asset to the Union and there was a well-founded legal opinion before the Committee. The Conference was fully competent to decide on the matter and his Administration, believing that it was undesirable to postpone a decision, was prepared to support the PPPPI scheme at the present time.

2.12 The delegate of the German Democratic Republic said that, in common with many delegates who had spoken at the Committee's preceding meeting, his Delegation would prefer the solution to be found within the Common System.

2.13 The Chairman of the Staff Council said that, at the time of entry into the Common System, he was sure that the ITU had expressed concern about pensions when control was passing out of its hands and had received assurances from the Common System and the Joint Staff Pension Board that all would be well. The ITU had not therefore foreseen or made provision for the fact that its staff would suffer from deterioration in the purchasing power of their pensions. If the ITU had been permitted to take the same action as the UPU, those deteriorations could have been avoided. He therefore urged the Plenipotentiary Conference to decide to allow some compensation for the situation in which the staff now found themselves.

2.14 The delegate of Morocco said that it was essential to preserve the purchasing power of ITU staff and retired staff. The proposed scheme had been under consideration since 1973 and his Delegation was in favour of adopting a decision on it at that Conference.

2.15 After further discussion and in order to facilitate the adoption of a decision, the Chairman suggested that he, with the help of the Vice-Chairman and the Secretariat, should prepare a preliminary version of a draft Resolution updating Resolution No. 61 of the Nairobi Convention (1982) in the light of developments since that date and of the action taken by the Administrative Council. The draft Resolution should be considered as a working document at the Committee's next meeting.

He further suggested:

- a) that the Legal Adviser be invited to attend the Committee's next meeting to answer questions from delegates on legal aspects of the matter not concerned with the draft Resolution; and
- b) that the document submitted by the Staff Council to the Administrative Council providing staff views on the subject, together with the unofficial document prepared by the Secretariat of the JSPB for the Pension Board's forthcoming meeting in July, should be circulated in the meeting room as information documents.

It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 1235 hrs.

The Secretary:

A.B. MACLENNAN

The Chairman:

F. MOLINA NEGRO

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 190-E

9 June 1989

Original: French

COMMITTEE 6

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
SECOND MEETING OF COMMITTEE 6
(TECHNICAL COOPERATION)

Thursday, 1 June 1989, at 1435 hrs

Chairman: Mr. H. VIGNON (Benin)

Subjects discussed:

1. The changing nature of ITU technical cooperation and related field activities
2. Proposals (regional presence)

Documents

33

THA/7/3
INS/MLA/PHL/SNG/THA/52/3
ARS/62/2
ATG/BAH/BRB/BLZ/GRD/GUY/
JMC/VCT/TRD/92/1
MRC/128/3
TON/138/1
SLM/142/1
CHL/113/2
GME/180/4

1. The changing nature of ITU technical cooperation and related field activities: regional presence (continuation of the discussion of Document 33, paragraph 4.7)

1.1 Prior to the resumption of the discussion on regional presence, in response to requests and in order to provide a clear picture of the present situation of the regional presence of the Union, the Deputy Secretary-General said that there were four senior regional representatives, assigned to Latin America, Africa, the Arab States and the Asia-Pacific Region respectively, whose posts were charged to the ordinary budget of the Union. The Area Representatives (for Technical Cooperation), administered projects away from Headquarters and were likewise assigned to the various Regions (three in Africa, two in America and two in Asia). Furthermore, four regional experts in the development of human resources (one in Asia, two in Africa and one in Latin America) were currently in place. Countries not covered by Area Representatives were dealt with directly by the Technical Cooperation Department. Some of these countries wanted a stronger regional presence, especially in the subregions of the South Pacific and the Caribbean.

1.2 The delegate of Indonesia announced that the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore and Thailand supported the proposal for the strengthening of the ITU regional presence, as indicated in Document 52. Owing to that extra assistance, the developing countries would be able to improve their networks and services by a better application of Union standards and regulations. The assignment away from Headquarters of a Group of Experts allocated to the four continents would allow a more flexible approach to the identification of requirements and to project planning. That Group might in turn set up a Group of National Experts to deal with technical cooperation activities among the developing countries themselves (TCDC).

The delegate of Indonesia also proposed that Committee 6 should examine the Union budget for 1990 and in particular Section 7 of the ordinary budget and Section 21 on the Technical Cooperation Special Accounts budget.

1.3 The delegate of Morocco referred to proposal MRC/128/3 (Document 128) concerning the extension and strengthening of the regional presence of the ITU with regard to human and logistic resources. In order to prepare various projects, the regional offices needed executive staff and experts, as well as equipment, for the purpose of analysing the data communicated between countries. Decentralization would provide the Union with a better means of identifying regional requirements and at the same time enable the developing countries to exchange know-how (South-South cooperation). He supported the proposals to assign ITU representatives to the Caribbean subregion and the South Pacific.

1.4 The delegate of Canada supported the proposal to strengthen the ITU regional presence, particularly in the Caribbean subregion, but emphasized the need to plan for such a decentralization in accordance with the financial expenditure entailed for the Union.

1.5 The representative of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), drawing attention to the inadequacy of the funds allocated to technical assistance, pointed out that the APT, which had been created ten years before, had as its objective the support of the technical cooperation programmes carried out in its Region. He therefore endorsed all projects of that kind originating from other countries. The APT could award some hundred fellowships a year, provide some services of experts and organize seminars and training courses. He also emphasized the importance of the Union's leadership role in these activities. He supported Thailand's proposal for a detailed study of regional offices, including their costs and profitability.

1.6 The delegate of Cameroon said that the fact that the fundamental role of Technical Cooperation was not yet sufficiently recognized compared with the ITU's other functions prevented the developing countries from deriving the utmost benefit from it. The Cameroon Delegation endorsed, in Document 180, the proposals contained in Document 33, which it regarded as a minimum. It was essential to redefine the cooperation function in relation to the Union's other tasks, those of standardization and regulation. The budgetary breakdown should be reviewed with a view to reorganizing the various types of cooperation and the sources of financing and increasing the funds earmarked for cooperation in general.

1.7 The delegate of France, recalling his country's interest in the problems of technical cooperation, stated his support for an improvement in technical cooperation in general, as well as the resources to be applied. However, it was necessary to strike a satisfactory compromise among all the requirements expressed and the possibilities offered by a limited budget. He proposed that some thought be given to the general implications for the organization of the Union, of the additions considered in the field and in particular the definition of a new balance between greater decentralization and a reorganization of duties at ITU Headquarters, in order to prevent a duplication among certain activities.

1.8 The delegate of Pakistan approved the strengthening of the ITU regional presence, as described in Document 33.

1.9 The Deputy Secretary-General said that, so far as the financial implications for the budget of the Union of the activities of regional representatives were concerned, the host countries as a rule provided free accommodation, premises and logistic support for representatives. He took the opportunity to thank the countries warmly for their substantial contribution to the implementation of the Union's experiment.

1.10 The delegate of China emphasized the importance of the presence of regional representatives, which provided a precise idea of the specific situation of each country in the different regions.

1.11 The delegate of the United States, who expressed his general support for an increased regional presence of the ITU, approved in particular the proposal to increase the number of Area Representatives.

1.12 The delegate of Saudi Arabia, drawing attention to the proposals submitted by his Administration in Document 62, approved the proposal to strengthen the Union's regional presence, which was one of its basic objectives.

1.13 The delegate of Suriname supported the proposal to assign an ITU representative to the Caribbean subregion. He advocated intensifying technical cooperation in the Caribbean subregion, whose countries possessed a common language and a common cultural heritage and at the same time enjoyed the benefit of geographical concentration.

1.14 The delegate of New Zealand approved the proposal to reinforce the Union's regional presence, particularly in the Pacific Region. In view of the existing budgetary limitations, and in order to define priorities, his Delegation suggested a reorganization of the activities of Headquarters with a view to facilitating the strengthening of the regional presence.

1.15 The delegate of the United Kingdom endorsed the statement by the delegate of the USSR the day before, concerning priorities, the budget and savings, and reiterated that a financially rational approach should be adopted to the strengthening of the regional presence. Consideration should be given to the possibility of seconding a number of Headquarters staff.

1.16 The delegate of the Ukraine drew the Committee's attention to the need to make a distinction between technical assistance and technical cooperation. Furthermore, it would be unreasonable, in view of the budgetary data contained in Document 179, to expect the headquarters staff to be maintained and at the same time to increase the number of regional representatives.

1.17 the Deputy Secretary-General said that a distinction should be drawn between the ITU's functions as specialized agency of the United Nations System and executing agency for technical cooperation projects. He added that Area Representatives were project administrators on mission in the field and that the new regional experts would have entirely different functions, concentrating on the application of international standards in the networks of developing countries.

1.18 In response to the comments by the delegate of the Ukraine, the Secretary of the Committee explained that the lack of revenue was due to the fact that the rate at which support costs were refunded had been fixed at 13% of the project expenditure (Decision No. 80/44 adopted by the Members of the Governing Council of UNDP in June 1980). That Decision had been confirmed in the following year by the adoption of Decision No. 81/40. The Union had to meet its responsibilities as a partner of UNDP in keeping with the 1970 consensus approved by the United Nations General Assembly and the UNDP Governing Council. The Union's financial difficulties had been further aggravated by the depreciation of the dollar and fluctuations in the exchange rate. In reply to the delegate of the United Kingdom, he mentioned the ITU's efforts to achieve the most efficient and most economical management possible of technical cooperation. Since 1982, there had been 22 per cent less staff in the Technical Cooperation Department compared with the manning table.

1.19 The Chairman said that the Committee was not currently considering the role of ITU as executing agency, but its specific function as a specialized agency of the United Nations. The main points to emerge were: the need to strengthen the regional presence, to redistribute activities between Headquarters and the field, and to look for all avenues of improvement. A draft Resolution could be prepared to that effect.

1.20 The delegate of Colombia expressed support for an increase in the number of regional experts, but felt it essential to establish training and research institutes in the Regions or strengthen existing ones.

There was also a need to study project financing since, without resources, the developing countries were unable to fund projects recommended by the experts.

1.21 The Deputy Secretary-General said that the question of training and research institutes would be discussed when the Committee came to consider the role of the ITU as executing agency. Basic support for training and research institutes would be provided through specific assistance projects financed either by the UNDP or Funds-in-Trust.

1.22 The delegate of Guinea expressed firm support for the comments by the Colombian delegate on the need to develop regional research and training institutes. Technical assistance in the form of experts was a type of aid which, in his opinion, should be phased out in the long-term, and replaced by increased training and development of human resources.

1.23 The delegate of Nigeria emphasized the usefulness of the ITU regional presence in the West African Region, particularly in countries with specific requirements that had to be met rapidly. He suggested that procedures should be established to enable such countries, in certain conditions, to appeal to the General Secretariat for specific assistance in the period between Plenipotentiary Conferences and meetings of the Administrative Council.

1.24 The delegate of Gambia said that inadequate resources constituted an obstacle to effective work.

1.25 The delegate of Brazil guaranteed his country's wholehearted support for the proposal in paragraph 4.7 of Document 33 (regional presence). He emphasized that that document was partly the outcome of the work of a Group of Experts appointed by the Administrative Council and partly the expression, possibly for the first time, of the idea whereby the Union could serve not only as an effective executing agency of UNDP but also a genuine specialized agency of the United Nations. At that level, the Union bore a very important responsibility, particularly since the development of a telecommunication network concerned all the countries of the world, in accordance with the Union's mandate set out in Article 4 of the Convention.

He noted that no country had objected to the principle of the strengthening of the regional presence, and he felt for his part that that activity was essential for the future of technical cooperation.

In his opinion, the financial questions should not be discussed by the Technical Cooperation Committee; he subscribed to the view contained in Document 52, which recommended a decentralization and rationalization of the activities linked with the regional presence. While recognizing the need for extra resources, he considered that due account nevertheless had to be taken of those already available.

1.26 The delegate of Czechoslovakia raised the question of relations between the Regional or Area Representatives and the UNDP representatives. He wondered whether decentralization might not have the effect of rendering activities more complex and more expensive.

1.27 The Deputy Secretary-General, referring to Resolution No. 18 concerning the budgetary and administrative aspects of ITU technical cooperation and assistance (Nairobi 1982), said that the Secretary-General strictly applied the policy of financial economy recommended. In 1982, out of 105 authorized posts, 105 were included in the budget and used up to 100% for the implementation of projects, the cost of which was in the order of 31,900,000 dollars. The staff numbers included the posts of Area Representatives. In accordance with the policy of staff reduction imposed in 1983, of the 105 authorized posts, 99 were budgeted (and occupied up to 94%). That tendency had been maintained. For example, in 1988, out of 105 authorized posts, 82 had been budgeted and occupied up to 78%. In 1982, the budgeted administrative expenditure had amounted to 10,582,000 Swiss francs, whereas effective expenditure had amounted to 10,287,000 Swiss francs. In 1988, the budgeted expenditure had been 9,200,000 Swiss francs and the effective expenditure 8,619,000 Swiss francs. It was therefore clear that the budgeted credits had been underspent every year. Lastly he noted that despite the cut in staff, project implementation had been the same in 1988 and in 1982.

1.28 The delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran joined the delegate of Cameroon in drawing the Committee's attention to budgetary matters. He emphasized that the developing countries contributed more than 20% to the Union budget, whereas the funds devoted to development activities did not exceed 7%. He hoped that the present technical cooperation figures would be revised.

Furthermore, he drew the delegates' attention to Document 143 from the Steering Committee according to which the results of the deliberations of Committees 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 and their financial implications should be considered in due course by Committee 4.

1.29 The delegate of Chad, referring to Document 185 submitted by Burkina Faso, pointed out that the financing of Technical Cooperation expenditure accounted in 1984 for 5.01%, in 1985 for 6.65%, in 1986 for 6.7%, in 1987 for 6.6%, in 1988 for 6.87% and in 1989 for 6.77% of the Union's budget, whereas, at the same time, the beneficiary countries contributed a proportion ranging from 23% to 25%, of the budget. It was to be hoped that that budget could be increased, thus enabling the various Regions to derive greater benefit from ITU assistance. He expressed strong support for statements by delegates in favour of a strengthening of the regional presence.

1.30 The delegate of Yugoslavia, referring to his own field experience, also supported the strengthening of the regional presence, emphasizing the vital role played by the regional representatives.

1.31 The delegate of the Philippines also brought out the need to strengthen the ITU regional presence, while recognizing the budgetary implications. A plan of action should be drawn up to that effect.

1.32 The delegate of Peru drew attention to the value of technical cooperation with ITU, since the lack of technical competence in his country inhibited the rapid development of telecommunications.

With a view to enhancing the efficiency of technical cooperation, he was in favour of decentralization away from Headquarters, which would not lead to greater expense, since costs in the developing countries were relatively low and the cost of travel between Headquarters and the regions would be substantially reduced.

He also supported the establishment of closer relations with the regional and subregional organizations in order to derive greater advantage from the available resources.

With the delegate of Colombia, he emphasized the importance of "horizontal" technical cooperation (TCDC) and considered the development of research and training institutes desirable.

1.33 The delegate of the Yemen Arab Republic said that his country had been considerably assisted by the ITU and the UNDP and that he was in favour of strengthened technical cooperation. He supported a wider use of Arabic, which would open the way for improved Technical Cooperation between the 22 Arabic-speaking countries Members of the ITU. Furthermore, the budget should be reallocated in such a way as to place the three main activities of the Union - standardization, regulation and technical cooperation - on an equal footing.

1.34 The delegate of Ethiopia endorsed the other statements concerning the strengthening of the ITU's regional presence and the development of human resources. He also supported the view of the Brazilian delegate to the effect that the Technical Cooperation Committee should discuss matters of principle, without prejudging the decisions of Committee 4.

1.35 The delegate of Chile supported all the statements made by the Brazilian delegate. Chile would continue to facilitate the activities of the Area Representative in South America, who was stationed in his country, and make further efforts, if necessary.

