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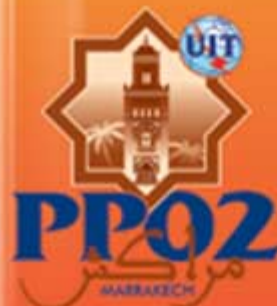


ITU NEWS



THE MARRAKESH CONFERENCE

What has been achieved?



SPECIAL
REPORT



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His Majesty King Mohamed VI of Morocco



Message from His Majesty King Mohamed VI to the Plenipotentiary Conference

It was thanks to fortuitous timetabling that, on 18 October 2000, We met with Mr Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), on the occasion of the inauguration of the Casablanca Technopark. The Secretary-General drew Our attention to the importance which he personally, together with the leading figures in the telecommunication sector, attaches to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (Marrakesh, 23 September to 18 October 2002). In particular, he drew Our attention to the implications of the Conference for the restructuring of ITU and for its strategy over the next four years, and hence for the future of the telecommunication sector and the information and knowledge society worldwide.

We responded by expressing to him Our firm intention, together with that of Our Government and Our people, to ensure that all the necessary conditions are met and arrangements made for the success of this important event. We also took the opportunity to pay tribute to ITU's pioneering role in world telecommunication development and in particular to the work it does for the benefit of developing countries.

At the Minneapolis Plenipotentiary Conference held in the United States in 1998, the Kingdom of Morocco presented itself as a candidate to host the 16th Plenipotentiary Conference in Marrakesh. In so doing, we have expressed Our country's willingness to open up to world trade and become fully integrated into the global economy, the aim being to achieve sustainable development as the only path for improving the living conditions of the underprivileged sectors of society, concern for which is constantly reflected in the social policy of the State. There can be no questioning the fact that the information and communication technologies sector constitutes one of the main avenues for the success of that strategy, and that in recent years no other sector has counted more in our development policy than this key sector.

The beautiful and historical city of Marrakesh, whose name has been associated with the opening up of the world economy since the establishment of the World Trade Organization in 1994, is proud to play host to such a large number of delegates from all parts of the world and whose participation will serve to enrich the work of your Conference. The people of Morocco as a whole, characterized as they are by a spirit of hospitality and friendliness, are happy to accord to their guests the most heartfelt welcome.

For Our part, and in Our capacity as the King of Morocco, we should like to express Our welcome to all those participating in the work of the Conference and visiting Our country, which is known for its tolerance and openness to the cultures of the world. We would be all the happier if, during your stay in Morocco, you were to discover its glorious history, its great culture and its age-old traditions, the result of the intermingling of civilizations and religions from the Orient, Africa and Andalusia over more than 14 centuries. This will make you, when you return to your respective countries, the best ambassadors for Morocco. ■



The Union's Top Five Officials



Yoshio Utsumi (Japan) was re-elected Secretary-General with 123 votes during the Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Conference on 1 October 2002. A total of 145 votes were cast. The required majority was 62. Addressing the Conference shortly after his re-election, Mr Utsumi told delegates that the decisions they take in Marrakesh would "mark the beginning of a new era where ITU can truly be an effective force that can steer the telecommunication industry at large towards the common goal of reaching the unreachable". (See pages 6-8 for an exclusive interview with Mr Utsumi, conducted after the Conference.)

Roberto Blois (Brazil) was re-elected Deputy Secretary-General with 93 votes, against 51 votes obtained by Abdelkrim Boussaid (Algeria) during the Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Conference on 1 October 2002. In all, 145 votes were cast. The required majority was 73. Mr Blois pledged to continue seeking a future course for ITU that represents a satisfactory compromise between differing expectations. (See page 9 for an abridged version of Mr Blois's re-election acceptance speech.)

Saudi Arabia, Canada, the Czech Republic, Switzerland and Tanzania served as tellers for the election of the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General.





Houlin Zhao (China) was re-elected Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) with 144 votes during the Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Conference on 2 October 2002. The



total number of ballots deposited was 149. The required majority was 73. Mr Zhao committed himself to “strengthening ITU’s pre-eminent role and maintaining its leading position in global telecommunication and information standardization in the 21st century for the benefit all members and the general public.” (See page 10 for an abridged version of Mr Zhao’s re-election acceptance speech.)

Hamadoun I. Touré (Mali) was re-elected Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) with 142 votes during the Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Conference on 2 October 2002. A total of 149 votes were cast. The required



majority was 72. Mr Touré renewed his commitment to teamwork and to ensuring that the Development Sector is not perceived as “a ghetto for poor countries but a forum of opportunities

and a driving force that can guide the action of all development stakeholders”, stressing the value of partnership in the attainment of development goals. (See page 11 for an abridged version of Mr Touré’s re-election acceptance speech.)

Valery Timofeev (Russia) was elected Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau on 2 October 2002 with 83 votes in the second round of voting. Other candidates for this post were Malcolm Johnson (United Kingdom), Kavous Arasteh (Islamic Republic of Iran) and Fabio Bigi (Italy). Mr Timofeev is currently Deputy Minister for Communications and Informatization of the Russian Federation. He is widely known for his extensive experience in the



field of radio-frequency spectrum management at both the national and international levels (see pages 12 and 13).

Armenia, Côte d’Ivoire, Ecuador, France and Japan served as tellers for the election of the Directors of the Bureaux.

All five elected officials thanked the Member States for the vote of confidence in their ability to run the affairs of the Union. They also expressed gratitude to their governments, friends and former colleagues for their support. Re-elected officials commended their staff and experts in ITU activities for their daily hard work to make this world a better place.

Exclusive interview with Yoshio Utsumi



"In taking the helm of ITU for another four years, I will make every effort to steer the Union in these very difficult financial times."

■ *In 1994, in Kyoto, you chaired the Plenipotentiary Conference. Four years later, you were elected at the Minneapolis Conference to the helm of ITU, and you have just been re-elected in Marrakesh for a second term of office. How do you view the evolution of ITU since Kyoto?*

When I was first elected to the helm of the International Telecommunication Union in 1998, my dream was to continue to make this organization strong and vibrant. One that would truly be relevant, responsive and effective. An organization that would address the needs of our constituencies more broadly, and not solely from a technical perspective. In this regard, you will recall that a policy dimension was enshrined in the first-ever ITU Strategic Plan (1995–1999), which all Member States approved in Kyoto in 1994 and reaffirmed in Minneapolis in 1998.

Our Union, which we all value and support, has made great efforts to adapt to the changing environment of telecommunications. I am proud of what we have achieved since the last Plenipotentiary Conference in Minneapolis. We have substantially overhauled and simplified many internal processes so that rising costs could be covered without the need to raise the level of the contributory unit. In the past four years we have, despite growing demands, ensured stable

member contributions through multi-million dollar cost-saving measures on processes and productivity gains.

We have given a greater voice to the private sector in the planning and governance of ITU through a stronger role in the Sector Advisory groups, where Member States and Sector Members participate on an equal footing, have the right to approve study group work programmes, adopt technical standards and also have the ability to gain leadership positions in study group management.

On the policy front, we have achieved considerable progress. For the first time in ITU history, a Secretary-General was able to address the United Nations General Assembly. Not only was our organization put on the radar

screens of the world's leaders, but also we started to regain ground as a leading organization capable of taking up the cause of countries that find themselves on the wrong side of the digital divide. This recognition of the pre-eminent role of ITU in information and communication technologies (ICT) led to the endorsement by the UN General Assembly of the World Summit on the Information Society with ITU as the lead agency.

We have also developed and delivered a number of activities focused on top-priority regulatory issues. Through these efforts, regulators around the world are starting to look at ITU as a reference organization, an organization that brings direct value to their mission.



ITU 001008/A. de Ferron

In Marrakesh, many ministers acknowledged the value of ITU work in the policy arena. They applauded the leadership role taken by the Union in the organization of the World Summit on the Information Society. They also stressed how much they were counting on ITU's guidance to help them cross the digital divide. To me, this was very gratifying.

■ The discussion in Marrakesh on the Financial Plan for 2004–2007 clearly indicated that ITU is in a dire financial strait. How then will ITU be able to live up to those expectations when drastic cuts will be applied throughout the organization?

Indeed, when the Marrakesh Conference opened, I was hopeful that together we would define and build a credible and effective future for ITU and build on what we have achieved in recent years, despite an environment of considerable uncertainty.

In my re-election acceptance speech on 1 October 2002, I stressed that the future role and relevance of ITU depended on its ability to act swiftly and decisively. To do so, I said that all ITU members must be committed to engaging fully and give the Union the means to live up to expectations. More importantly, I called on all the membership to develop a clear vision of the direction it wants this organization to go. I pointed out that this would have to begin with strategic and financial plans for 2004–2007 that cater to the needs of all ITU constituencies around priority areas. I also stressed that along with clear goals must come the level of financial resources necessary to implement such goals.