1.36 The Chairman noted that most delegates felt the need for a strengthened ITU regional presence and that some administrations called for further study of the question, whereas others contemplated a redistribution of resources between Headquarters and field activities. Some of the delegations had expressed concern with regard to the efficiency of the regional presence, and it was to be hoped that a

solution could be arrived at with the delegations involved without the need to set up a Working Group. He pointed out that the question of the regional presence had already been considered by the Group of Experts and again by the Administrative Council.

There being no objection, the Chairman proposed that note be taken of the proposal contained in Document 33, paragraph 4.7 (page 17) on the strengthening of the regional presence, without naming the Regions in which the ITU presence should be reinforced.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 1735 hours.

The Secretary:

A. EMBEDOKLIS

The Chairman:

H.VIGNON

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 191(Rev.1)-E

24 June 1989

Original: English

COMMITTEE 7

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

THIRD MEETING OF COMMITTEE 7

(STRUCTURE OF THE UNION)

Thursday, 1 June 1989, at 0940 hrs

Chairman: Mr. A. VARGAS ARAYA (Costa Rica)

Subjects discussed:

Documents

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | Oral report on the meeting of the
Chairmen of Committees 7, 8 and 9 | - |
| 2. | General discussion on proposals and
associated principles relating to the
basic structure of the Union (continued):
<u>Stage 2</u> - Additional proposals | 16, 19, 22, 43, 51, 57, 65,
72, 82, 83, 93, 94, 96, 97,
108, 126, 132, 184 |

1. Oral report on the meeting of the Chairmen of Committees 7, 8 and 9

1.1 The Chairman reported that the Chairmen of Committees 7, 8 and 9 had just met to consider the problem of documents which might have to be dealt with by more than one of their Committees. They had decided to adopt a very flexible approach and consult one another via the Secretariat as necessary. Any delegations wishing to make proposals on the coordination of work with other Committees should submit them in writing to the Secretariat. The Chairmen of the three Committees would have further meetings to consider the situation and he would keep the Committee informed of any developments.

2. General discussion on proposals and associated principles relating to the basic structure of the Union (continued): Stage 2 - Additional proposals

2.1 The Chairman, replying to observations by the delegates of the United States, Canada and Morocco, said that further documents could be added at any time to those listed in the agenda for discussion. He expected to have a new document prepared by the Secretariat within a few days that would set out clearly, subject by subject all the relevant proposals submitted for consideration by the Committee, as requested by the delegate of the United Kingdom. He then recalled that the delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany had been speaking when the Committee's previous meeting had risen due to technical difficulties.

2.2 The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany said that his country proposed, in Document 97, that analysis of the situation inside the Union should include all of its organs including the General Secretariat. On other specific subjects, the Federal Republic of Germany wished to preserve the existing "federal structure" of the ITU, agreed with the report of the Panel of Experts on the Long-term Future of the IFRB, and opposed any hasty decision to merge the CCIs. His country was also in favour of establishing a committee to analyse the structure of the ITU and submit considered proposals in due course as suggested in Document 97. That would not prevent the Plenipotentiary Conference from making its own proposals.

2.3 The delegate of Chile said that future developments might require changes in the ITU but its current structure was appropriate for the purposes set out in Article 4 of the Convention. His Administration was open to any suggestion for changes in the structure of the Union but saw no need for any radical alterations. Chile's proposals (Document 19) concerned the procedure for constituting the Administrative Council and aimed to improve its representativity.

2.4 The delegate of Papua New Guinea said that despite all the talk about the changes taking place in telecommunications, no one had shown that the Union's existing structure was incapable of handling them. The ITU was inherently stable and doing well. The Plenipotentiary Conference should beware of making unnecessary changes simply in order to indicate its consideration of the ITU's structure. Proposals to merge the CCIs and reform the IFRB suggested experimentation rather than progress. Like many other countries, Papua New Guinea had not submitted a document on structural changes because none were necessary. It was important to strengthen the Union.

2.5 The delegate of the United States said that the United States was satisfied with the existing structure of the ITU, but was prepared to consider other points of view. The United States believed the idea that the Committee should adopt an evolutionary rather than a revolutionary approach to changing the existing structure. The ITU had always looked to the future and its permanent organs had continually adjusted to meet challenges as they arose. For example, the advent of satellite communications had led to significant structural adjustments in both the CCIR and the IFRB, which showed that the Union was quite capable of facing the challenges of the future. While seeking to improve the efficiency of the Union, care must be taken not to make damaging structural changes.

The provisions of the Convention already ensured that the ITU had a strong executive. It was important for Members to preserve their right to deal directly with the specialized secretariats and with the Directors of the CCIs and the Chairman of the IFRB. In addition, the Coordination Committee provided a valuable, well-structured method for the senior officials of ITU to consult each other regularly and present their views to the Secretary-General in a collegiate way.

2.6 The delegate of China said that reform of the structure of the ITU was a question of great importance, involving a multiplicity of ways of increasing the efficiency of the organization. Any decisions affecting the CCIs, the IFRB and the General Secretariat must ensure that the resulting structure worked well, since the Union would otherwise be unable to perform its functions properly. With regard to the IFRB, China agreed with the report of the Panel of Experts on its long-term future, and was in favour of the Board retaining a collective leadership comprising five Members.

2.7 The delegate of the USSR said that his Administration had concluded, after very careful consideration, that the Union's existing "federal structure" was the best possible and should be preserved as a matter of principle. It therefore could not agree with alternative proposals from other administrations. Any changes made to improve the efficiency of the ITU and its various organs should be evolutionary. In particular, he could not agree that the IFRB should be headed by a single Director under the Secretary-General, since the Radio Regulations were too complex for their interpretation to be entrusted to one individual. The IFRB should continue to work in its current effective way. Nor could he agree that the CCIs should be amalgamated, since their aims and functions were too different and complex. If savings were required, they should not be sought in the CCIs but in the General Secretariat and the Technical Cooperation Department. The USSR was also in favour of strengthening the Coordination Committee.

2.8 The delegate of Bulgaria said that the existing structure of the ITU had met its Members needs and there was no reason to change it, in the absence of any real purpose for so doing. In particular, it would be inappropriate to amalgamate the CCIs or to change the status and composition of the IFRB. A better way to improve the functioning of the ITU would be by rationalizing its activities and its approach to its tasks. For example, the activities of the Union's various organs could be better coordinated by intensifying the role of the Coordination Committee. Bulgaria was therefore in favour of retaining the Union's existing structure and seeking improvements through the rationalization of its operations.

2.9 The delegate of Portugal said that the Union's existing structure had proved its adequacy, but that a distinction had to be made between the structure and its working methods, which Portugal was in favour of rationalizing and modernizing. That meant rationalizing conferences so as to allow more meetings to be held on a sectoral or specialized basis, introducing more efficient procedures, in particular to accelerate the approval of Recommendations, and avoiding delays caused by Steering and Coordinating Committees. Any changes to the Union's structure should be careful and gradual, to avoid disrupting its functioning. However, innovation was necessary and Portugal had submitted a proposal to introduce the principle of rotation in the Administrative Council so as to promote the participation of all Member States in the activities of the ITU. Portugal's aim was to encourage innovation within a framework of stability.

2.10 The delegate of India said that the current situation in the ITU, in which no single official was accountable to the Union as a whole, was undesirable and contrary to elementary management principles. With regard to the CCIs, a distinction should be made between their standardization work, carried out chiefly in the Study Groups, and the secretariat tasks. The latter could surely be carried out by a common secretariat, and he failed to understand why some delegations should find a proposal to that effect so revolutionary. As a member of the Panel of Experts on the Long-Term Future of the IFRB, he felt that the Board could carry out its tasks better if it had a different structure and if its secretariat was headed by a Director. An appeal body could be established for administrations dissatisfied with any Board decisions. The IFRB's tasks could therefore be divided into two parts: quasi-judicial tasks of interpretation, and the regular registration work, much of which could surely be done more speedily without the Board members' direct intervention, given the vast computer resources available. From his own Administration's experience, there were undue delays in the latter work under the current system. His Delegation, therefore, was very interested in proposals such as those submitted by the Delegations of Indonesia and Greece.

2.11 The delegate of the United Kingdom said that two issues had emerged from the previous meetings: the "federal" aspect and the structure, working methods and inter-relationship of the various organs. His Administration had not seen evidence sufficient to justify changing the so-called "federal system", which had served the Members well. But it did feel that the Union's internal organization should be reviewed and had proposed, in Document 82, that the newly elected Secretary-General should establish, as a matter of priority a review of the CCIs' working methods. Details and terms of reference for such a task would have to be determined if the idea was adopted. He reiterated that his Delegation had an open mind on the matter but felt that an independent analysis was an essential prerequisite and in that connection, endorsed the findings of the Panel of Experts on the long-term future of the IFRB.

2.12 The delegate of Czechoslovakia said that, in his Delegation's view, there was no need to change the structure of the CCIs and the IFRB but the permanent organs' methods of work could perhaps be improved; in that connection, it could support the relevant proposals contained in Document 97.

2.13 The delegate of Senegal said that any review of the CCIs must be approached with care. There have been considerable changes in the area of standardization, and ITU's standard-setting role was facing a real challenge. The situation calls for a thorough review. With regard to the IFRB, his Delegation felt that the five heads were necessary but that the registration procedures could be improved. The "federal structure" has given rise to difficulties in the past and it might be desirable to have one individual vested with overall responsibility. His Delegation suggested, in Documents 93 and 94, that the Coordination Committee should be renewed - possibly with some changes in order to make it more effective. The same documents contained his Administration's proposals aimed at making the work of the Technical Cooperation Department more equitable. Although not adequately recognized hereto, development was just as important as regulation and standardization. Therefore, TCD should be made a permanent organ of the Union.

2.14 The delegate of Suriname said that her Administration was satisfied with the current "federal structure" but was in favour of a change in the permanent organs' working methods, as well as enhanced coordination and efficiency in order that the ITU could respond better to a rapidly changing environment. The CCIs' respective tasks were too complex for a merger. Suriname advocated rotation of posts and felt that elected officials should be limited to two terms of office.

2.15 The delegate of the Netherlands said that the ITU, as any other body which has long-standing procedures, was bound to have areas ripe for improvement. For example, it would be useful to review the number of meetings held. It would also be a positive step to effect some streamlining with a view to releasing funds, and to look into how funds were allocated. But the argument in favour of a structural overhaul was unconvincing. For example, it had always been possible to adapt the functioning of the CCIs and the IFRB whenever necessary. A proper analysis was the first requirement in any case.

2.16 The delegate of Australia said that his Delegation appreciated the remarkable work carried out by the ITU in holding so many conferences, and had noted UNDP's praise for ITU's work in technical cooperation. His delegation supported the current "federal system" and shared the view that no structural change was necessary, although working methods should be examined. In that regard, the work of the CCIs should be reviewed, if only to ensure that any duplication was avoided. His delegation would also support a review of the IFRB's methods if that was felt necessary. Australia greatly appreciated the work of the CCITT, and had particularly admired the spirit of collaboration shown at its most recent Plenary Assembly at Melbourne. But the CCITT needed all possible help. His Delegation did not rule out the possible amalgamation of the CCIs but it would be as well to look into working methods in order to avoid any possible deterioration in functions, which would be detrimental to developed and developing countries alike. The current IFRB composition was well balanced and should not be altered, although the Board seemed in need of some assistance. With regard to coordination, meetings for that purpose could always be convened whenever required, but a Coordinating Committee as a permanent organ was unnecessary.

2.17 The delegate of Hungary said that the world telecommunication community clearly needed the work of ITU's permanent organs. The IFRB, established in order to record frequency assignments and give operational advice, had assumed many additional duties because of the explosive development in technology and systems and requests from Members, and its work would grow even more in the future. Its work fell under two main headings: tasks of a collegiate nature, often involving high-level decision taking, such as interpretation and similar duties pursuant to the Final Acts of Radio Conferences; and routine tasks which could usually be carried out by the Secretariat. No one official could wield supreme authority over such a range of complex tasks with impartiality; the world telecommunication community needed a body of independent experts. The work of the CCI Study Groups was essential. Although cooperation was desirable, it would be difficult to combine the work of the two CCIs, because of the differing working methods and objectives. His Delegation shared the view that changes in the ITU's structure and work should be evolutionary, not revolutionary. It supported the proposal by the Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany that the work, organization and aims of all ITU bodies, including the General Secretariat, should be reviewed.

2.18 The delegate of Canada said that his Administration would prefer no change in the structure of the permanent organs established pursuant to Article 5 of the Convention. Some delegations had said that, in a federal structure, there was not always adequate cooperation; but that could be said of any form of organization. What was more important was the willingness of the people involved to cooperate. The strength of any organization was in its people not in its structure. If people really wanted to cooperate they would. His Delegation would support the maintenance of a collegiate structure. It was prepared to support moves aimed at improvements, **but only** after a prior review, such as that carried out in respect of the IFRB.

2.19 The delegate of Italy said that, although there might be room for some improvement, his Delegation was opposed to any radical restructuring. It was in favour of the existing system, although it might be useful to clarify and extend the Secretary-General's mandate and authority with a view to facilitating speedier decisions whenever necessary and assuming responsibility vis-à-vis administrations. His Delegation agreed with the findings of the Panel of Experts on the Long-Term Future of

the IFRB, and felt that the five heads should be retained. It had an open mind with regard to the appointment of a Director for the Board. There were advantages and drawbacks to be seen in such a move, which would have to be thoroughly discussed. On account of the ever-increasing pressure for speedier standardization procedures, regional bodies were being set up since one world-wide body would be unwieldy; nevertheless, the latter remained an essential complement. Therefore, the CCIs were still needed. The CCITT had been modified slightly at its previous Plenary Assembly and the CCIR could possibly be modified along the same lines, but the two should be kept separate. Technical cooperation needed to be more effective and for that purpose, a different structure was needed.

The meeting rose at 1230 hours.

The Secretary:

A. RUTKOWSKI

The Chairman:

A. VARGAS ARAYA

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 191-E

7 June 1989

Original: English

COMMITTEE 7

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

THIRD MEETING OF COMMITTEE 7

(STRUCTURE OF THE UNION)

Thursday, 1 June 1989, at 0940 hrs

Chairman: Mr. A. VARGAS ARAYA (Costa Rica)

Subjects discussed:

Documents

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | Oral report on the meeting of the
Chairmen of Committees 7, 8 and 9 | - |
| 2. | General discussion on proposals and
associated principles relating to the
basic structure of the Union (continued):
<u>Stage 2</u> - Additional proposals | 16, 19, 22, 43, 51, 57, 65,
72, 82, 83, 93, 94, 96; 97,
108, 126, 132, 184 |

1. Oral report on the meeting of the Chairmen of Committees 7, 8 and 9

1.1 The Chairman reported that the Chairmen of Committees 7, 8 and 9 had just met to consider the problem of documents which might have to be dealt with by more than one of their Committees. They had decided to adopt a very flexible approach and consult one another via the Secretariat as necessary. Any delegations wishing to make proposals on the coordination of work with other Committees should submit them in writing to the Secretariat. The Chairmen of the three Committees would have further meetings to consider the situation and he would keep the Committee informed of any developments.

2. General discussion on proposals and associated principles relating to the basic structure of the Union (continued): Stage 2 - Additional proposals

2.1 The Chairman, replying to observations by the delegates of the United States, Canada and Morocco, said that further documents could be added at any time to those listed in the agenda for discussion. He expected to have a new document prepared by the Secretariat within a few days that would set out clearly, subject by subject all the relevant proposals submitted for consideration by the Committee, as requested by the delegate of the United Kingdom. He then recalled that the delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany had been speaking when the Committee's previous meeting had risen due to technical difficulties.

2.2 The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany said that his country proposed, in Document 97, that analysis of the situation inside the Union should include all of its organs including the General Secretariat. On other specific subjects, the Federal Republic of Germany wished to preserve the existing "federal structure" of the ITU, agreed with the report of the Panel of Experts on the Long-term Future of the IFRB, and opposed any hasty decision to merge the CCIs. His country was also in favour of establishing a committee to analyse the structure of the ITU and submit considered proposals in due course as suggested in Document 97. That would not prevent the Plenipotentiary Conference from making its own proposals.