Balancing the budget was a very difficult task, as the Conference had to find ways of

bridging a huge gap of several million Swiss francs between income and expenditure for the period 2004–2007. But this situation was made even worse as the number of contributory units announced by Member States during the Conference dropped significantly by close to 21.5 units. Taken at the value of CHF 315 000, this meant dealing with an additional shortfall of more than CHF 21 million. The draft Financial Plan, which had already taken more than two weeks to develop was back to the drawing board at the eleventh hour of the Conference to address this new gap.

By then the Conference had approved many laudable programmes and activities, but no priorities. Implementing the financial plan the Conference adopted for 2004–2007 will be, therefore, extremely difficult. This will not only affect our policy and regulatory initiatives but also the traditional technical functions of the Union.

■ How do you see ITU's future?

Change is taking place everywhere, and ITU is no exception. The decisions taken by the Marrakesh Conference are a good opportunity for a more profound reform of ITU if it is to survive and thrive in the twenty-first century. We will, therefore, continue to streamline and re-engineer the ITU secretariat in order to preserve and strengthen the Union's international credibility. At the same time, Member States also must have a common understanding and vision of what they want ITU to be in these changing times and prioritize the activities of the Union. Strategic change is a matter of survival, requiring extraordinary foresight and solidarity. Marrakesh has offered us a chance to make deeper reforms or risk becoming irrelevant. ■



Roberto Blois

Re-elected Deputy Secretary-General

When I first took office in February 1999, I expected to see a revolution in ITU's various spheres of activity in terms of reforming them and adapting them to the new era that had dawned in the telecommunication and information-technology sector.

Looking back now, four years later, I can see that no such revolution has taken place. The Union's members and its management, however, have worked tirelessly to find the best way to adapt it to these changing times. A great deal has been done towards rationalizing the secretariat's work so that

significant increases in our members' contributions can be avoided, while ensuring that our work programme is carried out to a high standard.

But much remains to be done. As one would expect in such a diverse organization, the interests and needs of ITU's members are very different, and so the actions taken to meet this wide range of needs, by the Union's members and its management, must not be taken in isolation.

I am convinced that a joint effort is needed on the part of members and management so that the reforms that ITU needs in order to maintain its position as the most important institution in the field of telecommunications and information technology can be agreed and implemented. And I trust that this conference [the Marrakesh Conference] will have the wisdom to make the necessary decisions in that regard.

We, the elected officials, must be conscious of our duty to work on behalf of the Union, striving to overcome differences of views or of cultural outlook that might stand in the way of meeting our higher objective, which is to serve this organization.

With this firm goal in mind, I wish to say once again that I hope I can do justice to the trust that has been placed in me, together with my colleagues, for conducting the work of ITU's secretariat while striving to achieve the noble aim of this organization which is to promote peaceful relations, international cooperation between peoples, and economic and social development through smoothly functioning telecommunication services. ■

Houlin Zhao

Re-elected Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau



Four years ago, I shared with you my understanding of the challenges facing the ITU standardization work, and my visions of ITU standardization in the 21st century. I quoted then in my statement five measures: improving working methods and efficiency, strengthening the participation of private sector and developing countries, active cooperation with other ITU Sectors and outside bodies, transparent financial arrangements, and good management of TSB. I promised to do my best and invited you to cooperate with ITU. I am very pleased with the results and progress of our cooperation on these measures. As far as those challenges are concerned,

I am realistic that, despite the meaningful progress we have achieved, major challenges still remain.

The difficulties and problems encountered by the IT industry during the recent years do have repercussions on us. However, in my opinion, standardization has always played a key role in making telecommunication accessible to all, thus fostering development and growth in all domains on a global scale. To meet expectations, ITU has demonstrated its ability to face challenges with openness, transparency, efficiency, energy and dynamism, and an active partnership between Governments and industry members. The new environment of ITU standardization work has been promoted with positive results. Strengthening ITU's pre-eminence and maintaining its leading position in global telecommunication and information standardization of the 21st century will benefit all members and, thereby, the general public. ITU has both challenges and opportunities.

Having been re-elected, I would like to assure you that I will do my best to work with you all to further improve our efficiency, to enhance the Union's promotion, and to exploit new measures as permitted by the ITU rules so that a more attractive environment will be provided to all players, particularly to those from industry, in order for all to enjoy working with ITU.

To conclude, I would like to express my personal congratulations to the newly elected and re-elected officials with whom I will work closely for the next four years, and my best wishes for Bob Jones, outgoing Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau. ■

Hamadoun I. Touré

Re-elected Director
of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

In 1998, you placed your trust in me by electing me to the post of Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT). At that time I promised you a number of things, thereby making a moral commitment to you.

I promised transparency. I promised to establish specific objectives for us to work towards together. I promised to revitalize the work of the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D). I promised to make use of ITU's outstanding catalytic role to bring together all the partners who might wish to work with us.

In the developed countries, I was able to get across the message that ITU-D was the concern not only of the underdeveloped. I was able to get the developing countries to see that ITU-D was not a ghetto for disadvantaged countries and that we could all work together.

Over the past four years we have focused on partnership. Similarly, the next four years will see a further commitment to this approach, in a partnership that will be even more closely bound to the rigorous management that you are ceaselessly demanding from the Union.

Together with my colleagues, the other elected officials, I shall get down to the task of pushing ahead with the causes you hold so dear. We must make this Union the beacon illuminating our shores, the guiding light of our lives. We do not have the right to fail, since the founding fathers were visionaries, great visionaries.

The world of telecommunications all around us is in turmoil. It is a world full of pitfalls. We must navigate by means of innovative and simple initiatives. But time is of the essence. Action is required. This is particularly true in these early days of the twenty-first century, where time is the arbiter of success. The challenges are numerous. And do they not say that when the going gets tough one must take the bull by the horns and work twice as hard?

I pay a special tribute to Bob Jones [outgoing Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau], who is attending his last conference as an elected official. Mr Jones has been a role model for me and I am delighted to have had him as a colleague during my first term of office.

Finally, my wish is to be able to mobilize the necessary resources — human, financial and material. This mobilization of resources will be the cornerstone of my development programme. ■



The New Man on the Team

Valery Timofeev

Director elect, Radiocommunication Bureau



Valery Timofeev, Russia's Deputy Minister for Communications and Informatization, was elected Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau on 2 October 2002. Mr Timofeev is no newcomer to ITU.

Speaking after his election, Mr Timofeev, a former ITU staff member, promised to dedicate himself to serving the needs of the Union "at this very important time in the history of radio-communications". He noted the very difficult and complex tasks facing the Radiocommunication Bureau, including the issue of satellite filings, and reminded the delegates that "building the

future information society cannot be done without effective radiocommunication and broadcasting". He expressed his gratitude to the outgoing Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, Bob Jones, with whom he had worked closely for many years, and who had done so much to develop the Sector.

Congratulating his successor, Mr Jones said: "It has been gratifying to see so much interest shown in the post of Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau by so many highly qualified candidates. While much has been accomplished in recent years, many challenges lie ahead for Mr Timofeev, not only as Director but also in his role as a member of the Coordination Committee". He pledged his full assistance to the Director elect during the transitional period.

Experience and career highlights

Mr Timofeev has extensive experience in the field of radio-frequency spectrum management at both the national and international levels. During his years of employment with the State Radio Research Institute from 1974 to 1992, he accumulated extensive professional experience in the fields of radio-wave propagation, frequency spectrum planning, development of national EMC standards and the design of satellite communication and television and radio broadcasting systems. For many years, he was responsible for the international coordination of satellite communication systems and headed national delegations at frequency assignment coordination meetings with other administrations.

On the international scene

Since 1968, he has participated in the meetings of various ITU bodies, including plenipotentiary conferences (1982, 1989, 1992, 1994 and 1998), the Council, world (administrative) radiocommunication conferences (1974, 1977, 1979, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997 and 2000), world telecommunication development conferences (1994 and 1998), radiocommunication assemblies (1993, 1995, 1997 and 2000), the 1996 World Telecommunication Policy Forum, preparatory meetings for ITU-R conferences, and meetings of ITU-R (CCIR) study groups. He successfully chaired the World Radiocommunication Conference in 1993, and was Vice-Chairman of the Radiocommunication Assembly. At the 1994 and 1998 Plenipotentiary Conferences, he was elected to serve as a member of the ITU Radio Regulations Board, and became the Board's Vice-Chairman in 1997 and its Chairman in 1998.

At national level

As Deputy Minister (a post he has held since 1999) he is directly responsible for matters pertaining to effective radio-frequency spectrum management, the development of television and radio broadcasting and the deployment and operation of the national satellite communication and broadcasting system, as well as for the Russian Administration's participation in the work of various international bodies, including the International Telecommunication Union, the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), INTERSPUTNIK, Intelsat and Eutelsat. He also participates in the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC). In particular, he has for a number of years been Chairman of the RCC commission responsible for radio-frequency spectrum management and EMC matters. On his initiative, and with his direct involvement, Acts and Government Decrees of the Russian Federation were drawn up and adopted for the purpose of establishing favourable legal conditions for the use of radio facilities within the territory of Russia and for the harmonization of national and international frequency allocations.

In recognition of his major contribution to the development of cooperation with international organizations and of his high level of professionalism, the Russian Government awarded Mr Timofeev the "Order of International Friendship" and "Distinguished Communications Worker of the Russian Federation" award.

He is the author of more than 60 scientific publications on various aspects of radiocommunication and broadcasting, satellite communications, frequency planning, EMC and international cooperation in the field of communications. ■

Election results

Valery Timofeev (Russia) was elected by the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Marrakesh Plenipotentiary Conference in the second round of voting with 83 votes in a race with Malcolm Johnson (United Kingdom), who obtained 59 votes and Fabio Bigi (Italy). In all, 150 votes were cast in this second and final ballot. The required majority was 75. Before this final round of voting took place, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced the withdrawal of their country's candidate, Kavous Arasteh.

In the first ballot that opposed four candidates, the votes were split as follows: Mr Timofeev 56, Mr Johnson 50, Mr Arasteh 23 and Mr Bigi 17. In all, 150 votes were cast. The required majority in this round of voting was 74.



Forty-six Member States elected to the Council

On 3 October 2002, the Plenipotentiary Conference elected 46 Member States to serve on the ITU Council for a four-year period. There are 46 seats on the Council. Each of the five administrative regions is entitled to a designated number of seats as shown in Table 1 (elected countries are indicated in bold).



Brunei Darussalam, the Dominican Republic, Finland, the Kyrgyz Republic and zambia served as tellers for the election of Member States of the Council

Acting as the governing body in the interval between the four-yearly gatherings of the Plenipotentiary Conference, the Council fulfils a huge mandate. One of its main functions is to consider broad telecommunication policy issues in order to ensure that ITU fully responds to the ever-changing telecommunication environment. In addition, the Council is responsible for coordinating work programmes, approving budgets and controlling finances and expenditure, while ensuring that ITU operates effectively and efficiently.

The Council also makes every effort, in line with ITU purposes, to contribute to the development of telecommunications in the developing countries, for example through ITU's participation in the appropriate programmes of the United Nations.

The Council, in its new composition, held an extraordinary session on 17 October 2002 in the closing hours of the Marrakesh Conference and elected José Saraiva Mendes (Portugal) as Chairman. An ordinary session will take place in Geneva from 5 to 16 May 2003.

The 46 elected Members States are shown in bold

Number of ballots deposited: 150, two of which were invalid and one was blank.
Maximum possible number of votes per Member State in this ballot: 147

The Board and its twelve members

The Plenipotentiary Conference elected members of the Radio Regulations Board (RRB) on 3 October 2002 for a four-year term. RRB is a part-time body comprising twelve members from ITU's five administrative regions, namely the Americas, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia and Australasia. Table 1 shows the election results.

One of the Board's main functions is to approve the Rules of Procedure, which the Radiocommunication Bureau uses in applying the *Radio Regulations* to register frequency assignments made by ITU Member States. This means that, when the Radio Regulations are not very clear, or when they are subject to diverging interpretations, RRB must draft a Rule of Procedure to clarify the text in question.

The Board also considers reports from the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau on investigations of cases of harmful interference carried out at the request of one or more of the interested administrations and formulates recommendations to resolve such interference. Independently of the Radiocommunication Bureau the Board can, at the request of one or more administrations, consider appeals against decisions made by the Bureau regarding frequency assignments. If agreement cannot be reached between an administration and the Board on a Rule of Procedure, the matter is submitted to a world radiocommunication conference for ruling.

The twelve members of the Board elected in Marrakesh will take up their duties on 1 January 2003.



Costa Rica, Romania, Spain, Thailand and Uganda served as tellers for the election of members of the Radio Regulations Board



Table 1 – Election results of the Radio Regulations Board

The twelve elected members are shown in bold

| Region A Americas (2 seats) | Region B Western Europe (2 seats) | Region C Eastern Europe (2 seats) | Region D Africa (3 seats) | Region E Asia and Australasia (3 seats) |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Carlos Alejandro Merchán Escalante (Mexico) 140 votes</p> <p>James R. Carroll (United States) 128 votes</p> | <p>Pierre Aboudarham (France) 135 votes</p> <p>Gabor Kovacs (Hungary) 135 votes</p> | <p>Momcilo R. Simic (Yugoslavia) 99 votes</p> <p>Wladyslaw Moron (Poland) 88 votes</p> | <p>Hassan Lebbadi (Morocco) 86 votes</p> <p>Aboubakar Zourmba (Cameroon) 72 votes</p> <p>Shola Taylor (Nigeria) 64 votes</p> | <p>Ravindra N. Agarwal (India) 117 votes</p> <p>Ki-Soo Lee (Republic of Korea) 88 votes</p> <p>Akhtar Ahmad Bajwa (Pakistan) 85 votes</p> |
| <p>Number of ballots deposited: 150, two of which were invalid and five were blank. Maximum possible number of votes per candidate in this ballot: 143.</p> | <p>Number of ballots deposited: 150, two of which were invalid and four were blank. Maximum possible number of votes per candidate in this ballot: 144.</p> | <p>Baiysh Nurmatorov (Kyrgyz Republic) 76 votes</p> <p>Number of ballots deposited: 150, two of which were invalid and six were blank. Maximum possible number of votes per candidate in this ballot: 142.</p> | <p>Mostafa Abdel-Kader Bahie Eldin (Egypt) 57 votes</p> <p>Abihudi Newton Nalingigwa (Tanzania) 57 votes</p> <p>Makhtar Fall (Senegal) 45 votes</p> <p>Dubby Douglas Mutesha (Zambia) 26 votes</p> <p>Number of ballots deposited: 150, three of which were invalid and three were blank. Maximum possible number of votes per candidate in this ballot: 144.</p> | <p>Bruce R. Emirali (New Zealand) 82 votes</p> <p>S. A. T. M Badrul Hoque (Bangladesh) 36 votes</p> <p>Number of ballots deposited: 150, two of which were invalid and three were blank. Maximum possible number of votes per candidate in this ballot: 145.</p> |

THE MARRAKESH DECLARATION

*Towards an information
society for all*

(29 September 2002)



Nasr Hajji
*Secretary of State
for Posts,
Telecommuni-
cation and
Information
Technologies
and Chairman of
the Conference,
reading the
Marrakesh
Declaration*

The Marrakesh Declaration is the outcome of the International Forum, organized in Marrakesh by the Government of Morocco concurrently with the Sixteenth ITU Plenipotentiary Conference. "Towards an information society for all" was the theme of this forum which took place at the *Palais des Congrès* on 28 and 29 September 2002. Participants in the forum developed and unanimously approved the Marrakesh Declaration, and requested that it be submitted to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, so as to secure the necessary international support for the Declaration's proposals to be implemented.

On a proposal from France, supported by Tunisia, Japan, Ecuador and Qatar, the "Marrakesh Declaration" was issued as an official document of the Conference (Document 155).

1. Globalization which has, for centuries, slowly developed through human migrations, trade and the dissemination of knowledge and culture, is nowadays propelled by the spectacular expansion of information and communication technologies (ICT), underpinned by the digital convergence of telecommunications, informatics, audiovisual techniques and multimedia.

2. After the revolutions brought about by the invention of writing and printing, ICTs represent a major upheaval for humankind, because they have an impact on all fields of human activity. First of all, they have contributed to the significant progress achieved in all the sciences and their various applications. Then, their impact is also visible in the economy and financial services, commerce, politics and administration, education, work and interpersonal communication. In short, throughout society as a whole.

3. The information and communication society is tending to take over from the production society ("Hermes replacing Prometheus"), in the sense that fast and reliable telecommunications coupled with worldwide networks for data transmission and communication, like the Internet, allow access to knowledge, technologies and know-how, to cinema, television and musical programmes, as well as to recreational activities. Not only are access improving, transmission speed increasing, productivity rising and exchanges quickening, but also the costs to users are tending to fall, creating hope for democratic access to ICTs and a fair distribution of their actual benefits and potential.



Jacques Attali, Chairman of the Forum

4. Human societies must prepare to face changes resulting from the spread of ICT: production methods, corporate governance, knowledge economy, creativity, work in its various forms, education and training, interpersonal relationships and social practices. Like every innovative technology, ICT can also have negative impacts, which must be corrected or at least mitigated.

5. The most worrisome adverse effect is probably the digital divide, which excludes a large part of humankind from the benefits of ICT. This brings us back to the same core problem with globalization, namely how to share its potential benefits, between rich and poor countries, but also among different social groups within the same nation. It should moreover be stressed that the digital divide could exacerbate the exclusion which already exists, for instance in the fields of education, culture and health care. In fact, the digital divide induces an economic, social, cultural and political divide.