2.3 The delegate of Chile said that future developments might require changes in the ITU but its current structure was appropriate for the purposes set out in Article 4 of the Convention. His Administration was open to any suggestion for changes in the structure of the Union but saw no need for any radical alterations. Chile's proposals (Document 19) concerned the procedure for constituting the Administrative Council and aimed to improve its representativity.

2.4 The delegate of Papua New Guinea said that despite all the talk about the changes taking place in telecommunications, no one had shown that the Union's existing structure was incapable of handling them. The ITU was inherently stable and doing well. The Plenipotentiary Conference should beware of making unnecessary changes simply in order to indicate its consideration of the ITU's structure. Proposals to merge the CCIs and reform the IFRB suggested experimentation rather than progress. Like many other countries, Papua New Guinea had not submitted a document on structural changes because none were necessary. It was important to strengthen the Union.

2.5 The delegate of the United States said that the United States was satisfied with the existing structure of the ITU, but was prepared to consider other points of view. The United States believed the idea that the Committee should adopt an evolutionary rather than a revolutionary approach to changing the existing structure. The ITU had always looked to the future and its permanent organs had continually adjusted to meet challenges as they arose. For example, the advent of satellite communications had led to significant structural adjustments in both the CCIR and the IFRB, which showed that the Union was quite capable of facing the challenges of the future. While seeking to improve the efficiency of the Union, care must be taken not to make damaging structural changes.

The provisions of the Convention already ensured that the ITU had a strong executive. It was important for Members to preserve their right to deal directly with the specialized secretariats and with the Directors of the CCIs and the Chairman of the IFRB. In addition, the Coordination Committee provided a valuable, well-structured method for the senior officials of ITU to consult each other regularly and present their views to the Secretary-General in a collegiate way.

2.6 The delegate of China said that reform of the structure of the ITU was a question of great importance, involving a multiplicity of ways of increasing the efficiency of the organization. Any decisions affecting the CCIs, the IFRB and the General Secretariat must ensure that the resulting structure worked well, since the Union would otherwise be unable to perform its functions properly. With regard to the IFRB, China agreed with the report of the Panel of Experts on its long-term future, and was in favour of the Board retaining a collective leadership comprising five Members.

2.7 The delegate of the USSR said that his Administration had concluded, after very careful consideration, that the Union's existing "federal structure" was the best possible and should be preserved as a matter of principle. It therefore could not agree with alternative proposals from other administrations. Any changes made to improve the efficiency of the ITU and its various organs should be evolutionary. In particular, he could not agree that the IFRB should be headed by a single Director under the Secretary-General, since the Radio Regulations were too complex for their interpretation to be entrusted to one individual. The IFRB should continue to work in its current effective way. Nor could he agree that the CCIs should be amalgamated, since their aims and functions were too different and complex. If savings were required, they should not be sought in the CCIs but in the General Secretariat and the Technical Cooperation Department. The USSR was also in favour of strengthening the Coordination Committee.

2.8 The delegate of Bulgaria said that the existing structure of the ITU had met its Members needs and there was no reason to change it, in the absence of any real purpose for so doing. In particular, it would be inappropriate to amalgamate the CCIs or to change the status and composition of the IFRB. A better way to improve the functioning of the ITU would be by rationalizing its activities and its approach to its tasks. For example, the activities of the Union's various organs could be better coordinated by intensifying the role of the Coordination Committee. Bulgaria was therefore in favour of retaining the Union's existing structure and seeking improvements through the rationalization of its operations.

2.9 The delegate of Portugal said that the Union's existing structure had proved its adequacy, but that a distinction had to be made between the structure and its working methods, which Portugal was in favour of rationalizing and modernizing. That meant rationalizing conferences so as to allow more meetings to be held on a sectoral or specialized basis, introducing more efficient procedures, in particular to accelerate the approval of Recommendations, and avoiding delays caused by Steering and Coordinating Committees. Any changes to the Union's structure should be careful and gradual, to avoid disrupting its functioning. However, innovation was necessary and Portugal had submitted a proposal to introduce the principle of rotation in the Administrative Council so as to promote the participation of all Member States in the activities of the ITU. Portugal's aim was to encourage innovation within a framework of stability.

2.10 The delegate of India said that the current situation in the ITU, in which no single official was accountable to the Union as a whole, was undesirable and contrary to elementary management principles. With regard to the CCIs, a distinction should be made between their standardization work, carried out chiefly in the Study Groups, and the secretariat tasks. The latter could surely be carried out by a common secretariat, and he failed to understand why some delegations should find a proposal to that effect so revolutionary. As a member of the Panel of Experts on the Long-Term Future of the IFRB, he felt that the Board could carry out its tasks better if it had a different structure and if its secretariat was headed by a Director. An appeal body could be established for administrations dissatisfied with any Board decisions. The IFRB's tasks could therefore be divided into two parts: quasi-judicial tasks of interpretation, and the regular registration work, much of which could surely be done more speedily without the Board members' direct intervention, given the vast computer resources available. From his own Administration's experience, there were undue delays in the latter work under the current system. His Delegation, therefore, was very interested in proposals such as those submitted by the Delegations of Indonesia and Greece.

2.11 The delegate of the United Kingdom said that two issues had emerged from the previous meetings: the "federal" aspect and the structure, working methods and inter-relationship of the various organs. His Administration could see no case for changing the current "federal system", which had served the Members well. But it did feel that the Union's internal organization should be reviewed and had proposed, in Document 82, that the newly elected Secretary-General should establish, as a matter of priority a review of the CCIs' working methods. Details and terms of reference for such a task would have to be determined if the idea was adopted. He reiterated that his Delegation had an open mind on the matter but felt that an independent analysis was an essential prerequisite and in that connection, endorsed the findings of the Panel of Experts on the long-term future of the IFRB.

2.12 The delegate of Czechoslovakia said that, in his Delegation's view, there was no need to change the structure of the CCIs and the IFRB but the permanent organs' methods of work could perhaps be improved; in that connection, it could support the relevant proposals contained in Document 97.

2.13 The delegate of Senegal said that any review of the CCIs must be approached with care. There have been considerable changes in the area of standardization, and ITU's standard-setting role was facing a real challenge. The situation calls for a thorough review. With regard to the IFRB, his Delegation felt that the five heads were necessary but that the registration procedures could be improved. The "federal structure" has given rise to difficulties in the past and it might be desirable to have one individual vested with overall responsibility. His Delegation suggested, in Documents 93 and 94, that the Coordination Committee should be renewed - possibly with some changes in order to make it more effective. The same documents contained his Administration's proposals aimed at making the work of the Technical Cooperation Department more equitable. Although not adequately recognized hereto, development was just as important as regulation and standardization. Therefore, TCD should be made a permanent organ of the Union.

2.14 The delegate of Suriname said that her Administration was satisfied with the current "federal structure" but was in favour of a change in the permanent organs' working methods, as well as enhanced coordination and efficiency in order that the ITU could respond better to a rapidly changing environment. The CCIs' respective tasks were too complex for a merger. Suriname advocated rotation of posts and felt that elected officials should be limited to two terms of office.

2.15 The delegate of the Netherlands said that the ITU, as any other body which has long-standing procedures, was bound to have areas ripe for improvement. For example, it would be useful to review the number of meetings held. It would also be a positive step to effect some streamlining with a view to releasing funds, and to look into how funds were allocated. But the argument in favour of a structural overhaul was unconvincing. For example, it had always been possible to adapt the functioning of the CCIs and the IFRB whenever necessary. A proper analysis was the first requirement in any case.

2.16 The delegate of Australia said that his Delegation appreciated the remarkable work carried out by the ITU in holding so many conferences, and had noted UNDP's praise for ITU's work in technical cooperation. His Delegation supported the current "federal system" and shared the view that no structural change was necessary, although working methods should be examined. In that regard, the work of the CCIs should be reviewed, if only to ensure that any duplication was avoided. His Delegation would also support a review of the IFRB's methods if that was felt necessary. Australia greatly appreciated the work of the CCITT, and had particularly admired the spirit of collaboration shown at its most recent Plenary Assembly at Melbourne. But the CCITT needed all possible help. His Delegation deemed CCI amalgamation out of the question; but it would be as well to look into working methods in order to avoid any possible deterioration in functions, which would be detrimental to developed and developing countries alike. The current IFRB composition was well balanced and should not be altered, although the Board seemed in need of some assistance. With regard to coordination, meetings for that purpose could always be convened whenever required, but a standing Coordinating Committee was unnecessary.

2.17 The delegate of Hungary said that the world telecommunication community clearly needed the work of ITU's permanent organs. The IFRB, established in order to record frequency assignments and give operational advice, had assumed many additional duties because of the explosive development in technology and systems and requests from Members, and its work would grow even more in the future. Its work fell under two main headings: tasks of a collegiate nature, often involving high-level decision taking, such as interpretation and similar duties pursuant to the Final Acts of Radio Conferences; and routine tasks which could usually be carried out by the Secretariat. No one official could wield supreme authority over such a range of complex tasks with impartiality; the world telecommunication community needed a body of independent experts. The work of the CCI Study Groups was essential. Although cooperation was desirable, it would be difficult to combine the work of the two CCIs, because of the differing working methods and objectives. His Delegation shared the view that changes in the ITU's structure and work should be evolutionary, not revolutionary. It supported the proposal by the Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany that the work, organization and aims of all ITU bodies, including the General Secretariat, should be reviewed.

2.18 The delegate of Canada said that his Administration would prefer no change in the structure of the permanent organs established pursuant to Article 5 of the Convention. Some delegations had said that, in a federal structure, there was not always adequate cooperation; but that could be said of any form of organization. His Delegation would support the maintenance of a collegiate structure. It was prepared to support moves aimed at improvements, but only after a prior review, such as that carried out in respect of the IFRB.

2.19 The delegate of Italy said that, although there might be room for some improvement, his Delegation was opposed to any radical restructuring. It was in favour of the existing system, although it might be useful to clarify and extend the Secretary-General's mandate and authority with a view to facilitating speedier decisions whenever necessary and assuming responsibility vis-à-vis administrations. His Delegation agreed with the findings of the Panel of Experts on the Long-Term Future of

the IFRB, and felt that the five heads should be retained. It had an open mind with regard to the appointment of a Director for the Board. There were advantages and drawbacks to be seen in such a move, which would have to be thoroughly discussed. On account of the ever-increasing pressure for speedier standardization procedures, regional bodies were being set up since one world-wide body would be unwieldy; nevertheless, the latter remained an essential complement. Therefore, the CCIs were still needed. The CCITT had been modified slightly at its previous Plenary Assembly and the CCIR could possibly be modified along the same lines, but the two should be kept separate. Technical cooperation needed to be more effective and for that purpose, a different structure was needed.

The meeting rose at 1230 hours.

The Secretary:

A. RUTKOWSKI

The Chairman:

A. VARGAS ARAYA

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Corrigendum 1 to
Document 192-E
19 June 1989
Original: English

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

THIRD MEETING OF COMMITTEE 8

Paragraph 2.14

Amend as follows:

"The delegate of New Zealand, supported by the delegate of Romania who said that the two parts of the provision as amended by Argentina were not compatible, and the delegate of Japan, proposed no change, saying that in its present wording No. 143 sought to establish the obligations of individual Members within their own territories. He was concerned that the Argentine proposal would imply extending those obligations on a world-wide basis."

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 192-E

7 June 1989

Original: English

COMMITTEE 8

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

THIRD MEETING OF COMMITTEE 8

(PURPOSES, RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS)

Thursday, 1 June 1989, at 1440 hrs

Acting Chairman: Mr. V. CASSAPOGLOU (Greece)

Subjects discussed:

Documents

1. Report on the meeting of the Chairmen of Committees 7, 8 and 9
2. Presentation and discussion of national proposals related to the draft Constitution (continued): Articles 20, 21, 22 and 23

-
Document A,
DT/8, DT/9 + Add.1,
132, 151

1. Report on the meeting of the Chairmen of Committees 7, 8 and 9

1.1 The Acting Chairman reported that, at the meeting that morning, between the Chairmen of Committees 7, 8 and 9 concerning the consideration of national proposals of common interest which were originally allocated to one of the Committees, appropriate Conference documents will be issued in that respect.

The Committee took note of that report.

2. Presentation and discussion of national proposals related to the draft Constitution (continued): Articles 20, 21, 22 and 23 (Document A, Documents DT/8, DT/9 + Add.1, 132 and 151)

Article 20

No. 139

2.1 The delegate of Paraguay, introducing proposal PRG/95/50, said the phrase "for an indefinite time" should be deleted as redundant, since mention of the right to suspension without a time qualification necessarily implied that an administration was entitled to effect such a suspension for as long as it deemed necessary.

2.2 The delegate of Romania, supported by the delegates of Colombia, Kenya and Mali, said there were three factors essential to establishment of the right of suspension: the length of time suspension was to apply, the service to be affected, and whether suspension might apply to all or only part of that service. As a matter of principle, all those factors ought to be explicitly defined in the provision; he therefore proposed that the phrase "for an indefinite time" should be replaced by the words "for as long as that Member deems necessary".

2.3 Proposal PRG/95/50 was endorsed by the delegates of the United States, Spain, Mexico, Chile, Canada, the Netherlands, Sweden and Niger.

2.4 The delegate of Brazil said that although Brazil had proposed (in Document 58) no change to No. 139, he would accept the Paraguayan proposal.

In view of the considerable degree of support expressed, the Committee adopted proposal PRG/95/50 by consensus.

No. 139 was approved as so amended.

Article 21

No. 140

The proposals by Paraguay (PRG/95/51) and Brazil (Document 58) to retain the provision without change were adopted and No. 140 was approved without change.

Article 22

2.5 The delegate of Kuwait, noting that the consensus of the meeting was that there was no contradiction between Nos. 141 and 142 withdrew comment KWT/11/19.

No. 141

2.6 The delegate of Turkey, introducing proposal TUR/65/7A, said it would be more appropriate in the context of international correspondence to replace the word "secrecy" by "privacy".

2.7 The delegate of the United Kingdom pointed out that, according to the accepted definitions of the two words, "secrecy" was the appropriate term to use in the provision since it applied to messages and information whereas "privacy" applied to individuals. He therefore proposed, with the support of the delegates of Romania, France, Spain and Côte d'Ivoire, that the Paraguayan (PEG/95/2) and Brazilian (Document 58) proposals for no change to the provision should be accepted.

2.8 In the light of that explanation, the delegate of Turkey withdrew TUR/65/7A.

No. 141 was approved without change.

No. 142

The proposals by Paraguay (PRG/95/52) and Brazil (Document 58) to retain the provision without change were adopted and No. 141 was approved without change.

Article 23

No. 143

2.9 The delegate of China said that acceptance of proposal CHN/78/8, to replace the word "shall" by "should endeavour", would make the provision more flexible. Since the level of development of telecommunications was not the same throughout the world, countries and more particularly the developing countries, could not all take the same steps to apply the provision.

2.10 Proposal CHN/73/8 was endorsed by the delegates of Romania, Gabon and Colombia.

2.11 The delegate of Sweden, supported by the delegates of New Zealand, Spain and Japan, said that the present wording of the provision, with use of the phrase "as may be necessary", implied that a Member was to make every effort, within its possibilities but not beyond them, to comply with the provision; it therefore met the Chinese requirement of flexibility. He felt it would be unwise to weaken the provision further as China proposed.

2.12 The delegate of Argentina said that proposal ARG/115/9 amended the wording of the final part of the provision so as to reflect the decisions of WATTC-88 and the spirit of Melbourne.

2.13 Proposal ARG/115/9 was endorsed by the delegates of Spain and Colombia.

2.14 The delegate of New Zealand, supported by the delegate of Romania who said that the two parts of the provision as amended by Argentina were not compatible, and the delegate of Japan, said that in its present wording No. 143 sought to establish the obligations of individual Members within their own territories. He was concerned that the Argentine proposal would imply extending those obligations on a world-wide basis.