6. There are solutions available to combat this exclusion and reduce the digital divide. They all require greater solidarity, sharing of knowledge and know-how, and political will at the international and national levels.

7. It is the responsibility of the International Telecommunication Union to strengthen its activities aimed at extending ICT access to all nations, particularly developing countries, in order to open up the prospect of an information society for all.

8. The Union's key role will also involve conducting a thorough review of ICT challenges at the global level, evaluating their impact, and extending its actions and scope in order to meet the challenges ICT expansion and reduction of the digital divide. ITU might also act as a catalyst in setting up partnerships between the public and private sectors, by facilitating the convergence of interests and competences.

9. It also falls to ITU, before the seventeenth Plenipotentiary Conference and with a view to the World Summit on the Information Society in 2003 in Geneva and 2005 in Tunis, to promote the preparation of action plans addressing the needs of governments, peoples and civil society with respect to ICT. Such action, based *inter alia* on the conclusions of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-02), held in Istanbul in March 2002, would address the overall problems resulting from ICT expansion from every angle and avoid the dispersal of efforts, in order to reduce the digital divide and contribute to sustainable economic and social development.

To meet these considerable challenges and the new responsibilities they entail, it is of prime importance that ITU's structures and missions be adapted so as to respond to the expectations and aspirations of the vast majority of members in terms of their necessary integration in the information and knowledge society. ITU, which was founded in the nineteenth century in Paris, while drawing on its achievements and past record, must evolve to become the new world organization for the information society, at the heart of the necessary changes as we embark upon the twenty-first century, leading to a humanity shaped by progress, democracy, solidarity, openness and exchange.

1- Vinton Cerf, Chairman of ICANN 2- Yafang Sun, CEO Huawei 3- Nicole Pot, Cité des Sciences et de l'industrie de la Villette 4- Marc Rothier, Vice President and General Manager EMEA, Hewlett Packard 5- Didier Quillot, CEO Orange 6- Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Co-Chairman of UN Information and Communication Technologies Task Force 7- Francisco Murteira Nabo, CEO Portugal Telecom 8- Jean-Marie Blanchard, General Manager of Alcatel





Decisions of the Conference at a glance

The Internet

Role of administrations of Member States in the management of internationalized (multilingual) domain names

Aware of the rapid development towards the convergence of telecommunications and the Internet, the Conference approved a resolution that addresses the increasingly complex issue of using diverse languages in cyberspace. The resolution notes that in the coming years, the majority of Internet users will prefer to conduct online activities in their own language, and that there are challenges of intellectual property associated with the use of internationalized domain names and addresses (Resolution PLEN/5). It stresses the need for ITU to assist its Member States to promote the use of their languages for domain names and addresses. As the resolution also notes, this will be increasingly important because the current Domain Names System (DNS) mapping does not reflect the growing language needs of all Internet users and requires to be resolved to promote growth in cyberspace.

The Conference recognized the role of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in guarding against misuse of intellectual property rights in the use of countries' languages for domain names and addresses. Noting the close cooperation which ITU enjoys with WIPO, the Conference decided that the Secretary-General should bring this resolution to the attention of WIPO stressing Member States' concerns and requests for assistance with regard to internationalized (multilingual) domain names and addresses.

Emphasis is also placed on the need for the future management of the registration and allocation of Internet domain names and addresses to fully reflect the geographical and functional nature of the Internet, bearing in mind an equitable balance of interests of all stakeholders — particularly those of governments, businesses and consumers. The Conference stressed that Internet domain names and addresses, and more generally the Internet and global information networks, must be widely available to all citizens of the world regardless of their gender, race, religion or country of residence. It also stressed that the methods of allocation of Internet domain names and addresses should not privilege any country or region of the world to the detriment of others. Furthermore, the Conference emphasized that the management of Internet domain names and addresses should be a matter of concern for both governments and the private sector.

The resolution calls on the Secretary-General to take any necessary action to ensure that the sovereignty of ITU Member States with regard to country code numbering plans and addresses is fully maintained as enshrined in ITU-T Recommendation E.164 in whatever application they are used. ITU-T Recommendation E.164 defines the international public telecommunication numbering plan. Member States are invited to increase awareness at national level among all interested non-governmental parties and to encourage their participation in the entities managing internationalized domain names and addresses.

Management of Internet domain names and addresses

A second resolution on the Internet is an important statement of the ITU membership on the need to reform the current system of management of Internet domain names and addresses. This resolution that has been updated from the Minneapolis Conference (Resolution 102 Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) recognizes that the development of the Internet is essentially market led and driven by both private and government initiatives.

As the Conference put it, the management of the Internet is a subject of valid international interest and must flow from full international cooperation. This is all the more important as expansion of the use of the Internet is expected to lead to the need for an increased capacity of IP addresses. The Conference recognized that Member States represent the interests of the population of the country or territory for which a country code top level domain (ccTLD) has been delegated. Member States should, therefore, play an active role in coordinating the resolution of management and administrative constraints arising with respect to their ccTLDs.

The updated resolution recognizes a number of **factors**. That ITU is dealing with issues related to IP-based networks in general and the Internet in particular, and that the Union performs worldwide coordination of a number of name and address allocation systems and acts as a forum for policy discussion in this area. That ITU can play a positive role by offering a platform for encouraging discussions and for the dissemination of information, particularly to developing country governments on the management of Internet domain names and addresses. That through international cooperation, ITU should contribute to policy development related to the management of Internet domain

names and addresses. Other new elements of the resolution emphasize that:

- The management of Internet domain names and addresses includes technical and coordination tasks, for which the technical private bodies can be responsible, and public interest matters, for which governments or inter-governmental organizations are responsible and to which qualified international organizations contribute.



Management of the Internet is a subject of valid international interest and must flow from full international cooperation

- The role of governments is to provide a clear, consistent and predictable legal framework to promote a favourable environment in which global information networks are interoperable and widely accessible to all citizens and to ensure adequate protection of public interests in the management of Internet domain names and addresses.

- It is in the public interest that the system that manages Internet domain names and addresses has transparent rules and procedures, including dispute resolution procedures to facilitate the protection of intellectual property rights.

- Governments are expected to promote a fair competitive environment among companies or organizations responsible for resource allocation.

The Secretary-General is instructed to take a significant role in international discussions and initiatives on the management of Internet domain names and addresses, bearing in mind associated developments and the purposes of the Union. He is to encourage all Member States to participate in the international debate on international management of Internet domain names and addresses in order to ensure worldwide representation in the debates on this subject.

For his part, the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau is to continue cooperation with appropriate entities on relevant Internet domain name and address management issues such as the transition to IP version 6 (IPv6), ENUM and internationalized domain names (IDN). The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau is instructed to organize international and regional forums in conjunction with appropriate entities for the period 2002–2006 to discuss policy, operational and technical issues on the Internet in general and the management of Internet domain names and addresses in particular for the benefit of Member States, especially for least developed countries.

ITU is to liaise and cooperate with regional telecommunication organizations pursuant to this resolution.

World Summit on the Information Society

The preparatory process for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) has entered its critical phase. A second Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) meeting is to take place in Geneva from 17 to 28 February 2003, at which time the themes and content of the Summit will be considered. As the WSIS preparatory process evolves, it should take account of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, the Istanbul Action Plan, as well as the results of other relevant initiatives such as Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the Bamako Declaration, the Bishkek Moscow Conference, the Connectivity Agenda of the Americas and Quito Action Plan, DOT Force, the Kananaskis Declaration, the Marrakesh Declaration, the New Partnership for Africa's Devel-

opment (NEPAD) and the Okinawa Declaration on the information society.

The Conference encouraged the Secretary-General in his capacity as Chairman of the High Level Summit Organizing Committee (HLSOC) to continue his fund-raising efforts by inviting financial contributions to the Special Trust Fund from all relevant United Nations bodies, other intergovernmental organizations including international and regional institutions, Member States and Sector Members (voluntary contributions), the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society.

In addition, the Conference approved two documents concerning WSIS and instructed the Secretary-General to circulate them to Member States and Sectors for discussion. One is an information report on ITU's role in the information society. The other is a set of guidelines for the Union's input to the declaration of principles and plan of action to be adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, scheduled to take place in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003. These guidelines highlight three broad themes that lie at the core of the information society and that global leaders will need to address. The themes speak of providing access to information and communication technologies (ICT) for all; ICTs as a tool for economic and social development and for meeting the Millennium Development Goals; and building confidence and promoting trust in the use of ICTs.

For its part, the Working Group of the Council on WSIS is to see to it that ITU makes a substantive contribution to the PrepCom meetings, starting with the second PreCom in February next year. This group is to continue its work until the 2006 Plenipotentiary Conference.