2.15 The delegate of the United States said that, while he appreciated China's reasoning, the text already contained the necessary flexibility. Argentina's proposal, as it stood, was too broad in that it was not practical for all services to be interconnected or interoperable. If, however, the words "where appropriate" were added to Argentina's proposed text after "world-wide interconnection and interoperability", the proposal would be acceptable.

2.16 The delegates of France, Paraguay, Mexico and the Federal Republic of Germany supported Argentina's proposal as amended by the United States. The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany, however, felt that the phrase "under the best technical conditions" might be improved.

2.17 The delegates of Spain, Colombia and Niger said that Argentina's proposal was acceptable as it stood, the United States' concerns being already covered elsewhere in Article 23. The delegate of Colombia also supported the suggestion made by the Federal Republic of Germany.

2.18 The delegate of Norway said that his Delegation preferred the original wording but could accept the United States proposal.

2.19 The delegate of the United Kingdom said that the detailed changes being suggested in the Committee were very difficult to discuss in such a large group. A number of administrations were already placing different interpretations on proposed changes which might later be regretted. The United States proposal could be ambiguous, and there was no room for ambiguity in a basic document. The proper place for the sort of detail being suggested was the Telecommunications and Radio Regulations, and it should be sufficient for such provisions to be incorporated therein. Article 23, as drafted, set the general pattern of behaviour and did not require change. The delegates of the Netherlands and Kenya supported that position.

2.20 The delegates of Sweden and the USSR said that they, too, preferred the text of No. 143 to remain unchanged.

2.21 The Chairman, summing up, said that China did not wish to press its proposal. There appeared to be strong opposition to the Argentinian proposal as amended by the United States, and only a few delegations in favour of the Argentinian proposal alone. However, there appeared to be wide support for Brazil's proposal not to change the text.

No. 143 was approved without change.

Nos. 144, 145 and 146

Approved without change.

No. 146A

2.21 The Chairman invited the Committee to consider Argentina's proposal for a fifth paragraph in Article 23.

2.22 The delegate of Argentina said that proposal (ARG/115/14) was intended to ensure that in the transition between services offered to the public, proper account should be taken of existing services operating in certain parts of the world. The disparity between Members able to develop new services and those forced to retain conventional services would widen and the situation needed proper recognition.

2.23 The delegates of Spain and Nigeria fully supported Argentina's proposal which embodied the spirit that had prevailed at the WATTC-88.

2.24 The delegate of Sweden said that the proposal raised the same problems as Argentina's earlier proposals for Article 23. Although the substance was acceptable, it was nevertheless covered by the more general provision No. 143 already approved. The delegates of Denmark, Australia, the Netherlands, Papua New Guinea, Switzerland and the United Kingdom supported those views. The delegate of Australia added that Argentina's concerns were already covered by Resolution No. PL/6 approved by WATTC-88.

2.25 The delegate of Argentina said that as Resolution No. PL/6 did not form part of the Regulations, the commitment entered into at Melbourne was not covered. If, however, the majority was satisfied with Resolution No. PL/6 and was not ready at the present time to see that commitment embodied at a higher level, his Delegation would not press its proposal.

Article 23 was therefore approved as drafted originally in Document A.

2.26 The delegate of Greece suggested that, to save time at future meetings, a small ad hoc Group might be set up to consider all the detailed proposals thoroughly and to report back to the main Committee. The delegate of Argentina supported that proposal.

2.27 The Chairman said that a decision on that suggestion would be taken in due course.

The meeting rose at 1745 hours.

The Secretary:

D. SCHUSTER

The Acting Chairman:

V. CASSAPOGLOU

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 193-E

1 June 1989

Original: French

COMMITTEES 5, 6, 7,
8, 9

NOTE BY THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE 4

TO THE CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES 5, 6, 7, 8 AND 9

Some Committees of this Conference will be dealing with matters liable to have repercussions on Union finances. I should therefore be glad if you would notify Committee 4 as soon as possible of any decision having financial implications.

Furthermore, if any such decisions should be taken by your Committee, they should be given an order of priority in accordance by the wishes expressed by Committee 4.

M. GHAZAL
Chairman of Committee 4

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 194-E
2 June 1989
Original: French

COMMITTEES 4.7

Burkina Faso

PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

I. Restructuring of the permanent organs

1. The CCIs

The CCITT and the CCIR have hitherto operated in fairly different areas.

As a result of technological developments, particularly digitization and the use of fibre optics, their fields of activity are becoming more and more closely integrated.

Burkina Faso proposes:

BFA/194/1

With regard to the administrative structure, the two CCIs should be merged to form a single directorate and the study groups should be optimized.

With regard to the method of operation, a system should be devised for adopting Recommendations and Opinions before the Plenary Assemblies, since the Union must adjust to the technological progress which is part of its environment.

2. The IFRB

Burkina Faso considers that the current structure of the ITU has proved its worth but has also reached its limits, particularly as regards the extended use of the computer. Accordingly, we propose:

BFA/194/2

With regard to the method of operation, emphasis should be placed on the extended use of the computer and practical facilities should be made available to all Members for accessing the data base.

BFA/194/3

With regard to the administrative structure, we propose that the IFRB should be headed by a Director and a Board of five non-permanent members representing the Union's five regions. Both the Director and the members of the Board would be elected by the Plenipotentiary Conference.

From the administrative standpoint, the Director would be answerable to the Secretary-General.

The Board would meet periodically (four times a year) at ITU headquarters.

The extended use of the computer should facilitate the management of the frequency spectrum and of the geostationary-satellite orbit, enabling savings to be made that would enhance the Union's effectiveness in performing its three basic functions, namely:

- regulation;
- standardization;
- technical cooperation for the development of the international telecommunication network.

The five-member Board would be placed on exactly the same footing as the Administrative Council.

BFA/194/4

We also propose that the Director of the IFRB and the members of the Board should be eligible for re-election for a second term of office only, as is the case for all the other elected officials of the ITU.

II. Administrative Radio Conference - Future programme

BFA/194/5

We are in favour of convening, for 1992, an World Administrative Radio Conference for planning the HF frequency bands allocated exclusively to broadcasting.

III. Finances of the Union (Article 15) and ratification

BFA/194/6

With regard to the late payment of contributions and delays in ratifying the Constitution, the Convention and the Administrative Regulations, Resolutions and Recommendations should be adopted:

- inviting Members to ratify the instruments and Administrative Regulations before the date of their entry into force;
- authorizing the Secretary-General to arrange for a statement to be sent periodically to each Member, giving the position of its contributions together with its status as regards the ratification of the instruments and Administrative Regulations.

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 195-E

8 June 1989

Original: French

COMMITTEE 4

SUMMARY RECORD

OF THE

SECOND MEETING OF COMMITTEE 4

(FINANCE)

Friday, 2 June 1989, at 0930 hrs

Chairman: Mr. M. GHAZAL (Lebanon)

Documents

- | | | |
|----|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | Consideration of the financial management
of the Union by the Plenipotentiary Conference
(years 1982 to 1988) | 186 |
| 2. | Technical Cooperation support costs -
current situation | 179, 47
(2.2.6.6.(4)) |
| 3. | Arrears - Sudan | 181, 45(Rev.1) |

1. Consideration of the financial management of the Union by the Plenipotentiary Conference (years 1982 to 1988) (Document 186)

1.1 The Deputy Secretary-General presented the document and recalled that under No. 40 of the Nairobi Convention (1982), the Plenipotentiary Conference had to examine the accounts of the Union and finally approve them. The accounts had been drawn up by the Secretary-General and examined by the external auditors appointed by the Government of the Swiss Confederation, then transmitted to the Administrative Council, which had approved them. They had then been communicated to all Members of the Union and were now submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference for approval.

1.2 The Chairman suggested that the Committee should consider the document.

1.3 In reply to a query by the delegate of the United States regarding the meaning of the expression "including additional credits", which appeared in a footnote on practically every page of the document, the Secretary of the Committee explained that the budget for any given year was approved by the Administrative Council of the previous year and was based on the situation on 1 January of the previous year. The United Nations common system, however, was regularly adjusted to the cost of living. Resolution No. 647 of the Administrative Council authorized adjustments of credits during the year, especially for staff expenses. The initial budget was then replaced by the budget adjusted by the Secretariat.

Annexes 1 to 7 concerning the years 1982 to 1988 were approved.

Annex 8, containing the draft Resolution on approval of the accounts of the Union for the years 1982 to 1988, was approved.

1.4 The delegates of Thailand and Byelorussia said that they would have preferred a more uniform use of accounting terms and that the document currently submitted to the Committee should be given greater uniformity.

1.5 The Secretary said that an effort would be made to make the terms more uniform in the future, although it was no longer possible to modify the document submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference, since the accounts had been approved in their current form by the Administrative Council and the external auditors.

1.6 While recognizing that Document 186 contained useful information concerning the financial situation of the ITU, the delegate of Byelorussia thought that the Secretary-General should be asked to provide further details concerning the growth of the budget, giving the percentage rise, for instance, from one year to the next and in relation to the base year, in that case 1982.

1.7 The Deputy Secretary-General recalled that the ITU had been operating on a zero growth basis and that when the contributory unit was decided each year, the percentage of increase from one year to the next was always indicated.

1.8 The Secretary said that a working document indicating the cost of living trends in Geneva in percentages would be prepared for the the next meeting.

1.9 The delegate of the United Kingdom thought that the accounts of the Union were somewhat opaque, a matter which he would like to return to on a future occasion.

The Committee took note of Document 186.

2. Technical Cooperation support costs - current situation (Document 179 and paragraph 2.2.6.6.(4) of Document 47)

2.1 The Deputy Secretary-General presented Document 179, which concerned Technical Cooperation support costs and which updated the report of the Administrative Council to the Conference. He recalled that it had not been possible since 1980 to cover the administrative and operational costs of Technical Cooperation projects financed by the UNDP. Since 1982, there had therefore been a cumulative shortfall of 15 million Swiss francs. By using various financing methods, the Administrative Council had managed to reduce the shortfall to 2 million Swiss francs, to which should be added the shortfall for the financial year 1989, which had been estimated in the provisional budget for 1990 at 2,200,000 Swiss francs, which meant a total of 4,200,000 Swiss francs to be amortized. The Conference was to propose methods of amortizing that sum for 1989 and to suggest ways of avoiding any recurrence of the situation.

2.2 The Chairman stressed the importance of a stable budget for Technical Cooperation support costs. Consideration might be given to making Technical Cooperation an organ along the lines of the International Consultative Committees and the IFRB.

2.3 The delegate of Mexico said that a mechanism was needed to enable Technical Cooperation to continue its activities, which were indispensable for all developing countries. Any economies made in the budget should be considered in the light of the support required for Technical Cooperation, the status of which could be modified.

2.4 The delegate of France said that a distinction should be drawn between the two aspects of the question: firstly the shortfall from 1982 to 1989, and secondly the consideration of ways of avoiding a repetition of the situation in the future. He referred in that respect to the proposals of the General Secretariat mentioned in paragraph 5.5 (page 22) of Document 33.

2.5 The delegate of the Philippines said that as far as the shortfall for 1990 was concerned, a budget item, to which the expenditure concerned could be charged was required. Only the support costs relating to each year would then remain to be paid. Perhaps the General Secretariat could propose different methods of achieving that.

2.6 In reply to the delegate of Japan, who commented that the value of support costs in Swiss francs varied with the exchange rate of the dollar and that the shortfall might therefore have a tendency to diminish, the Chairman said that no result could be obtained until the beginning of 1990.

2.7 The delegate of Chili congratulated the General Secretariat on having managed to reduce the deficit to the current proportions. He said that in future, however, the problem should be approached differently and recalled that his country had presented a proposal to that effect in Document 112 (CHL/112/3). Consideration should be given to financing the deficit from the regular budget of the Union. It would be useful to know the amount of the costs equivalent to 14% of the value of the projects financed by the UNDP.

2.8 The delegate of the United Kingdom said that an ingenious plan would be required to cope with the "historic deficit". With regard to the future, Committee 4 could not draw up a budget to finance the deficit without knowing the conclusions of Committee 6 in that respect.

2.9 The delegate of Mali also thought that the current amortization method could not be applied beyond 1990 and proposed that Technical Cooperation support costs should be charged to the regular budget.

2.10 The Chairman said that Committees 6 and 7 would need to be consulted.

2.11 The delegate of Byelorussia, who agreed with the United Kingdom on many points, said that it was no use planning a deficit. It would be preferable to find ways of avoiding it. Committee 6 would have to take the necessary decisions. Many countries had opposed introducing Technical Cooperation costs in the regular budget, a solution which appeared to entail some difficulties. He suggested that a ceiling could be established to finance Technical Cooperation, equivalent to the maximum of what could be charged to the regular budget to finance a deficit. That possibility could be submitted to a Working Group for consideration.

2.12 The Deputy Secretary-General said that the problem would need to be examined within the framework of Resolution No. 16 of the Nairobi Conference.

2.13 The delegate of France said that the ITU's functions as a specialized agency of the United Nations would need to be distinguished from its functions as an executing agency. Until then, the staff of the regional divisions had combined those functions without distinction. The situation should be clarified in the budget.

2.14 The delegate of Senegal said that for either function deficits should be charged to the regular budget of the ITU.

2.15 The Deputy Secretary-General, also referring to Document 33, pointed out that ITU Area Representatives also combined the two functions and that the Plenipotentiaries were free to choose in which section the suggestions made regarding the document should appear.

2.16 The delegate of the United States said that a study was currently being made to rationalize the methods of implementing UNDP projects and the repayment of support costs.

2.17 The delegate of the Netherlands said that proposals should be presented with suggestions of different ways of eliminating the annual deficit. The advantages and drawbacks of the proposals should then be carefully considered.

2.18 The delegate of Senegal, supported by the delegate of France, suggested that the Administrative Council should be instructed in a Resolution to consider ways of financing the deficit referred to in a) of Document 179, concerning the full amortization of the shortfall in income to cover Technical Cooperation support costs up to the end of 1989. A decision of principle should then be taken, which Committee 4 could not do before receiving guidance from Committee 6 regarding the many factors to be taken into account.

2.19 The Chairman suggested that the Committee should approve the proposals and that the Secretariat should be asked to provide information concerning costs in general.

It was so decided.

3. Arrears - Sudan (Documents 181 and 45(Rev.1))

3.1 The Secretary of the Committee presented Document 181 and recalled that at its first meeting Committee 4 had requested a list of payments in arrears. Document 181 gave the list as submitted to the Administrative Council at the final meeting of its 44th session in Nice in May 1989. In Annex 2 of the document, which gave a list of countries, a footnote 4 should be added regarding Peru, which had paid the sum of

191,936.60 Swiss francs. With regard to Annexes 3 and 4, he recalled that the Plenipotentiary Conferences of Malaga-Torremolinos and Nairobi had considered that although it would not be possible to cancel the debts, outstanding interest due should be cancelled, no interest would be payable on the principal and the debts should no longer be taken into account with respect to the right to vote. The decisions of the two previous Plenipotentiary Conferences had proved very useful, since the number of special arrears accounts had diminished and by the end of the year there would only be two countries left on the special arrears account in Annex 3, while on the list in Annex 4 the Central African Republic had completely paid off its debt.

Situation of the Sudan

3.2 The delegate of Sudan said that Document 45(Rev.1) gave explanations concerning the arrears owed by his country, which wanted a proposal for exemption from or rescheduling of the payment of its arrears up to 1983 to be submitted to the Plenary Meeting, taking into consideration the new contributory unit of 1/8 applied since 1984. Since that year, Sudan had paid all its contributions. At the meeting of the Administrative Council in Geneva, the Finance Committee had commended the efforts made by Sudan to meet its financial obligations. In conclusion, the delegate of Sudan urged that his country's request be favourably received.

3.3 The Chairman welcomed Sudan's efforts to pay its contributions from 1984 onwards. He pointed out, however, that the sum of 873,555.50 Swiss francs was still due. Reducing Sudan's class of contribution to 1/8 of a unit from 1980 to 1983 made a difference of 764,361 Swiss francs compared with the contributions and interest on arrears payable from 1980 to 1983 on the basis of one unit.