Canada and Burkina Faso contribute to the Summit

During the Conference, Canada announced that it would contribute up to CAD 1 million to the Special Trust Fund for WSIS. Canada stated that the key challenge of the information society is one of inclusion regardless of race, gender or geography. It stressed that the fight for inclusion is the fight for peace, security and growth for all.

Burkina Faso contributed USD 10 000 in cash for WSIS preparations.

Strategic Plan for 2004–2007

The Conference endorsed the Strategic Plan prepared by the ITU Council. In the period 2004–2007, the priority actions to be undertaken by the Union will seek to achieve the goals set out in the Plan:

Goal 1: Maintain and extend international cooperation among all Member States and with appropriate regional organizations for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds, taking the leading role in United Nations system initiatives on information and communication technologies.

Goal 2: Assist in bridging the international digital divide in ICTs by facilitating development of fully interconnected and interoperable networks and services to promote global connectivity and by taking a leading role in the preparations for, and taking due account of the relevant results of, the World Summit on the Information Society.

Goal 3: Widen the Union's membership, extend and facilitate cooperative participation of an increasing number of administrations and organizations.

Goal 4: Develop tools, based on contributions from members, to safeguard the integrity and interoperability of networks.

Goal 5: Continue to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of ITU's structures and services and their relevance to the membership.

Goal 6: Disseminate information and know-how to provide the membership, particularly developing countries, with capabilities to respond to the challenges of privatization, competition, globalization and technological change.

International Telecommunication Regulations

The existing treaty governing the provision of international telecommunication services was established in Melbourne in 1988. Many delegations considered that International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR) were becoming less and less relevant as a result of the pace and effects of change in the telecom-

munication industry. Many countries recommended convening a world conference on international telecommunications (WCIT) to review these regulations. Others questioned this need on the grounds that it is still early days to contemplate the nature of a new treaty in this area.

In the end, the Conference decided that ITU should continue its review process of ITRs and instructed the extraordinary session of the Council that took place in Marrakesh on 17 October 2002 to set up a working group to that end. This working group of the Council is open to all Member States, and has been given the mandate to review the results of work carried out since 1998, as well as all contributions to the Marrakesh Conference on this subject; prepare recommendations on which provisions of the ITRs should be terminated, retained, transferred to the Constitution or Convention or embodied in ITU Recommendations; consider whether there is a need for new provisions in the ITRs which should be dealt with at a WCIT. Based on recommendations from this review, a WCIT would be convened in Geneva in 2007 or 2008. The group has until 2005 to complete its work and report to the Council. For its part the Council will review the group's findings and make any comments it considers appropriate before a final report is transmitted to the Member States and the 2006 Plenipotentiary Conference, which will then determine whether a WCIT is needed.

Network security

Challenges in network security are growing rapidly. The ITU Standardization Sector and other international bodies and organizations are examining issues related to information and communication network security.

The Conference recognized that, as an inter-governmental organization with a high-level participation of the private sector, ITU is well positioned to help address challenges in information and communication network security, and therefore should play an active role in this area. To this end, the Conference adopted a resolution aimed at strengthening the role of ITU in information and communication network security so as to reach a common understanding on

the importance of this issue. Specifically, ITU will study standards on technologies, products and services with a view to developing recommendations and will seek ways to enhance the exchange of technical information in the field of information and communication network security, and promote cooperation.

Determination of the planning area for terrestrial and sound broadcasting in the VHF and UHF bands at the Regional Radiocommunication Conferences

The Conference considered the result of the consultation of the Member States of the European Broadcasting Area to convene a regional radiocommunication conference (RRC). This consultation had been undertaken in line with Resolution 1185 of the 2001 session of the Council.

A major purpose of the RRC is to revise the Regional Agreement for the European Broadcasting Area (known as the Stockholm 1961 Agreement) in the frequency bands 174–230 MHz and 470–862 MHz. The RRC is foreseen in two parts, with the first part scheduled to take place from 10–28 May 2004 and the second in 2005.

At the 2001 session of the Council, Member States pertaining to the planning area of the regional Agreement relating to the planning of VHF/UHF television broadcasting in the African Broadcasting Area and neighbouring countries, known as the Geneva 1989 Agreement, expressed the wish to convene an RRC to revise the Geneva Agreement for the same purposes as those noted in Resolution 1185.

A resolution approved by the Marrakesh Conference concludes that the regional radiocommunication conference relating to the planning of terrestrial digital television and sound broadcasting in the VHF and UHF bands pursuant to Resolution 1185 should cover the planning areas of the Stockholm 1961 and Geneva 1989 Agreements, as well as the following countries previously not covered or only partially covered: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation (territory west of 170° E), Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

Rotation of Council Member States

Given the contribution that each country can bring to the work of the Union, the Conference generally endorsed the principle of rotation of Council Member States. The Conference further recommended that Member States undertake bilateral and multilateral coordination to facilitate such rotation on a voluntary basis.

Sector Member contributions towards defraying the expenses of the Union

The Conference approved a resolution on Sector Member contributions towards defraying the expenses of the Union. This resolution notes that the Working Group on ITU Reform made no specific recommendation in regard to the 1/5 ratio between the amount of the Member State contributory unit and that of Sector Members. It also notes that while the number of Sector Members has increased, under the system of free choice of classes of contribution, the trend in choice of class of contribution by many Sector Members is towards the lowest amount. The resolution recognizes the importance of retaining and attracting more Sector Members and Associates. It also highlights the need to broaden the financial base of the Union and ensure a fair balance between the contributions made by Member States and Sector Members.

The Council is invited to establish a working group open to all Member States and Sector Members to study a system whereby Sector Members and Associates contribute towards defraying the expenses of the Union. The group, whose terms of reference will be developed by the Council, is required to make a final report to the Council by its 2005 session. Member States and Sector Members are encouraged to participate in the study. The Council will, in turn, draw up a report and recommendations for the attention of the next Plenipotentiary Conference.

Community Connectivity Indicator

A resolution was adopted that will define new indicators for the purpose of measuring the real impact of community connectivity on the development of communities. It is expected

that these measures will augment the number of fixed lines per hundred inhabitants, which is the traditional ITU measure of teledensity. A “connectivity” indicator will take into account developments such as community access initiatives and other social and policy factors.

New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)

The Conference endorsed NEPAD — a new African initiative based on a common vision and firm commitment of African leaders to eradicate poverty on the continent. A resolution adopted by the Conference calls for the allocation of resources by ITU in support of NEPAD in five broad areas: policy and regulatory issues, financing and investment, infrastructure development, universal access and ICT development, and human resources development and management. The resolution also calls for resource allocation to permanently monitor the implementation of the Action Plan adopted by ITU in Istanbul in support of NEPAD.

Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas

The Conference lent it support to the “Agenda for Connectivity in the Americas and the Quito Action Plan” in order to build awareness of the impact of telecommunications on national economic and social development, its catalytic role in promoting the development, expansion and operation of telecommunication services and networks, especially in the developing countries of the Americas.

Regional presence

The Conference reaffirmed the importance of the ITU field offices in enabling the Union to disseminate information on its activities more effectively and to develop closer ties with Member States, Sector Members, as well as with regional and subregional organizations.

Within the existing resources of the Union, the regional presence is to be further strengthened and kept under review in the interests of meeting the ever-evolving requirements and priorities of the regions, the first objective being to maximize the benefits of the regional presence for the whole of the Union’s membership.

When implementing the ITU Strategic Plan for 2004–2007 an important priority will be to:

- expand and strengthen the regional offices by identifying functions which could be decentralized and implement these functions as soon as possible;
- review the internal administrative procedures pertaining to the work of the regional offices, with a view to their simplification and transparency and enhancement of work efficiency;
- establish clear procedures for consulting Member States on their priorities for regional development projects and keep them informed on project selection and funding;
- provide the regional offices with greater autonomy in terms of decision-making and addressing the crucial needs of the Member States in the different regions.

ITU regional offices are requested to take measures to support pilot projects in e-services and applications. They are also to contribute to the development of suitable and sustainable business models that will result in private sector participation (companies and academic communities) and to formulating a strategy for ICT deployment in rural areas, taking into account the computer literacy of the population in those areas.

TELECOM events

World and regional TELECOM exhibitions and associated forums fulfil the mandate of keeping Member States and Sector Members and the wider telecommunication community informed of the latest developments in the industry. The Conference decided that ITU should continue to organize these TELECOM events on a regular basis. The principles on the management of TELECOM, the choice of venues and use of surplus income from TELECOM events have been reviewed. Concerning the choice of venues, the Conference agreed to introduce a rotation system in deciding the venue of regional TELECOM events to give countries an opportunity to host such events if they are willing and capable to do so. To this end, the need for generating surplus income for preparing future events and for development purposes is to be balanced with the capability and willingness of countries to stage these

events. In particular, ITU is asked to exercise some flexibility with regard to its space requirements and pricing regimes for exhibitions and forums.