3.4 The Deputy Secretary-General said that Document 45(Rev.1) submitted by Sudan had been examined by the Administrative Council. He recalled that after every Plenipotentiary Conference each country chose its class of contribution, which remained valid throughout the period between two conferences.

With regard to Sudan, since the 1/8 unit class had only existed since 1983, it did not seem feasible to reclassify the country in that class retroactively. He had considered that the Plenipotentiary Conference alone was competent to take a decision on the matter, which was why the document had been placed before it.

3.5 The Chairman therefore asked that, in the light of Document 45(Rev.1), the Finance Committee should take a decision with a view to presenting a proposal concerning Sudan to the Plenary Meeting, to the effect that the latter's contributions should be reduced to the 1/8 class for the period 1980-1983. The Committee would then consider how Sudan's debt could be dealt with in the future.

3.6 The Chairman then asked delegates to give their views regarding Sudan's request. The delegates of the following countries supported Sudan's request unreservedly: Saudi Arabia, China, Canada, Peru, Egypt, Kuwait, Mexico, United Arab Emirates, Cameroon, Mali, German Democratic Republic, Indonesia, Thailand, Jamaica, Turkey, Brazil, Iraq, Kenya, Guinea, Iran, Zimbabwe, Republic of Korea and Chile.

3.7 Without opposing Sudan's request, other delegations said that their decision should not constitute a precedent in the matter of arrears: United States, Netherlands, Australia, Germany (Federal Republic of), France, United Kingdom, Colombia and Venezuela.

3.8 The Chairman commented on the substantial support received by Sudan, while sympathizing with the concern of delegations which had asked for the decision not to constitute a precedent. He thought that Sudan should be given back its right to vote. With regard to the financial question, he referred to the Plenipotentiary Conferences of Torremolinos and Nairobi. The sum should be transferred to a separate account and Sudan should be offered a possibility of repaying the sum which it owed to the Union over a period of several years.

3.9 The Deputy Secretary-General said that two problems needed considering: the Committee could solve one of them straight away, with a proposal to the Plenary Meeting, while for the other, which was more specific, the Committee Secretary could give some clarifications.

3.10 The Secretary recalled that similar cases had arisen at the last two Plenipotentiary Conferences. If the decisions of those two Conferences were applied, the situation of the Sudan would be the following: unpaid interest on arrears would be transferred to a special interest account and the Administrative Council would be asked to find a way of cancelling that special account. The sum cancelled would amount to 306,000 Swiss francs. Unpaid contributions from 1980 to 1983 on the basis of one unit, amounting to about 567,000 Swiss francs, would be transferred to a special arrears account. That debt would not be cancelled and the Republic of Sudan would not be released from its payment, which it could settle over whatever period of time it chose. The sum would not incur interest and would not be taken into account for the application of No. 117 of the Convention regarding loss of the right to vote. Since it had paid its contributions from 1984 to 1989, Sudan would recover its right to vote as soon as the Resolution drawn up by the Finance Committee was approved by the Plenary Meeting. That decision would comply with Resolutions No. 10 of the Torremolinos Plenipotentiary Conference and No. 53 of the Nairobi Plenipotentiary Conference.

3.11 The Chairman said that a Resolution should be drawn up for submission to the Plenary Conference.

3.12 The delegate of Sudan thanked the delegations which had supported his country's request.

3.13 The Chairman thanked all the delegates present for their display of solidarity with Sudan's request. He said that a proposal to restore Sudan's right to vote immediately should be drawn up without delay for submission to the Plenary Meeting.

The meeting rose at 1250 hours.

The Secretary:

R. PRELAZ

The Chairman:

M. CHAZAL

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 196-E
20 June 1989
Original: English

COMMITTEE 7

SUMMARY RECORD
OF THE
FOURTH MEETING OF COMMITTEE 7
(STRUCTURE OF THE UNION)

Friday, 2 June 1989, at 0940 hrs

Chairman: Mr. A. VARGAS ARAYA (Costa Rica)

Subjects discussed:

1. Work programme of Committee 7
2. General discussion on proposals and associated principles relating to the basic structure of Union (continued)

Documents

DT/13(Rev.1)

1. Work programme of Committee 7(Document DT/13(Rev.1)

Upon an enquiry by the delegate of Sweden, and further discussion by the delegates of the United States and of Norway, the United Kingdom and Chile, the Chairman assured the meeting that Document DT/14 would set forth comparative proposed text and related reasons related to the basic structure of the Union.

1.2 In addition, the delegate of India, supported by the delegates of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Algeria and Ethiopia, asked whether a brief document might be prepared summarizing, in a block diagram form of about four or five blocks, the structures proposed by the different administrations; that could be accompanied by a brief estimate of the expenditure involved in each case.

1.3 The Chairman of the IFRB said that block diagrams might well be prepared by the Secretariat but that the IFRB ought to be associated with the preparation of the cost estimates concerning the IFRB since some proposals contained data which in the IFRB's opinion were incomplete.

1.4 The delegate of the United Kingdom, recognizing the value of a document with block diagrams and cost estimates, said that the preparation of such estimates could be lengthy and would have to be made with the involvement of the Directors of the CCIs and the IFRB.

1.5 The delegate of the United States, agreeing with the delegate of the United Kingdom that cost figures had to be developed with the involvement of all of the interested parties, added that in any diagram reference had to be made to the existing organization and its particular features and aspects.

1.6 The delegate of Indonesia, in support of the delegate of India as to the necessity of full information on the structures proposed and their related costs, said that the Secretariat should ask the relevant organs to provide the necessary information, so that it could prepare the document without involving the Directors of the CCIs and the IFRB directly in the preparation.

1.7 The delegate of Kenya, agreeing with the delegates of the United Kingdom and India on the need for full information, asked whether the Secretariat would indeed be able to provide such a document.

1.8 The Chairman said the Secretariat would do its utmost to have the requested documentation ready.

2. General discussion on proposals and associated principles relating to the basic structure of the Union (continued)

2.1 The delegate of Algeria, referring to his general statement commenced the previous day under the item on "general discussion", to Document 57 submitted by the Algerian Delegation and the statement by the Minister of the Algerian PTT, said that the overall structure of the ITU should not be changed radically since that would have adverse effects on effectiveness. However, there were a range of options between radical change and the status quo which should be given detailed scrutiny when examining each organ individually. In respect of the Administrative Council, he believed that there was an unequal distribution of seats in Regions D and E in comparison with other regions and therefore considered an increase for those regions justified.

2.2. The delegate of Japan, felt that although an organizational chart and an associated cost analysis might help considerations, it was more important to have a proper organization to attain the Union's objectives and functions. He agreed with the delegate of the United Kingdom and others that a full working document on the proposals concerning the structure should be published as soon as possible. He agreed with the Chairman of the IFRB that a cost analysis was perhaps not appropriate at the present stage and would, in any case, require consultation with the IFRB and the Directors of the CCIs.

2.3 The delegate of Zimbabwe congratulated the Chairman on his election. He expressed general support for Document 98(Rev.1) submitted by the Delegation of Greece. A restructuration would facilitate the streamlining of the ITU and consolidation of the work of the Secretariat with the Secretary-General as its head. Savings achieved in operational costs could then be used for other activities. Recommendations for restructuring should be adopted in principle at the Conference, with the modalities of implementation subjected to a study, whose results would be submitted to a World Telecommunications Development Conference in two years time, which would then deliberate and adopt the recommendations.

2.4 The delegate of Yugoslavia said that his Delegation's general views had already been presented at the second Plenary Meeting. He drew attention to one problem related to the structure of the Union, namely, the inter-relationships of the permanent organs in routine matters. It was indispensable to delineate precisely the terms of reference and fields of activity and responsibility of each organ in order to avoid potential misunderstanding. While he was in favour of a "federal" structure, the relationship between the constituent parts had to be specified precisely. Another provision might be necessary on a more detailed role for the Coordination Committee which, although not a permanent organ, had a mandate under Articles 12 and 59 of the Nairobi Convention to assist and advise the Secretary-General on matters affecting more than one permanent organ. With respect to the structure of the Union, he could not sympathize with either the status quo or revolutionary change. Improvements, streamlining and rationalization were possible and welcome. The structure should be open to accommodate the changing telecommunication environment and reasonable adjustment should be possible. He welcomed seeing such an approach agreed to and applied in Committee 7.

2.5 The delegate of Sweden repeated that he was in principle in favour of the status quo, but an eye should be kept on working methods and appropriate modifications made. It was important to note that the working methods in the CCIs differed and results were slightly different. The CCIR essentially prepared technical recommendations in preparation for radio conferences and the IFRB while the CCITT was more concerned with standardization. He was, however, open to possible modifications particularly in view of the developments in mobile communications, where more mobile services were being integrated into the fixed telephone network. With respect to the IFRB, he believed the current structure to be the most appropriate and that the current number of impartial members was correct. In that respect, he associated himself with the interventions of the previous day by the delegates of Papua New Guinea, the United Kingdom and Hungary.

2.6 The delegate of Indonesia advocated an innovative approach with an eye to the future. It was the structure and not individuals which slowed down progress. Like the delegate of Yugoslavia, he also did not favour extremes but preferred to move forward in steps. He was against radical change and felt that each Plenipotentiary Conference should move towards the betterment of the ITU as a whole.

With respect to the IFRB, the 30 million Swiss francs computer could cope with routine matters and a Director could direct the work and report to the Secretary-General. It was necessary to merge the CCIs so as to be able to face the challenges of the future. The private sector was becoming more and more dominant and the demands of industry had to be met. He agreed with the delegate of the Netherlands that lengthy procedures must be abolished. He had been pleased to hear the intervention by the delegate of Algeria and believed that between the two extremes there was still enough space for decisions. A decision would have to be taken immediately but, Directors and Members could be given time to pave the way so that delegations could come back in one to two years time at an extraordinary Plenipotentiary Conference. The principles, however, should be decided forthwith. From the different proposals could emerge an ITU headed by a Secretary-General with three Directors, one for the IFRB, one for the CCIs and one for Development, in line with the purposes of the Union, namely regulation, standardization and development.

2.7 The delegate of the Philippines said that her Administration supported the proposals for restructuring the IFRB put forward jointly with other Asian countries in Document 51. However, in view of the importance of the IFRB's role, it would be acceptable to establish a committee to allow time to evaluate any possible changes. So far as the CCIs were concerned, the two Committees should remain separate but the possibility of merging their secretariats merited consideration. With regard to technical cooperation, the Philippines advocated that more should be undertaken by the ITU itself, hence more resources should be made available. Without a regular supply of funds, there could be no stable technical cooperation programme and so it could not continue to depend on ad hoc arrangements for mobilizing funds for technical cooperation.

2.8 The delegate of Iraq said that his country's proposals were set out in Document 141 and supported changes in the organization of the ITU to make it more efficient and productive. For example, Iraq was in favour of merging the CCIR and CCITT in one body, but only gradually and after thorough consideration. No need was seen to alter the structure of the IFRB, but Iraq had no objection to proposals for improving its efficiency. With regard to technical cooperation, Iraq supported any proposal to strengthen ITU efforts to help the developing countries to enjoy the benefits of progress. In particular, technical cooperation should be provided within the ITU budget in the same way as the Union's other major activities.

2.9 The delegate of Cameroon limited his remarks to the question of technical cooperation. Those countries interested in obtaining technical assistance were well aware of the current weaknesses in that sector of the Union's activities: the first was the inadequate financing of technical cooperation from the ITU budget; second was the lack of clarity about whom to approach for such assistance; lastly, the fact that the burden of providing technical cooperation in telecommunication was left to be provided by outside organizations such as UNDP. The ITU had been asked to solve those problems at the Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi. Many countries were ready to cooperate in that task and Cameroon would support any measures that enabled technical cooperation to assume its rightful place among the Union's various activities.

2.10 The delegate of Belgium said that the existing "federal" structure of the ITU should only be changed if there were clear advantages to be gained. Within the existing structure, the role of the Coordination Committee should be strengthened and priority given to improving the functioning of the Union. In particular, the work of the CCIs should be coordinated better and supervised more closely by the Administrative Council. Belgium also supported the idea of rotation in the membership of the Administrative Council, on which it would give its views at the appropriate time.

2.11 The delegate of Nigeria said that his country had not submitted a document on structural reform of the ITU because no radical change seemed necessary. Nigeria endorsed the existing "federal" structure and agreed with the Report of the Panel of Experts on the Long-term Future of the IFRB. On the other hand, like other developing countries, Nigeria was interested in making the ITU more efficient because the savings realized by so doing could be used to strengthen its Technical Cooperation Department. A permanent solution was needed for the problem of the lack of funds for technical cooperation, which should be rectified by making a regular allocation in the ITU budget for that aspect of the Union's activities.

2.12 The delegate of Brazil said that his Administration supported the existing "federal" structure of the ITU, endorsed the conclusions of the Panel of Experts on the Long-term Future of the IFRB and was against amalgamating the CCIs. It believed that the Union had shown its ability to adapt to meet challenges and new situations, but was prepared to consider any proposals to improve the organization still further. The best course might be to establish a group of experts to consider the problem of structural change carefully and to leave a final decision on their conclusions to the next Plenipotentiary Conference. If change was necessary, Brazil favoured an evolutionary approach. At the same time, there was an urgent need to reform the working methods of some of the Union's organs, as had been done for the CCITT at the WATTC in Melbourne.

2.13 The delegate of Kenya said that his Administration favoured a cautious approach to reorganizing the ITU, as was shown by its proposals on the subject in Document 86 (KEN/86/19). With regard to the distribution of seats on the Administrative Council, the current situation was inequitable and it was to be hoped that ways could be found to ensure a more equitable distribution of seats between the various ITU regions.

2.14 The Chairman thanked those who had spoken for their contributions and invited those still to speak to state their positions, so far as possible, on four issues of principle which seemed to be emerging from the discussion. First, whether the ITU should have a "federal" or a unified structure; second, whether the Secretariats of the CCIs should be kept separate or amalgamated; third, whether the IFRB should have a full-time Board or part-time members and permanent Director; and whether there should be a unit for development in the General Secretariat or a permanent organ for development with its own Director. In addition, he invited their comments on the need for detailed studies of the structure of the Union for the purposes of future action or whether there was enough experience and knowledge in hand to begin changing the basic structure of the Union straight away.

2.15 The delegate of France said that his Administration had made no proposals to change the existing structure of the ITU because it had proved its ability to perform the functions required and to adapt successfully to new situations. Nor did France favour amalgamation of the specialized secretariats in view of the different tasks which they performed. The CCIs should respond rapidly to Members' needs and France supported Canada's proposal for thorough consideration of how they might improve. But the secretariats were essential to the CCIs' work and could not be reduced if the ITU wished them to produce high quality Recommendations. Consideration of the ITU's efficiency should not be limited to the CCIs but should extend to all of its permanent organs, as proposed by the Delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany. So far as the IFRB was concerned, France endorsed the Report of the Panel of Experts on its long-term future and believed that closer cooperation with the CCIR could lead to improvements in its work. France also wanted the tasks and working methods of the departments of the General Secretariat to be examined so as to improve their effectiveness and cooperation with the other permanent organs. For example, the Technical Cooperation Department, or its successor, should rely more on the technical skills of the CCIs and the Computer Department should further improve its cooperation with the IFRB and the CCIs. In other words, France wished to maintain the Union's existing structure and strive to increase its ability to adapt swiftly to changing needs.

2.16 The delegate of Gambia said that the two CCIs played unique roles which the Member countries greatly appreciated. His Administration was opposed to changes solely for their own sake - which was not to say that changes should not be made whenever they could lead to greater efficiency. The CCIs clearly did heed the Member countries' growing needs. The biggest problem in the "federal" system was the relationship between the Secretary-General and the permanent organs. The "federal" system ought to have some level of hierarchy. In other words, its structure should include the post of a Chief Executive.