Decisions on the venues of world and regional TELECOMS will be made on the basis of an open and transparent decision-making process through a call for candidatures and will be based on objective criteria specified in the terms and conditions for the submission of offers to ITU.



Yoshio Utsumi presents the ITU Silver Medal to Nassr Hajji as a token of the Union's esteem to the people of Morocco

Cost-recovery including processing charges for satellite network filings

The Marrakesh Conference was tasked with reviewing current administrative due diligence requirements that oblige all operators and administrations filing system coordination requests to provide full details of system contractors, including manufacturers and launch companies, along with a planned schedule of system deployment. It was also to revise the processing fee schedule and decide on the action to be taken in case of non-payment of the processing fee of a filing.

Experience shows that whenever they are asked to provide due diligence information, countries have generally requested the Radio-communication Bureau to extend the regulatory period for bringing their satellites into use up to the maximum limit authorized by the Radio Regulations. As a result, the impact of administrative due diligence on reducing, or eliminating, paper satellites is not likely to be fully apparent until at least the end of 2003.

Following a policy decision of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis, 1998) to introduce processing charges for satellite network filings, the Council, had, at its 1999 session, agreed on the methodology and fee schedules for satellite filings under cost recovery. Cost recovery is in line with the "user-pays" principle which dictates that those who benefit most from a service, particularly a service that is of value to only a few, should bear the brunt of its cost.

Discussions at WRC-2000 focused on possible regulatory consequences of non-payment of such charges and a decision was made on the cancellation of a filing in case of non-payment. However, the date of entry into force of this provision was to be determined by the Marrakesh Conference, which has decided that as of 1 August 2003, satellite network filings for which payment will not have been made would be cancelled. All administrations will be reminded of the entry into force of this provision 60 days prior to 1 August 2003.

The Conference also decided to set up a group open to Member States and Sector Members with the primary task to propose modifications to Decision 482 of the Council, which defines the methodology for calculating the processing charges for satellite network filings.

Special development assistance extended

The Conference agreed to extend telecommunication development assistance, within available financial resources, to a number of countries in need and to the Palestinian Authority. These include:

- **Afghanistan:** for reconstructing its telecommunication system, as well as advisory and training assistance in frequency spectrum management, on tariff procedures and the establishment of an independent telecommunications regulatory commission.
- **Bosnia and Herzegovina:** for rebuilding its telecommunication network.
- **Yugoslavia:** for rebuilding its public broadcasting and telecommunications systems.
- **Palestinian Authority:** for support in rebuilding, restoring and developing its telecommunication network. ■



Training partnership

ITU and the United States Telecommunications Training Institute formalize training to developing countries

On 9 October 2002, the International Telecommunication Union and the United States Telecommunications Training Institute* (USTTI) — a non-profit joint venture between the US Communications and IT industry and government leaders — announced the formalization of a long-standing training partnership for telecommunications-IT professionals from the developing world.

As part of its capacity-building efforts to address the telecommunication training needs of senior-level managerial and technical personnel of developing countries, ITU has been sponsoring fellows, in cooperation with partners such as the Washington DC-based USTTI. To commemorate 20 years of cooperation with USTTI in providing courses to fellows within this framework, ITU is now pleased to announce that it will include USTTI courses in its annual operational capacity-building plan.

“Human resources development is one of the most pressing needs for empowering developing countries and enabling them to join the

information society as full partners”, said ITU Secretary-General Yoshio Utsumi, who signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with USTTI in Marrakesh during the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference.

“Since USTTI was launched 20 years ago at the Nairobi ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in September 1982, it is quite fitting that USTTI and ITU celebrate in Marrakesh, the aggressive training outreach that USTTI has provided for our 6260 graduates in the developing world by signing this MoU. With this MoU, leaders of the US communications industry and our federal government who sit with me on the USTTI board of directors commit to expanding our tuition-free training outreach in the years ahead as we work to close the digital divide in our global community”, said Ambassador Michael Gardner, Chairman of USTTI.

“The agreement represents the culmination of two decades of cooperation between ITU and USTTI in bringing state-of-the-art courses to telecommunication professionals in developing

* The United States Ambassador to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Nairobi (Kenya), Michael R. Gardner, established the USTTI in 1982 to provide a comprehensive array of tuition-free telecommunications and broadcasting training courses for qualified women and men who regulate and manage the communications infrastructure in the developing world. Gardner, in a major effort, gathered qualified United States communications corporations and government agencies which responded positively and agreed to provide this tuition-free training.

Throughout the past twenty years, USTTI has offered a total of 1157 diverse training courses and some 6260 women and men have graduated from the Institute and are among the key regulators, communications managers and IT providers in the developing world.

countries and least developed countries," said Hamadoun I. Touré, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT). "The multiplier effects of such high-quality training on the way telecommunications is provided and managed in Member States make it well worth the long-range investment by ITU."

The importance of training and human resource development in telecommunications was stressed during the last World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, March 2002), where a specific programme focusing

During 2002, the USTTI course modules incorporated the following themes:

- Internet Policy and Network Management Design
- Spectrum Management and Spectrum Monitoring
- Satellite Communications
- Regulatory and Privatization Issues in Telecommunications
- Wireless Communications Solutions
- Telehealth and Distance Learning

The courses are open to telecommunica-

tions-IT professionals from ITU Member States and Sector Members in developing countries and in least developed countries (LDC). This year, the countries selected are Albania, Cameroon, Guinea Bissau, Haiti, Kenya, Lithuania, Paraguay, Sri Lanka and Zambia who will benefit from courses ranging from six to 16 days in facilities across the United States.

ITU and USTTI encourage women applicants for the courses and in the current year, three of the twelve candidates selected are female.



Ambassador Michael R. Gardner, Chairman of the USTTI (left) and ITU Secretary-General Yoshio Utsumi (right) sign the MoU at a special ceremony well attended by ITU officials and alumni and friends of the USTTI who were present at this year's Plenipotentiary Conference. In the centre is Philippe Capitaine, Head of External Affairs at ITU.

on human capacity building was approved and included within the Istanbul Action Plan. The programme's overall objective for the four-year period is to assist developing countries in strengthening their human, institutional and organizational capacity through human resource management and development activities, so as to facilitate a smooth transition to the current telecommunication and ICT environment. The programme will particularly address the human resource development needs of government policy-makers and regulators, as well as senior executives and managers at the operator and telecommunication/ICT-service provider level, by using an appropriate mix of e-learning, information technologies and traditional training methodologies.

courses that best respond to their clients' needs in order to boost the telecommunication sector in their own countries.

ITU sends a letter of invitation to its membership, requesting candidates from LDCs and developing countries, and carries out the first selection process according to the qualifications and work experience of the applicants. The final selection of the participants will be carried out by USTTI from a list of candidates prepared by ITU.

ITU bears the expenses relating to accommodation, board and medical insurance of the candidates and in most cases, the travel, if they prove that their own employers do not have the means to cover it. USTTI will cover all the tuition and administrative costs. ■

Selection process and funding

Each year, USTTI provides ITU a detailed programme of the contents of each course. ITU selects the

ITU-Alcatel Youth Initiative

Winners announced in Marrakesh

On 29 September 2002, ITU and Alcatel announced four winning proposals from the African youth who took part in a contest launched in March this year. The announcement was made at a ceremony organized concurrently with the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Marrakesh. The contest was sponsored by the ITU-Alcatel Youth Initiative, which falls under a new programme known as Youth Education Scheme (YES), and was open to the 84 university-age students who had participated in the highly acclaimed Youth Forum at ITU TELECOM AFRICA 2001. ITU is already working on a similar scheme with another leading mobile operator, and is inviting other entities to say "YES" to the Scheme.

Winners of the contest are: Gyanee Dewnarain (Mauritius), Mame Penda Laye Gueye (Senegal), Moses Mangwebe (Uganda) and Swithurn Mwenifumbo (Zambia). They will each receive a bursary of EUR 5000 towards their studies or the opportunity of an internship with Alcatel, with the possibility of working on the implementation of their own projects on information and communication technologies (ICT).

Government representatives from the four countries received the award certificates on behalf of the young winners, whose proposals have been described as excellent pilot projects for bridging the digital divide.

"It was a tough and spirited contest," said Hamadoun I. Touré, Director of ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT). "The proposals from the young contestants are laudable in their analytical quality. In addition, many of them had credible backing from local entities. We are impressed with how these youth in



Paramhansa Nababsing, Chairman of Mauritius Telecom, receiving the prize of the ITU-Alcatel Youth Initiative contest from Nasr Hajji, Morocco's Secretary of State for Posts, Telecommunication and Information Technologies. In the centre is Jean-Marie Blanchard, General Manager of Alcatel and on the left is Hamadoun I. Touré, BDT Director



Mactar Seck, Director General, Agence de régulation des télécommunications (Senegal), receiving the prize of the ITU-Alcatel Youth Initiative contest from Hamadoun I. Touré and looking on is Jean-Marie Blanchard



Agnes Chitula, Manager, International Services, Zambia Telecommunications Company Ltd, receiving the prize of the ITU-Alcatel Youth Initiative contest from Hamadoun I. Touré. In the centre is Jean-Marie Blanchard

their twenties matched technical insight with social responsibility in proposing sound ways to create digital opportunities through Internet access in local communities in their countries."

"We were pleased to receive 36 papers, from which it was difficult to select the four best proposals", said Gérard Dega, Executive Vice President of Alcatel EMAI. "The high quality and the originality of each submission confirm the key role of young African people in the development of innovative Internet applications aimed at better addressing their local needs. Alcatel is, and will, remain involved in processes helping to bridge the digital divide."

During the ceremony, held in the presence of more than 300 representatives from telecommunication administrations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies, Mr Touré urged participants to support the YES initiative and called on all stakeholders to join forces with ITU to help ensure that the next generation receives the financial backing needed for higher education.

"Every unfinished degree in telecommunications spells the loss of a capable mind

Highlights from winning entries

■ **Reduit Village Internet Project:** Providing Internet access to people in Mauritius through their television sets, regardless of age, social status, geographical location and at an affordable price, is at the core of the project. The proposal notes that Mauritius has the second-highest teledensity in Africa and that each household in the country possesses a television set. Based on these facts, people would only require an additional set top box to gain access to the Internet using their analogue television set. The system bypasses the use of a personal computer, which is a lot more expensive than the set top box. Major beneficiaries would be students, who would receive distance education, through participation in on-line discussions; the agricultural sector; and small businesses.

Support for the proposal has come from various official quarters. The Government of Mauritius is adopting a number of policies to encourage development in the ICT sector in a bid to increase access to the Internet. The University of Mauritius will play a prominent role in the project, providing the human resources required to train the potential beneficiaries. Multi Carrier Mauritius Limited, the national broadcaster, is also willing to provide assistance in terms of infrastructure. Mechatronics, Instrumentation, Control and Communication Group will provide research assistance to the project.

■ **Internet Project for Keur Matar:** This project targets rural communities in the village of Keur Matar, located some 70 km outside Dakar. Keur Matar was selected as a pilot zone because of its agricultural importance — its products are sold to the rest of the country. If Keur Matar was connected to the Internet, farmers would establish direct contact with technical partners to help improve their agricultural techniques; they would contact financial partners with a view to modernizing their tools — this would reduce their costs of production and improve their agricultural output. Access to the Internet would also help keep young people in the country and fight against rural exodus.

Several companies and associations have expressed their support for the project: *SONATEL* for the implementation and connection of computers; the *Département de Génie Informatique* for technical support; and *NGO CRESPE* for the training of managers and Web translators. The project will also involve youth volunteers from the sporting and cultural associations of the village. Alcatel will help fund the experimental phase.

■ **Nazigo Cybercentre pilot project.** This pilot project is intended to improve education, agriculture, health, business and personal communications through access to relevant information and messaging in Nazigo, one of the many disadvantaged rural areas in Uganda.

Nazigo has only two health centres and so most of the complex medical cases are referred to Kampala's hospital. The cybercentre is expected to enable Nazigo health workers to benefit from the expertise in Kampala hospital through e-mail and real-time consultation, thus reducing distance and cost.

In Nazigo, where the major source of income is vanilla, coffee and pineapple growing, lack of access to the Internet deprives the community of technical information on farming, post-harvest handling and market prices. The cybercentre is expected to provide "cyber-agricultural extension services", together with demand and transparency on price information to the farmers. Nazigo has 24 primary schools and six secondary schools, with almost 90 per cent of the computers not connected to the Internet. This adversely affects the quality of education and skills acquired by rural students as compared to their urban counterparts. The cybercentre will provide students and teachers with the much-needed information to supplement library services.

■ **Giving Internet access to rural farming communities:** This project highlights the role of telecommunication services, the Internet and a suitable education campaign to peasant farmers as prerequisites for turning agriculture into the key to sustainable development in Zambia. The proposal is based on improving agriculture in a country where the lack of proper forecasts of poor rainfall and low awareness of appropriate techniques are making it increasingly difficult to produce enough to feed the whole nation.

The solution is not only to provide marketing information to farmers scattered across the country through Internet access, but also launch a campaign in order to educate and train the potential beneficiaries on how to use the equipment, farming techniques and weather patterns, so as to increase their productivity.

Zambia National Farmer Union (ZNFU), a non-governmental body overlooking farmers' welfare nationwide, will support the project through training workshops to the farming community, teachers and nurses. ■



John Nasasira, Uganda's Minister of Works, Housing and Communications, receiving the prize of the ITU-Alcatel Youth Initiative contest from Hamadoun I. Touré and looking on is Jean-Marie Blanchard

to the sector. YES is an expression of a positive and assertive stance by ITU in support of needy and deserving young people wanting to carve out a career in communications", Mr Touré also remarked.

The initiative is one way that ITU's Telecommunication Development Sector is integrating youth issues into its activities, including programmes with emphasis on capacity building. Resolution 38 of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002) requested the Secretary-General of ITU to bring issues relating to youth and ICTs to the attention of the Marrakesh Plenipotentiary Conference. This is being done with a view to raising appropriate resources for youth-related activities and functions.

For more information on the ITU-Alcatel Youth Initiative, please contact: Barbara Wilson, Human Resources Development, ITU/BDT, Tel.: +41 22 730 5424. Fax: +41 22 730 5484.

E-mail: barbara.wilson@itu.int or Jean-Marie Blanchard, Business Development Director, Alcatel, Tel.: +33 1 30 77 03 26. Fax: +33 1 30 77 91 28. E-mail: jean-marie.jb.blanchard@alcatel.fr



ITU 004225/A. de Feron

ITU TELECOM ASIA 2002

A key event at a crucial time for Asia's telecommunication markets

With the end of the year approaching, leading telecommunication players across Asia and around the world are readying themselves for ITU TELECOM ASIA 2002, which once again promises to live up to its reputation as the region's most important and influential telecommunication event.

Following the unprecedented success of the previous event in 2000, ITU TELECOM ASIA 2002 (2 to 7 December) will again be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC), located right on the waterfront of the bustling Wanchai district in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) of the People's Republic of China.

For Asia's policy-makers, leading manufacturers and service providers, this year's event represents a crucial opportunity to come to grips with the economic uncertainty that has plagued the industry since the dot-com crash and the financial challenges that have cast a pall of gloom over the telecommunication sector worldwide. It also represents a unique chance to take stock of the many exciting opportunities which abound throughout the Asia-Pacific region — still the world's most buoyant market for fixed, mobile and Internet equipment and services, with growth rates that should see the region account for a full 50 per cent of the global annual telecommunication market by the end of the decade. Located at the heart of Asia's fastest-growing economies, Hong Kong SAR is also the gateway to the vast potential of the People's Republic of China — already easily the world's largest cellular market with more



than 185 million subscribers, and on track to become the world's second largest Internet market by 2005. ITU TELECOM ASIA 2002 is hosted by the Government of the People's Republic of China, and the only regional show that combines a state-of-the-art exhibition and world-class forum, showcasing the very latest equipment and services and bringing together top-level speakers from government and industry to share their vision of Asian telecommunications in the 21st century.

ITU TELECOM ASIA 2002 Forum

This year's new ITU TELECOM ASIA 2002 Forum Programme (available online at www.itu.int/asia2002/forum) combines daily opening plenary sessions focused on key issues with three specialized streams.

● **Stream A: Investing in the future** will cover investment and business issues.



The Forum at ITU TELECOM ASIA 2000

● **Stream B: Enabling the future** will focus on policy and regulatory issues.

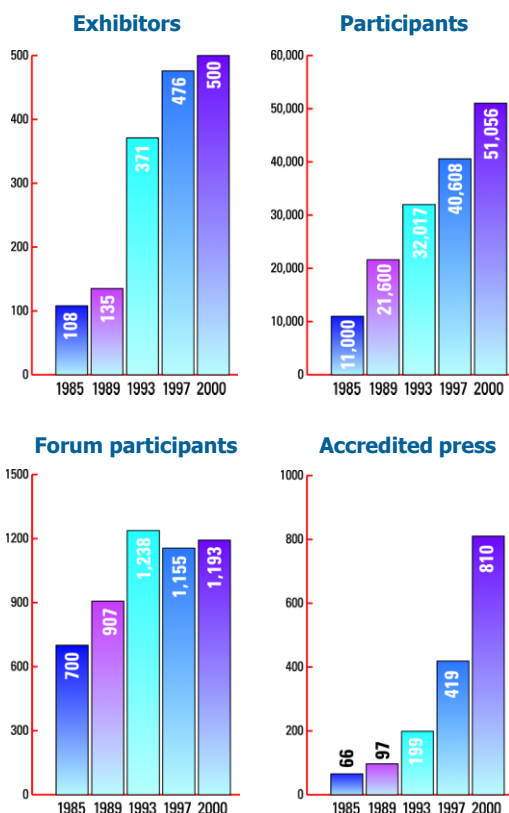
● **Stream C: Supporting the future** will look at issues related to technology and applications.