2.17 The delegate of Algeria said that his Administration was in favour of maintaining the IFRB's current structure. With the regard to the CCIs, the operational structure of the Study Groups should be maintained although there seemed to be room for rationalizing the Secretariat's tasks and his Delegation would be interested to hear what views were voiced in that regard. It was in favour of enhancing the role and status of technical cooperation including the establishment of TCD as a permanent organ with an elected head. He was optimistic about such a change, no objections having been raised to proposals put forward in that regard. His Delegation would wish to speak again on the various matters when the Committee came to discuss specific proposals.

2.18 The delegate of Venezuela said he saw no need for any major restructuring of the Union at the current stage, nor of any need to create new administrative bodies. The Administrative Council should keep its current composition. His Delegation endorsed the call for greater priority for technical cooperation and would support a proposal to incorporate a permanent organ responsible for the promotion of such activities, provided that it could be done without incurring a rise in costs. With reference to the Chairman's summary of the views expressed, his Delegation was in favour of the status quo but felt that a Coordination Committee, which in fact already existed, could serve a useful purpose. The Secretariat structure should be left as it was for the time being, subject to appropriate attention by the Coordination Committee with a view to enhancing efficiency. The IFRB structure, too, should remain as it was. However, his Delegation would be in favour of a permanent organ for development again provided that there was no resultant rise in costs.

2.19 The delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran said that, although some Members of the Union were more or less satisfied with its current organization, the long-term future must not be lost sight of. As the delegate of Chile had said, aims and expectations must be identified. The ITU needed to be adapted to respond as effectively as possible to the impact of rapidly evolving technology. It came as a surprise, in that regard, that the status quo was being advocated in the very quarters which had been advocating change during the previous Plenipotentiary Conference and had been foremost in promoting the measures reflected in Resolution No. 68 of that Conference. Indeed, the acceleration in technological developments since that time made the need for change even more pressing. On the other hand, as the delegate of Papua New Guinea had pointed out, an organization which was more or less stable and functioning well should be changed only to the extent absolutely necessary. In that connection, it was of prime importance to make changes in the field of technical cooperation in order to rectify the current imbalance in activities.

2.20 The delegate of Turkey said that a merger of the CCIs would simply reduce their efficiency without leading to any savings. It would be better to seek ways to improve their working methods and promote coordination. For that purpose, a panel of experts should be established, as had been done in the case of the IFRB, with a view to providing a better response to the rapidly changing environment.

2.21 The delegate of Mali said that his Delegation's views and proposals had been expressed to the Plenary Meeting and were also contained in Document 144. He referred briefly to his Administration's proposals on technical cooperation, contained in section V of that document. With regard to the IFRB, the regional representation should be in a different form and the membership should not be permanent. His Delegation felt that the CCIs should be merged, but was willing to discuss the matter, which in any case should be studied by a special body. It agreed with the Algerian Delegations about membership of the Administrative Council, in which Regions D and E were under-represented. It supported the proposals aimed at evaluating the costs of the ITU structure, and was in favour of a strengthened body, in the person of a Secretary-General or in the form of the General Secretariat.

2.22 The delegate of Spain said that the ITU was the ideal forum for the introduction of timely changes in response to the evolving telecommunications environment. His Administration was in favour of one basic instrument, a Constitution, with a supplementary text in the form of a Convention or Regulations, supported by various administrative instruments. There would thus be three levels of instruments which, while forming part of a whole, could be reviewed by different legal bodies. The debate on structural changes should include a reference to conferences, which were also organs of the Union, pursuant to Article 27 of the Convention. His Administration had suggested a parallel structure for conferences: plenipotentiary conferences for revision of the Constitution; general conferences to revise general regulations; and administrative conferences to revise administrative regulations. The structure would be without prejudice to the allocation of any other functions by the competent forums. With regard to proposals on other subjects, such as technical cooperation, his Delegation could agree to some but cautioned against any undue haste. In particular, it might be premature to effect changes in the IFRB. The situation in respect of each body should be the subject of a prior review by a suitable panel of experts. A period of four years should suffice for the task, and the findings could be submitted to the next plenipotentiary conference.

2.23 The delegate of Sweden expressed his concern that additional working documents containing the proposals was necessary. After further remarks by the delegates of the United Kingdom, Brazil, United States and Kenya, the Chairman indicated that the Secretariat would attempt to meet this request.

In addition, the delegate of the United States indicated that the order of appearance of the working documents should be changed since discussion of proposals relating to the IFRB and the CCIs should take precedence.

2.24 The delegate of Japan felt that, after the debate on general principles, the Committee should begin at once to discuss proposals relating to one of the major topics - standardization, regulation or technical cooperation.

The meeting rose at 1230 hours.

The Secretary:

A.M. RUTKOWSKI

The Chairman:

A. VARGAS ARAYA

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 197-E
19 June 1989
Original: English

PLENARY MEETING

MINUTES

OF THE

TENTH PLENARY MEETING

Friday, 2 June 1989, at 1445 hrs

Chairman: Mr. J. GRENIER (France)

Subjects discussed

Documents

- | | | |
|-----|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. | Approval of the agenda | PL-10 |
| 2. | Consideration of proposals concerning the expulsion or suspension of Israel | QAT/13/5,
ARS/14/1,
SYR/15/5 |
| 3. | Deadline for receipt of candidatures for the post of Secretary-General | - |
| 4. | Policy considerations concerning the Changing Telecommunication Environment | 37, 90 |
| 5. | General policy statements (resumed) | - |
| 5.1 | Statement by the Minister for Transport and Communications, Republic of Sudan | - |
| 5.2 | Statement by the Observer for UNESCO | - |
| 6. | Restoration of voting rights | - |

1. Approval of the agenda (Document PL-10)

1.1 The Chairman said that the agenda of the meeting, drafted after many consultations, represented a compromise which, like all compromises, was not entirely satisfactory to everybody. He wished to thank all the delegations which had helped to establish it.

He had further been informed that the delegations which had expressed reservations concerning the agenda had decided not to oppose its adoption, in the interests of the smooth operation of the Conference and in view of the limited time available. He therefore recommended that the Conference approve the agenda.

The agenda was approved.

2. Consideration of proposals concerning the expulsion or suspension of Israel
(Documents QAT/13/5, ARS/14/1, SYR/15/5)

2.1 The delegate of Saudi Arabia made the following statement:

"Under this item of the agenda (PL-10) concerning the expulsion or suspension of Israel from the ITU, three documents have been submitted by the Arab countries (Qatar, Document 13, Proposal 5; Syrian Arab Republic, Document 15, Proposal 5; Kingdom of Saudi Arabi, Document 14, Proposal 1), on behalf of all the Arab countries Members of the Union and on the basis of a Resolution adopted by the Arab Telecommunication Union. On behalf of these countries, I should like to introduce these proposals and explain why we were prompted to submit these documents to the Nice Plenipotentiary Conference (1989). On several occasions the Member in question has interrupted communications and prevented the Arab people of Palestine in the occupied territories from exercising their legitimate right guaranteed by the ITU Convention, in order to keep the international community from finding out about the activities of the forces of occupation which include arbitrary acts and violations of international treaties, not to mention the acts which that Member is perpetrating on the territory of other ITU Member countries which it is occupying by force, namely, Syria and Lebanon.

We are fully persuaded of the legitimacy of our claims but, in a spirit of cooperation and in order to enable participating delegations to make the best possible use of the time available to carry out the very heavy Conference programme, which includes many other subjects of crucial importance for the international community and the developing countries in particular, and in response to the spirit of international détente to which peoples aspire in order to live in freedom, peace and cooperation - for all these reasons, the Arab countries Members of the Union have decided not to pursue this item concerning the expulsion or suspension of Israel."

2.2 The delegate of the United States made the following statement:

"My Delegation greatly appreciates the statement just made by the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia on behalf of the Arab Delegations. In particular, we welcome his declaration that the sponsors of the three proposals listed on the agenda do not intend to pursue them for the reasons explained by him. At the same time, my Delegation must also express its deep regret that these proposals were tabled in the first place and that the Chairman and many delegations had to expend so much time and effort in dealing with them.

Mr. Chairman, the position of my Delegation and my Government considering the injection of political issues into the work of a purely technical organization such as the ITU is very well known. My Government's position is also well known on the principle of universality in general and in particular concerning attempts to expel or suspend a Member State of the ITU, when in fact there is no legal basis for such actions under the governing instrument of this organization, the Nairobi Convention. My Delegation, however, does not consider it necessary to reiterate its position in detail in view of the conciliatory and constructive approach taken by the distinguished representative of Saudi Arabia in his statement of behalf of the Arab Delegations. My Delegation and, we think, most other delegations came to this Conference with the sole purpose of dealing with the technical and financial issues facing the ITU and strengthening international cooperation in the field of telecommunications, especially between developed and developing countries. We sincerely hope that all delegations will retain that focus for the remainder of the Conference."

2.3 The Chairman stated that, after having listened to the views expressed by the preceding delegations, he concluded that the matter which formed the subject of item 2 on the agenda of this Plenary Meeting would not be further examined during the present Plenipotentiary Conference.

It was so decided.

3. Deadline for receipt of candidatures for the post of Secretary-General

3.1 The Chairman, after reminding the meeting of its decision that the elections to the post of Secretary-General should be held at 0930 hours on Monday, 12 June 1989, proposed that, in the light of experience at the previous Plenipotentiary Conference, the deadline for the receipt of candidatures for the post should be set at 1500 hours on Thursday, 8 June 1989.

It was so decided.

The Chairman said that the Secretary-General would send the appropriate telegram to all Member administrations.

4. Policy considerations concerning the Changing Telecommunication Environment
(Documents 37, 90)

4.1 The Secretary-General, introducing Document 37, said that WATTC Resolution No. PL/4 represented a package understanding reached at that Conference. The document had been transmitted to the Administrative Council, which had forwarded it to the Conference for consideration of the implications and opportunities associated with the integration of new technologies and their impact on the work of the Union and on cooperation between Members in the context of the implementation of telecommunications development.

Document 90 emanated from a specific request to the Secretary-General from Ministers and other prominent officials of a number of countries, developed as well as developing, for clarification of problems arising from changes in the telecommunications sector, and particularly from the report of the Independent Commission on Telecommunications Development. The ITU Secretariat had issued a document containing a wide range of information on such matters as investment in telecommunications, plans of action and suggestions to developing countries concerning autonomy in planning, management and financing and avoidance of subsidies. Subsequently, in 1987, he had been asked for further advice and, rather than responding to the request himself, he had called on a group composed of eminent authorities to advise him on the subject. Their report, which gave a broader perspective than Document 37, has now been distributed to all participants in the Conference.

4.2 The delegate of Indonesia said that the report of the Advisory Group on Telecommunication Policy was an extremely important document. At the previous Plenipotentiary Conference, the establishment of the Independent Commission had marked a breakthrough in cooperation between developing and developed countries and the intervening seven years had witnessed an appreciable rapprochement between the two groups. In looking to the future, the Advisory Group's report showed that many problems remained to be solved before the recommendations of the Independent Commission could be fully implemented and before a telephone could be within easy reach for all mankind. The Conference should take an innovative view of the future, particularly in its discussions of technical cooperation in the Committees. Participants should bear in mind that a broader view of technical cooperation stood to benefit, not only the developing countries, but also the industrialized world concerned with providing the necessary equipment.

Steps should also be taken as soon as possible in Committee 7 to ensure that the Union was not left behind in the rapid advance of technology. The developing countries looked to the ITU to prevent the undue proliferation of standards, which was already proving very expensive for them and would be counter productive for their development and for the attainment of goals set by the Independent Commission.

4.3 The delegate of Tanzania expressed appreciation of the Advisory Group's excellent report, with its clear analysis of the complex problems involved. Tanzania was particularly concerned by the rapid expansion, not only of technology, but of the number of services provided, which presented a challenge as well as opportunities for the developing countries. The report rightly sounded warnings, more specifically to the developing countries, concerning such matters as telecommunications ownership, management, legislation and policy formulation; a matter of great concern for those countries was that, even before they had time to consider the establishment of basic services and infrastructure for their economic development, they were inundated with demands for new services and were faced with the dilemma of competition between their business communities, monopoly situations and changing regulations. Concerted action was required by all the countries concerned, as well as coordination at the subregional and regional levels; the greatest need, however, was for the ITU to supply a well-coordinated assistance programme to enable the countries to take the necessary policy decisions and adopt the correct options. He therefore suggested that a Resolution on future action should be drafted on the basis of the Advisory Group's report.

4.4 The delegate of Kenya said that the Advisory Group's excellent report covered a wide spectrum of the issues that would face telecommunications operators and providers in the future. Kenya would certainly use some of the recommendations, which represented an evolutionary step towards modernization and for meeting the challenges of the new telecommunication environment. The Conference should examine the document in terms of the impact of the issues raised in it on the Union's capacity to meet Members' expectations. He agreed with the Indonesian delegate that during the present time of rapid change the developing countries needed all the support of the industrialized world in their efforts to modernize their telecommunications. The Conference must pay close attention to the budgetary and structural aspects of the Union's technical cooperation activities.

4.5 The delegate of Finland said that the clear line connecting the Nairobi Conference to the Advisory Group's report, via the Independent Commission and the Arusha Declaration, could be summarized in the simple statement "telecommunications is development". The report was a thorough study of the present technical, commercial and regulatory situation in the contemporary telecommunications world and contained recommendations on the courses to be followed at the national, regional and international levels. The major message of the report to policy makers was that the complex issues arising from the changes in the telecommunications environment required a concerted set of policy action at all three levels and, in particular, that the ITU,

with its proven record of international cooperation and, as the only telecommunication organization with a virtually world-wide membership, was uniquely placed to provide a forum for coordinating exchange of information, discussion and harmonization of national, regional and international telecommunication policies, to promote, facilitate and coordinate participation in new activities in the telecommunications sector and to analyse and disseminate information and knowledge to Member States and other interested parties and advise countries and regional organizations seeking assistance. The international community should take advantage of the Union's unique position in order to advance the growth and expansion of the global telecommunications network in a coordinated manner for the benefit of all. It was to be hoped that all delegations would use those ideas in formulating the decisions of the Conference.

Like other countries, Finland had long been aware of the pressing need to improve the economic and social situation of the developing countries, which was particularly difficult because of their historical legacy. As it had often been stressed in various United Nations organs and the ITU itself, telecommunications played a particularly important role in acting as a catalyst for economic and social progress. The creation of a truly global telecommunications system required in particular that the telecommunication infrastructure of the developing countries should be improved with all the speed that could be mustered. Despite the great efforts already made to that end and the excellent results achieved in many cases, the rational allocation of funds and other resources still left something to be desired.

A specific point emerging from the report was that telecommunications was a service requiring the mastery of high technology for its implementation and that education and training therefore played an unusually important role. Although the Union's efforts in that direction had so far shown good results, the importance of the matter warranted drawing attention once again to the possibilities of further improvement. The flow of funds from Members of the Union into cooperative development ventures went through a number of channels, and that situation was not always conducive to an optimally effective allocation of resources. It was especially important for the results of development programmes to be reliably assessed in retrospect in order to gather information for improving subsequent allocations. It was also clear that the developing countries themselves were in the best position to determine the programmes that would be most beneficial to their own development. To be able to use that inherent expertise to the best effect, the developing countries must cooperate closely with each other, and regional telecommunication education and training centres bringing the developing countries' experts into contact could provide productive impulses for joint action.

4.6 The delegate of Senegal pointed out that WATTC Resolution No. PL/4 had been a compromise solution which had enabled that Conference to adopt a new set of Telecommunications Regulations acceptable to the Union as a whole. It would be recalled that the Resolution had been adopted in order to introduce special arrangements, or exceptions to the general rule adopted by the WATTC. Many delegations to that Conference had reacted against the provision of the Regulations which, in their view, ran the risk of allowing much income to be directed to new media set up side by side with national networks; indeed, the possible loss of income had been estimated at 70 to 80%. The Plenipotentiary Conference must take that widely held opinion into account in connection with the changing telecommunications environment, but he thought it might be difficult to do the subject justice in Plenary and therefore proposed that a Working Group of the Plenary be set up to discuss the issues involved and then to submit a draft Resolution which would form part of the forthcoming basic instrument of the Union and would duly take into consideration the concerns and apprehensions already expressed by many delegations.

4.7 The delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran said that the Advisory Group's excellent report provided a good basis for action by the Conference. Appropriate changes in the structure, financial resources and working methods of the Union's technical cooperation organs were highly desirable and could alleviate some of the concerns of the developing countries expressed in Document 37 and echoed in other forums. His Delegation hoped that the Conference would take practical and firm steps to meet those concerns and therefore endorsed the Senegalese delegate's proposal to set up a Working Group for that purpose.

4.8 The delegate of Chile said that the Advisory Group's report was an excellent supplement to the report of the Independent Commission, since the Union must obviously correlate its activities with the present and future characteristics of the development and change of international telecommunications and must determine clearly what its Members required of it. It was indeed important to bear in mind the interdependence between telecommunications and development, and although the ITU had given valuable information on the subject in a number of publications, it should now concentrate on providing new guidelines, directions and reports in light of the changing telecommunication environment, in order to help countries to draw up their national policies. Chile had had some success in developing a degree of participation by the private sector in the responsibility for its national telecommunications, but it recognized that in the context of some parameters national policy, including the priorities of telecommunications in the development process, must necessarily be influenced by internationally applicable factors. In any case, the report should engender wide reflection in the Conference, particularly in Committee 8; although his Delegation believed that the subject could be dealt with in that Committee, it had no objection to the Senegalese proposal and would be prepared to serve on the Working Group.

4.9 The delegate of Guinea welcomed the fact that the Advisory Group had taken into account the views of all Members, not only of the developed countries, since that gave grounds for hope of striking a compromise between service and equipment providers and users. The Union was to be commended for its efforts to ensure better understanding of the technological environment through such seminars as the one recently held in Bangui, Central African Republic, at which the participants had learned much about the integration of new technologies in the infrastructure. Without a major effort on the part of the ITU to check the proliferation of standards, the developing countries might well be faced with very difficult choices between possibly contradictory standards and even with monopolies held by certain countries. Guinea endorsed the Senegalese proposal, in belief that a Working Group should study the question in depth.

4.10 The delegate of Burkina Faso welcomed the Report of the Advisory Group on Telecommunication Policy as supplementing the earlier Maitland Report which had led to the establishment of the Centre for Telecommunications Development. He supported the proposal of the delegate of Senegal to set up a Working Group to study the former document with a view to making specific proposals to amend the Convention; his Delegation would be willing to take part in such a group. As mentioned in Document 185, the Centre had not fulfilled the aspirations raised at its inception. Over and above any proposals that might be made, there had to be the will to engage in technical cooperation to develop the world-wide telecommunication network. The Plenipotentiary Conference should reach positive results that would respond to the hopes of Member countries.

4.11 The delegate of Uruguay said that the report of the Advisory Group was a worthy successor to the Maitland Report, as well as work carried out in Arusha and in the field of telecommunication in general. Telecommunication was, moreover, an integral part of overall development. The Member countries were at different stages of telecommunication development; the problem of furthering that development was thus complex and it would not be appropriate to adopt a general approach. In the past,

attention had been focussed on technical equipment and, where funds for new technology had been available, countries had been able to move instantly from a low level to a high level of telecommunication development, although recipient countries had experienced some feeling of inferiority. The question to be considered was how technical cooperation could assist developing countries at all the different stages of telecommunication development. In fact, telecommunication development in developed and developing countries was linked by financial, market and investment factors. Rather than increasing the costs of technical assistance, cooperation should proceed in a more balanced manner, involving countries where levels of telecommunication development were closer. Such cooperation could already be seen at regional level. The report of the Advisory Group opened the way for new approaches to telecommunication development; the Working Party should draw up guidelines for future progress in that area.

4.12 The delegate of Algeria said that many speakers had stressed the importance of telecommunications development to development in general. The developing countries wanted to participate in the evolving telecommunication environment but the gap between developed and developing countries was wider than ever and, as the delegate of Indonesia had stated, the multiplicity of technological standards were divisive rather than unifying. He hoped that countries would be brought closer together and that the Plenipotentiary Conference would adopt an approach to that end.

4.13 The delegate of Ethiopia welcomed the report of the Advisory Group which pointed the way to the future of telecommunications, its management, regulation, service, standards, techniques, etc., as well as advising on the action needed at the national, regional and international levels. The primary concern of many developing countries was to achieve a major expansion of basic traditional services. In recent years, telecommunication technology had advanced and become more complex. The convergence between computer and telecommunication technologies was expected to produce new telecommunication products and services. Many developing countries faced the problem of ensuring that traditional telecommunication infrastructure incorporated new technical developments and, thus, the problem of organizational restructuring. Understanding the future and choosing among options was even more difficult. Advice and guidance were required on economic, financial, managerial and regulatory issues. In the past, regional efforts had contributed to telecommunication development; in the changing environment, bilateral negotiations or regional efforts alone were unlikely to be enough. The problems posed by the large number of countries involved and the growing demand for various services between developed and developing countries were no longer merely technical but included managerial, regulatory and policy issues. As an example, developing countries faced the basic problem of lack of human resources. Developed countries had managed to cope with new technologies at national level but developing countries needed the ITU to harmonize national actions. The Conference should draw strength from the wisdom and understanding of its Members and concern itself with the aspirations of developing countries to meet their telecommunication requirements for the 1990s. The gap between countries should not continue to widen. Telecommunication was vital for development, understanding and world peace. Based on the report of the Advisory Group, the Conference should draw up an action plan for world-wide telecommunication development. Development was a permanent responsibility of the Union and arrangements to handle that activity should be institutionalized definitively. Furthermore, the ITU's dominance in standardization should be protected in the face of the proliferation of national and regional standards. He supported the proposal of Senegal and indicated the wish of his Delegation to be included in any such Working Group.

4.14 The delegate of Nepal said that the report of the Advisory Group clearly indicated the wishes of developing countries, in line with the Missing Link Report and the Arusha Declaration. The Conference should be urged to consider in a positive way the guidelines set out in the report for the development of telecommunication networks.

4.15 The delegate of Gambia recognized the far greater penetration of telecommunication services in developed countries than in developing countries. The Centre for Telecommunications Development, established in accordance with the recommendation of the Maitland Report, had not achieved its goals because of financial constraints. The problem of the low telecommunication density in developing countries could not be resolved by those countries alone. An assessment should be made of why the Centre had not achieved its objectives. The shortfall in international cooperation should be met. Developing countries themselves should accord higher priority to telecommunication in view of its importance in overall social and economic development. Telecommunication business was viable if properly managed. Moderate policy changes or autonomy in commercial operation would go a long way towards achieving the desired penetration goals. In the changing telecommunication environment, the ITU should undertake technical and economic feasibility studies for a master plan to ensure the attainment of targets, as well as human resources development. Telecommunication development was a common objective. A start should be made by restructuring the sector in order to meet the qualitative and quantitative needs for telecommunications service for all populations.

4.16 The delegate of Nigeria welcomed the report of the Advisory Group and said that the guidelines on formulating telecommunications policy were of particular interest to his Delegation in particular, as the ITU had two years previously participated in a meeting on that topic held in Lagos. The gap between the developed and developing countries was widening, as the Maitland Report had noted. Industrialized countries were already talking about value added services, while in other parts of the world it was not even possible to speak of telephone density. He supported the proposal of Senegal to set up a Working Group and expressed the willingness of his Delegation to participate in such a group. A new structure for technical cooperation was the answer to the development of telecommunication in the world. The financial and organizational aspects of technical cooperation could only be improved by integrating them correctly within the Union as a distinct organ.

4.17 The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire was gratified by the preparation of the report of the Advisory Group which highlighted some of the problems of telecommunications development, particularly in developing countries. It confirmed ITU's role in the global harmonization of telecommunications development and noted the problems faced by developing countries in managing telecommunications, in particular in human resources development, the efficient use of networks, and the investment required to develop those networks. The Centre for Telecommunications Development had been set up following the recommendation of the Maitland Report but was already facing running problems. A seminar on the appropriateness of telecommunications to user requirements, held in Côte d'Ivoire in 1986, had produced valuable Resolutions which had yet to produce any effect. There could be no viable world-wide telecommunication network while such great disparities existed between national networks. He supported the proposal to set up a Working Group; his Delegation was willing to take part in the work of such a group.

4.18 The delegate of Sweden welcomed the report of the Advisory Group (the Hansen Report) which reiterated some of the fundamental development problems addressed in the Maitland Report but put greater emphasis on the growing need to address telecommunications policy issues. The policy issues that had arisen over the past four or five years involved the relationships between the telecommunications sector and other sectors of society, as well as between governments and national telecommunications administrations. Such issues had been discussed internationally, notably in the OECD over the past ten years, more recently within the European Communities and lately in GATT, where trade in services was being addressed. Telecommunications policy had also been discussed at national level in many countries. The ITU, on the other hand, had largely been preoccupied with issues inside the telecommunications sector, mainly at administration level. The ITU had traditionally been concerned with technical, operational and administrative matters; it seemed

ironical, however, for the ITU not to take up policy matters at government level, now that those issues were coming into focus, as pointed out in the Hansen Report. The recent discussions at WATTC-88 had shown that different perceptions of policy approaches in the Member countries were a potential obstacle to consensus building in the ITU. The large international conferences, such as the present Conference, had a negotiating task and were hardly appropriate fora for exploratory discussions regarding national policy making, which was a matter for each sovereign State. The seminars arranged by the ITU in connection with the Telecom exhibitions in Geneva had indeed been helpful but, occurring only every four years, they lacked the continuity to serve as a basis for more concerted policy development. ITU Member countries would benefit from opportunities to exchange views and experience on a more regular basis at government level regarding fundamental national telecommunications policy making issues. Consideration could well be given to how the ITU could promote such exchanges. He therefore supported the proposal of Senegal.

4.19 The delegate of Tanzania asked that his Delegation be included in the Working Group to be set up to draw up Resolutions arising from the report of the Advisory Group.

4.20 The delegate of France welcomed the report of the Advisory Board which continued the discussions at WATTC. The objective was to regulate the telecommunications environment, taking into account the gap in telecommunications networks between the developed and developing countries. He supported the proposal of Senegal and said that his Delegation was ready to participate in the work of the Group.

4.21 The delegate of Lebanon praised the report of the Advisory Group. A study was currently being undertaken at the request of the IXth CCITT Plenary Assembly on a subject close to the present concerns of the Committee; reports on that study would be helpful to the work of the Committee.

4.22 The delegate of Spain welcomed the report of the Advisory Group which continued the discussion of principle contained in the Maitland Report. As stated in WATTC-88, a proper international framework was required to respond to the need for the dynamic development of telecommunications. Not only should telecommunications services be universal, with simplified standards, but benefits should be equitably distributed between developed and developing countries. He supported the proposal of Senegal and said that his Delegation would be pleased to participate in the Working Group.

4.23 The delegate of Liberia said how much his Delegation appreciated the Secretary-General's recognition of the need for a study of the changing telecommunication environment, and endorsed the views already expressed in the meeting. He stressed the fact that the recommendations in the report of the Advisory Group could not be reviewed without bearing in mind the general proposals being made for the restructuring of the Union, since most of the recommendations were tied in with those proposals. His Delegation would like to participate in the proposed Working Group.

4.24 The delegate of Jamaica said that the need for a global telecommunication network could not be over-emphasized. Telecommunication development in Third World countries was not commensurate with the desire of those countries for economic growth, since it was a subject to which governments accorded low priority. His Delegation supported the recommendations in the excellent report before the meeting.

4.25 The Chairman said that the large number of speakers who had participated in the debate showed the importance which delegations attached to the subject. Substantial support had been expressed for the setting up of a Working Group, as proposed by the delegate of Senegal, and he invited the Secretary-General's views on the terms of reference of the suggested group.

4.26 The Secretary-General said that in considering those terms of reference it would be necessary to reflect on the views which had been expressed during the debate and to avoid any duplication of the work of other Committees.

He paid tribute to the work of the Advisory Group, which had been set up to help the Secretary-General to cope with sensitive and delicate issues. The report did not deal only with technical cooperation, but placed emphasis on national policies and highlighted the importance of regional cooperation and of wider international cooperation including that with the ITU and other bodies. Reference had been made during the discussion to the need for ITU's traditional functions in standardization, regulation and network development to be undertaken at an accelerated rate (Chapter VII, paragraph 2.6). The alert had been given by a small group of countries and leaders of industry had also expressed concern saying it was necessary for the ITU to refocus its activities if it wished to retain its global role. Stressing the importance of regional cooperation, the report sought to stimulate cooperation among the countries themselves with a view to their providing Members with advice and assistance as well as technical cooperation itself. Drawing attention to the documents before the Conference, in particular the Report on the Changing Telecommunication Environment, he pointed out that that report gave recommendations for further activities, not only in paragraph 2.6 but also in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.9 of Chapter VII.

He therefore suggested that the proposed Working Group should focus its studies on Documents 37 and 90, and should suggest a programme of action and guidelines which should form the subject of a draft Resolution for submission to Plenary.

4.27 The Chairman suggested the setting up of a Working Group with the following terms of reference:

"Taking into consideration Documents 37 and 90, the Working Group should suggest a programme of action and guidelines to form the subject of a draft Resolution for submission to the Plenary".

It was so agreed.

4.28 The delegate of Senegal said that while he had no objection to the Chairman's suggestion, he did not wish the Working Group's conclusions to be limited to a mere recommendation. The Working Group itself should decide what form its conclusions should take.

The Chairman said that that point would be borne in mind.

He indicated that, with the Plenary's agreement, he would nominate the Chairman of the Working Group after consultation with the Secretary-General and interested Heads of Delegations, and he invited all delegations which wished to participate in the Working Group to submit their names in writing to the Secretariat.

It was so agreed.

5. General policy statements (resumed)

5.1 The Minister for Transport and Communications, Republic of Sudan, made the following statement:

"It is a great pleasure for me to start my statement by congratulating you for your election to the chairmanship of this important Conference. It is also a pleasure to congratulate the members of the Steering Committee who will undoubtedly spare no effort in assisting you in your important responsibility at this historic juncture in the life of the ITU.

I also take this opportunity to assure you, Mr. Chairman, of the full cooperation of my Delegation in your efforts for the success of the Conference.

Mr. Chairman, we are convinced that France and its leader, President Mitterand, have every right to be proud of the facilities and remarkable efforts they have deployed for hosting this Plenipotentiary Conference. We also feel it is incumbent upon us here to express our deep appreciation for the praiseworthy step taken by France in cancelling French debts owed by several least developed countries. We are undoubtedly pleased to see this decision, which reflects a deep commitment to noble principles, coming at a time when the bicentennial of the French Revolution is being celebrated.

Mr. Chairman, the Sudan, the largest African country in area, sharing borders with eight countries, finds itself in an extremely important position as regards telecommunications. Hence, since independence, my country has been committed to the development of telecommunication services, which is considered by us as a key element in social and economic development. We have made this a central policy consideration despite serious financial constraints.

That commitment is reflected in some important achievements. In 1963, we established one of the most important training institutes of its kind in Africa at the time, with assistance from the ITU and the UNDP, and we are proud to state that this institute has trained hundreds of Sudanese telecommunication technicians and many from African and Arab countries.

We have also succeeded in building several networks connecting the various regions of the country, and in 1975 we executed the SUDOSAT project in collaboration with INTELSAT, comprising 14 earth stations for national traffic. In addition, we operated two earth stations for international traffic (via INTELSAT and ARABSAT).

Mr. Chairman, this important development in the field of telecommunications in the Sudan could have grown and expanded had it not been for the serious economic situation facing the country, a situation resulting from the interaction of various factors including the effects of the international economic environment over the last few years, the consequences of the debt problem, the presence of a large refugee population hosted by the country over a number of years and estimated at about 10% of the total population, the recurring drought cycles and other natural disasters including floods which caused serious damage to the telecommunication networks. The resultant situation constitutes a colossal challenge which the country is sparing no effort to overcome. In this regard, it is indeed a pleasure to pay tribute to those countries and international organizations which have rendered and continue to render valuable assistance to the country in its moment of difficulty, in particular in the area of telecommunications.