The Forum also incorporates a **Telecom Development Symposium**, a fellowship programme which will bring delegates from the region's least developed and lowest income countries to Hong Kong to discuss development plans and address emerging issues of importance to their countries or region. Themes for discussion will be:

- **Access and future technologies**
- **Benefits to citizens and society**
- **Implementation — ICT regulation in the 21st century**

The overwhelming success of ITU TELECOM's **Youth Forum** initiative — held for the first time at ITU TELECOM AFRICA 2001 — will see this event staged at ITU TELECOM ASIA 2002 as well, inviting two young people from each ITU Member State in the Asia-Pacific region to Hong Kong to visit the show and take part in special interactive Forum sessions. Participants will be chosen via an essay competition, and will have the chance to discuss issues in the areas of **Technology**, **Policy and Regulation** and **Finance** with a wide range of expert panelists. Sponsored by ITU and Pacific Century CyberWorks (PCCW), this year's Youth Forum will also incorporate special industry-focused lunchtime sessions sponsored by Cisco Systems, Vodafone, Intelsat and Cable & Wireless Virtual **Academy**. ■

The evolution of ITU TELECOM ASIA



Human capacity building

ITU and Maltacom Training College Partnership

International Certificate in Management

Maltacom Training College recently organized their first International Certificate in Management training programme in close collaboration with the International Telecommunication Union.



Graduants pictured with Maurice Zarb Adami (centre), Chairman of Maltacom Group and Anthony DeBono (holding the ITU logo), General Manager International Affairs

Participants from Nicaragua, Cambodia, Yemen, Uzbekistan, Bhutan, Gambia, Albania, Ghana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Somalia, Zambia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Syria, Jordan and Malta took part in the programme, which is being run following an agreement reached in Istanbul (Turkey) between ITU and Maltacom Training College during the World Telecommunication Development Conference in March 2002.

Cable & Wireless Virtual Academy and Coventry University in the United Kingdom also collaborated in the running of this four-week full time intensive programme, which consists of four modules in the areas of finance, human resources, customer care and marketing in the communications industry. The programme is targeted towards people who need to expand their academic management knowledge and build on existing skills and experience.

In his address to participants and distinguished guests, Maurice Zarb Adami, Chairman of the Maltacom Group, said that the programme marked yet another milestone in the College's achievements. "Such quality training gives a wide international exposure to Maltacom Training College and to Malta in general," he noted adding that the International Certificate in Management is an award that assists participants in dealing with the challenges faced by modern telecommunication organizations in complex and dynamic changing technological and commercial environments.

The programme is expected to lead to an International Diploma in Management planned for early 2003. Regulation

and policy, e-Business, project management and Internet protocol technology and business competitive advantage in the communications industry are the main core modules in the Diploma programme.

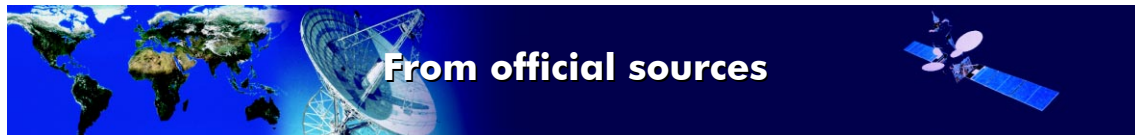
Mr Zarb Adami recalled that Maltacom Training College has, from its inception, been involved in running courses for international students from all parts of the world.

Global Telecommunications University and Training Institute

In March 2001 the Prime Minister of Malta, Eddie Fenech Adami, inaugurated in the presence of ITU Secretary-General Yoshio Utsumi, the Maltacom Training College as the first virtual distance learning centre as part of the Global Telecommunications University and Training Institute (GTU/GTTI). This is ITU's non-profit distance-learning project based on a worldwide network of nodes, which deliver Web-based remote learning and other training activities to administrations, operators, and regulators around the world.

By virtue of the partnership agreement signed in Marsa (Malta) in 2001, the College will develop and organize online distance learning programmes. This relatively new teaching methodology enables participants to learn in a cost-effective manner providing also a flexible working environment, which means that learning takes place when, where and how the participants want it.

Further information may be obtained from the Maltacom Training College, Swatar, Dingli, L/O Rabat, Malta. Tel.: +356 21 453370. Fax: +356 21 453380. E-mail: traincol@maltanet.net



FINAL ACTS OF THE WORLD RADIOCOMMUNICATION CONFERENCE, ISTANBUL, 2000

The Government of **Australia** has ratified the above-mentioned Final Acts.

The instrument of ratification was deposited with the Secretary-General on 9 September 2002.

CHANGES

The *General People Committee for Communication and Telecommunication Authority* of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has changed its name and is now called **General Directorate of Communication and Telecommunication**.

The *Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications* of the Republic of Botswana has changed its name and is now called **Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology**.

NEW MEMBERS

Telecommunication Standardization Sector

Southern Africa Telecommunications Association (SATA), (Maputo, Republic of Mozambique) has been admitted to take part in the work of this Sector.

Telecommunication Development Sector

TELECOM Egypt Data S.A.E. (TEData), (Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt) has been admitted to take part in the work of this Sector.





ITU conferences

2002

- 2–7 December (Hong Kong, China)
ITU TELECOM ASIA 2002
(Exhibition and Forum)

2003

- 2–6 June (Geneva)
2003 Radiocommunication Assembly
- 9 June–4 July (Geneva)
2003 World Radiocommunication Conference
- 12–18 October (Geneva)
ITU TELECOM WORLD 2003
(Exhibition and Forum)
- 10–12 December (Geneva)
World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

2002

Radiocommunication Sector

- 11–15 November (Geneva)
Radiocommunication seminar
- 11–15 November (Geneva)
Task Group 1/7 (Protection of passive service bands from unwanted emissions)
- 18–29 November (Geneva)
Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM)
- 29 November (Geneva)
Radiocommunication Study Group Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen meeting
- 9–13 December (Geneva)
Task Group 6/8 (Preparation for the Regional Radiocommunication Conference 2004)
- 9–13 December (Geneva)
Radio Regulations Board (RRB)

2003

- 22–24 January (Geneva)
Satellite Backlog Action Group (SAT-BAG)
- 27–31 January (Geneva)
Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG)

- 2–6 June (Geneva)
2003 Radiocommunication Assembly
- 9 June–4 July (Geneva)
2003 World Radiocommunication Conference

2002

Telecommunication Standardization Sector

- 11–22 November (Geneva)
Study Group 11 (Signalling requirements and protocols) and its Working Parties
- 20–29 November (Geneva)
Study Group 17 (Data Networks and Telecommunication Software) and its Working Parties
- 23 November (Geneva)
Workshop on the Use of Description Techniques
- 26 November–6 December (Geneva)
Study Group 2 (Operational aspects of service provision, networks and performance) and its Working Parties
- 9–11 December (Geneva)
Workshop on Satellites in IP and Multimedia
- 9–13 December (Geneva)
Study Group 3 (Tariff and accounting principles including related telecommunication economic and policy issues) and its Working Parties

2003

- 20–31 January (Geneva)
Study Group 15 (Optical and other transport networks) and its Working Parties

2002

Telecommunication Development Sector

- 11–15 November (Bangkok)
Workshop for Asia-Pacific Region on Network Planning Strategy for Evolving Network Architectures
- 13–15 November (Warsaw)
First coordination meeting for the

english-speaking branch of the CoE for the Eastern Europe and CIS region

- 14–15 November (Geneva)
Special Meeting of the TDAG Working Group on Private Sector Issues

- 14–15 November (Tbilisi, Georgia)
Seminar on ITU pricing models
- 19–21 November (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso)
African regulatory forum
- 25–29 November (Maputo, Mozambique)
Business management workshop: Interconnection scenario
- 26–29 November (Moscow)
Business management workshop on Interconnection
- 2–4 December (Geneva)
ITU–D Rapporteur Group meeting on Resolution 9 and Question 21/1
- 7–8 December (Hong Kong, China)
Global regulatory symposium
- 10–12 December (Warsaw)
Strategic management workshop
- 10–12 December (Khartoum, Sudan)
Workshop on rural connectivity
- 16–19 December (Damascus, Syria)
HRM/D network annual meeting for the Arab region

2003

- 12–16 January (Manama, Bahrain)
Workshop on benchmarking practices for marketing
- 15–17 January (Geneva)
Third World Information and Communication Technology Indicators Meeting
- 21–24 January (Sofia, Bulgaria)
Network evolution

This information was correct as of 21 October 2002.