Mr. Chairman, given the factors I have just referred to, we realize the pivotal importance of technical cooperation and technical assistance. We underline the significant role of the ITU in this respect. We are also confident that this Conference will underline the necessity and importance of assistance to developing countries in the area of telecommunications. In this connection, my Delegation wishes to express its deep faith in the principles and objectives of the ITU as embodied in Article 4 of the Nairobi Convention. We add to this our support for the need for innovation and diversity in promoting the range and activities of standardization, frequency management and technical cooperation and technical assistance.

We also believe in the importance of linking the activities of the CCIs and the IFRB to technical cooperation and technical assistance to developing nations, in addition to the need to resolve the question of the equitable distribution of the frequency spectrum.

Mr. Chairman, the Delegation of the Sudan believes that the ITU will always have a determining role as an effective forum for the development of communication services, and in bridging the gap between the developing and developed nations in this vital area.

Mr. Chairman, my Delegation is pleased to see before the Plenipotentiaries numerous proposals put forward by Member States with the objective of modernizing and promoting the work methods of this organization with a view of enabling it to carry out its vital responsibilities in a changing world.

Mr. Chairman, at a time when the importance of telecommunications is more evident than ever before, as a consequence of the spirit of détente in international relations, and because of the universal recognition of the vital role of telecommunications in social and economic development, international cooperation and world peace, we cannot help expressing our deep concern for the conditions of those people who are denied basic communication services and their attendant benefits as a consequence of their subjection to a total denial of their basic national rights; a situation that the modern communications media have not failed to bring persistently to our attention.

In this respect we commend the struggle of the Palestinian people and their valiant Intifadah and the brave initiatives made by the Palestinian leadership with the objective of achieving peace based on justice. Likewise, we commend the struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia to recover in full their legitimate rights.

Mr. Chairman, being firm believers in the role of the ITU in promoting understanding between nations, we commend the efforts of the Member States in supporting it and enabling it to realize its objectives. We also commend the remarkable and sustained efforts and determination of the Secretariat, in particular the Secretary-General, Mr. Butler. We take this opportunity to express our deep gratitude and appreciation, as well as our best wishes for Mr. Butler."

5.2 Statement by the Observer for UNESCO

The Observer for UNESCO made the following statement:

"I should like to begin by conveying best wishes for the success of this Conference from the Director-General of UNESCO, Mr. Federico Mayor, who is unfortunately kept in Paris by the current session of the UNESCO Executive Board.

It is an honour for me to address you on this occasion, in view of the particular interest which UNESCO takes in the development of communications, and particularly telecommunications, the veritable nervous system of our planet.

I should like to give you a brief survey of UNESCO's activities in connection with the communications sector.

In the 1980s, communications emerged as a key vector in both the industrialized societies and the developing countries: representing a growth sector of the economy, they produce a complex effect extending to the full range of the social and cultural sphere and constitute the point of convergence of numerous fields of human activity, strongly marking the end of our century, the century of the "information society".

Although the industrialized countries have served as the spearhead of the upsurge in communications, the importance of communications for the social and economic development of all countries has been increasingly recognized in the past few years. In the course of the 1960s, UNESCO was in the forefront of the activities which blazed the trail for this concept: it perceived the importance of communications as a means of taking part in the development process, the potential of the communication technologies, and particularly the media, for opening up new possibilities of access to education, culture, and particularly to dialogue, an essential part of any development process.

In fact, this pioneering work goes back to the very origins of UNESCO, since under its Constitution, the organization advances the mutual knowledge and understanding of nations' peoples through all means of mass communication, and to that end recommends such international agreements as may be necessary to promote the free flow of ideas by word and image.

It is in the spirit of these guiding principles and on the basis of regional and international conferences that the establishment of the International Programme for the Development of Communications (IPDC) saw the light in 1980. This programme was conceived as a practical means of equipping the developing countries with increased communications capacity, with regard both to human resources and infrastructures, to enable them to make their own voice heard in the international community and enhance the quality and quantity of information flows between the developing and the industrialized worlds. The free circulation of information throughout the world will thereby be speeded up so that, in the longer term, a better balance may be established.

In this connection, telecommunication tariffs have always constituted a by no means negligible obstacle to exchange and circulation of information. It may be noted here that the efforts exerted by our two agencies gave rise to a study published jointly in 1986 concerning the telecommunication rates applied to information organs, a problem which is still, unfortunately, seeking a solution. This study, which views the problem from the dual standpoint of the providers of telecommunication services and the information organs as users, should help to introduce national charges meeting the interests of both sides. This implies the adoption of national decisions designed to conciliate the manifestly divergent interests of service providers and information organs. This divergence is often manifested by the gap between the charges which the telecommunication administrations feel compelled to apply and those which the information organs feel able to pay.

It is up to the national decision-making bodies to study this problem and find the means of closing this gap as soon as possible.

Technical cooperation

Under the head of specific projects relating to communications and information funded by such financing mechanisms as UNDP, funds in trust, the IPDC and, on a more modest scale, UNESCO's regular programme, several projects have in fact been carried out in conjunction with the ITU.

In the case of telecommunication projects submitted to the Intergovernmental Council of the IPDC and approved by the latter, they are implemented by the ITU.

It should be noted that the IPDC which, among its main purposes, places the accent on the strengthening of cooperation and coordination activities between UNESCO and the other specialized agencies, notably the ITU, has taken part in large-scale national or regional projects, for example, to quote only one, the installation of the PANA, the Panafrican information agency.

The excellent spirit of cooperation which has always prevailed between our two bodies should be strengthened by a more systematic concertation and coordination. Given the very nature of communications, the technologies and the systems used, their ever-increasing field of application, their complexity and the obvious repercussions on societies, it is increasingly difficult to delimit the scope of the various agencies.

Furthermore, the shortage of funds and the increase in the number of projects requested by the Member States, substantially exceeding the financial capacity of our specialized agencies, represent a further compelling argument in favour of this concertation and coordination, which would prevent the duplication of effort.

In order to facilitate project implementation, one of the criteria which should prevail in the acceptance and financing of projects is that they should form part of a clearly defined and consistent communication and development policy and master plan taking account of the social, economical and cultural realities of the beneficiary countries. Too often, unfortunately, we witness cooperation activities which are abortive and fruitless.

For information purposes, I would point out that the success achieved by the IPDC has still enabled it to meet only one-tenth of the requests received.

In another field, that of the computer, UNESCO established in 1985 an Intergovernmental Informatics Programme (IIP). This programme, similar to the IPDC, is intended for the strengthening and promotion of informatics in the most varied fields in the Member countries.

Finally, at its next General Conference, to take place this autumn, UNESCO will propose, as part of its communication programme, two major axes: the first will centre on the free circulation of ideas in word and image; the second will be entitled "communications in the service of development.

In all these programmes, the emphasis is placed on training, cooperation, planning and endogenous development. UNESCO's role should be essentially that of catalyst.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for having allowed me to speak of our activities in the sphere shared by our two agencies. Our efforts, allied with those of our Member States, will certainly enable us, within a framework of cooperation and solidarity, to take advantage of the new communication tools and systems for the well-being and development of man."

6. Restoration of voting rights

6.1 The Chairman of Committee 4 requested the Plenary to approve the decision taken that morning by Committee 4 to restore the right of vote to the Republic of the Sudan, which had paid all its arrears of contributions.

6.2 The Secretary-General said the matter was somewhat complicated. Committee 4 had decided to recommend a reduction in the contributory unit from a certain date and to place a certain sum in a special account, as a result of which the Sudan would again be entitled to vote. He suggested that the Chairman of Committee 4 should submit a report on the question to the next Plenary Meeting, at which it might be considered as a matter of priority.

6.3 The delegate of the Sudan urged the Plenary to endorse the recommendation for the restoration of his Government's voting rights.

6.4 The Chairman said that the item would be considered at the following Plenary Meeting.

The meeting rose at 1815 hours.

The Secretary-General:

R.E. BUTLER

The Chairman:

J. GRENIER

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 198-E

2 June 1989

Original: French

Note by the Chairman of the Conference

DEADLINE FOR THE DEPOSIT OF CANDIDACIES FOR THE POST
OF SECRETARY-GENERAL AND DATE OF THE ELECTION

(Approved at the tenth Plenary Meeting)

The deadline for the deposit of candidacies for the post of Secretary-General will be Thursday, 8 June 1989, at 1500 hours UTC. The election of the Secretary-General will commence on Monday, 12 June 1989, at 0930 hours.

J. GRENIER
Chairman

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

Document 199-E

5 June 1989

Original: Spanish

COMMITTEE 7

Chile

DRAFT CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 12

Coordination Committee

CHL/199/1
NOC

98 1.

Reasons: No amendment is proposed here; however, if this Conference were to create other permanent organs or merge some of the existing organs, the corresponding amendments would have to be introduced.

CHL/199/2
MOD

99 2. It is proposed that the existing text be amended as follows:

The Coordination Committee shall be responsible for a continuous analysis [evaluation] of the application of the provisions of the Constitution and the Convention, as well as of the Resolutions of the Administrative Council, in order to cooperate with the Administrative Council in the performance of the tasks assigned to it under Article 8, Nos. 60 to 64 of the Constitution. The conclusions and suggestions arising from this process of analysis [evaluation] shall be communicated through its Chairman to the Administrative Council.

CHL/199/3
ADD

99A 2A. a) The Coordination Committee shall coordinate the working procedures of the permanent organs of the Union in order to ensure for the Members of the Union the efficiency and suitability of the activities of the Union and of the specific activities of the said organs, particular emphasis being placed on the use of the resources allocated.

CHL/199/4

The existing text of No. 99.2 should be renumbered to 99B. 2B. b) no change.

CHL/199/5
ADD 99C 2C. c) The Coordination Committee shall be responsible for ensuring coordination with all the international organizations referred to in Articles 34 [39] and 35 [40] of the Constitution with regard to the representation of the permanent organs of the Union at conferences of those organizations.

CHL/199/6
NOC 100 3.

Reasons: No changes are proposed. Since the present text suitably completes the definition of the responsibilities of the Coordination Committee.

DRAFT CONVENTION

ARTICLE 7

Coordination Committee

CHL/199/7
SUP 125 (2)

Reasons: This text is included in Article 12 of the Constitution as proposed in this contribution.

CHL/199/8
SUP 126 (3)

Reasons: This contribution includes consideration of the progress of the technical assistance activities of the Union in the task of coordination of the activities and working procedures of the permanent organs proposed for the Committee under Article 12 of the Constitution. This task should also be taken into account if the Conference were to establish a permanent organ for technical cooperation and development.

CHL/199/9
MOD 126 (3) ~~The Committee shall examine the progress of the work of the Union in technical cooperation and submit recommendations; through the Secretary-General, to the Administrative Council.~~

In its task of coordinating the activities and working procedures of the permanent organs as assigned under Article 12 of the Constitution, the Coordination Committee may take decisions compatible with the responsibilities of its members.

Arguments for these proposals:

1. One of the points upon which the views of the delegates to this Conference and the contributions submitted appear to converge is the need to strengthen the coordination of the permanent organs to achieve greater efficiency and improved use of the resources allocated in order to avoid duplication of effort.

2. The analysis or evaluation of the implementation of the provisions of the Constitution and the Convention, as well as of the Administrative Council Resolutions, should be carried out by the permanent organ which is responsible for coordinating their activities and working procedures, so as to ensure continuous control with a view to introducing changes which may be desirable, thus making an effective contribution to the numerous and important tasks of the Administrative Council.

3. This contribution proposes five levels of responsibility for the Coordination Committee, namely:

- Collaboration with the Administrative Council in its task of supervising the implementation of the provisions of the Constitution and the Convention.
- Coordination of the activities and working procedures of the permanent organs.
- Cooperation with the Secretary-General in certain specific tasks.
- Coordination with the activities of other international organizations.
- Cooperation with the Administrative Council on particular tasks which may be entrusted to the Committee.

These five levels of responsibility, as defined, should make it easier for the Committee, within the Union's federal structure, to secure unified action on the part of its permanent organs.

4. Finally, it is clear that this definition of tasks for the Coordination Committee, or any other which may be regarded as more appropriate, would provide a clearer idea of many of the activities carried out by the Committee at the 114 meetings held since the Nairobi Conference (Report of the Administrative Council, page 124).

PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

NICE, 1989

LIST OF DOCUMENTS (Documents 151 to 200)

No.	Origin	Title	Destination
151	CLM	Proposals for the work of the Conference	C.7,8,9
152	ARG	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Proposals for the amendment of the Draft Constitution	C.9
153	ARG	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Constitution	C.9
154	ARG	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Convention	C.7
155 +Add.1	ARG	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Convention	PL,C.8
156	ARG	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Convention	C.5
157	CLM	Proposal for the work of the Conference - Draft Constitution	C.8
158	CLM	Proposal for the work of the Conference - Resolution - Review of No. 34 of Article 6 of the Constitution	C.7
159	CHN	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Proposed amendments to the Draft Constitution	C.8
160	CAN, F	The Centre for Telecommunications Development	C.6
161	SG	Participation of recognized private operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and international organizations in defraying the expenses of the International Consultative Committees	C.4
162 +Add.1	INS	Proposal to restructure the IFRB	C.7
163	PL	Minutes of the seventh Plenary Meeting	PL
164	PL	Minutes of the eighth Plenary Meeting (not yet published)	PL
165	C.3	Summary Record of the first meeting of Committee 3	C.3

No.	Origin	Title	Destination
166	C.2	Summary Record of the first meeting of Committee 2	C.2
167	C.5	Summary Record of the first meeting of Committee 5	C.5
168	C.6	Summary Record of the first meeting of Committee 6	C.6
169	C.7	Summary Record of the first meeting of Committee 7	C.7
170	C.8	Summary Record of the first meeting of Committee 8	C.8
171	C.9	Summary Record of the first meeting of Committee 9	C.9
172	C.4	Summary Record of the first meeting of Committee 4	C.4
173	PL	Minutes of the ninth Plenary Meeting (not yet published)	PL
174	SG	Transfer of Powers - Principality of Liechtenstein - Confederation of Switzerland	PL
175	SG	Transfer of Powers - Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan - Republic of Iraq	PL
176	SG	Transfer of Powers - Solomon Islands - Australia	PL
177	C.8	Note by the Vice-Chairman of Committee 8 to the Chairman of the Conference	PL
178	ARG	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Constitution	C.8
179	SG	Technical Cooperation support costs	C.4
180	CME	Proposal for the work of the Conference - Technical Cooperation	C.6,7
181	SG	Arrears	C.4
182	C.7	Summary Record of the second meeting of Committee 7	C.7
183	C.8	Summary Record of the second meeting of Committee 8	C.8

No.	Origin	Title	Destination
184	C.7	Report of the Panel of Experts on the long-term Future of the International Frequency Registration Board	C.7
185	BFA	Proposals for the work of the Conference	C.6
186	SG	Examination of financial management of the Union by the Plenipotentiary Conference (1982 - 1988)	C.4
187	F	Proposals for the work of the Conference - Future administrative radio conferences	C.7
188	Chairman Conference	Transmission of a letter from the Delegation of Zaire	-
189	C.5	Summary Record of the second meeting of Committee 5	C.5
190	C.6	Summary Record of the second meeting of Committee 6 (not yet published)	C.6
191	C.7	Summary Record of the third meeting of Committee 7	C.7
192	C.8	Summary Record of the third meeting of Committee 8	C.8
193	C.4	Note by the Chairman of Committee 4 to the Chairmen of Committees 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9	C.5,6,7,8,9
194	BFA	Proposals for the work of the Conference	C.4,7
195	C.4	Summary Record of the second meeting of Committee 4 (not yet published)	C.4
196	C.7	Summary Record of the fourth meeting of Committee 7 (not yet published)	C.7
197	PL	Minutes of the tenth Plenary Meeting (not yet published)	PL
198	Chairman Conference	Deadline for the deposit of candidacies for the post of Secretary-General and date of the election	-
199	CHL	Draft Constitution and Draft Convention	C.7
200	SG	List of documents (151 to 200)	-