



**INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  
TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU**

**THE ASIA AND PACIFIC (ASP) REGIONAL PREPARATORY  
MEETING FOR THE WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION  
DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (WTDC-02)  
Bali (Indonesia), 25-27 April 2001**

**Document 65-E Rev.1  
3 May 2001**

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**Infrastructure and Technology  
Proceedings of the working session**

Chairman: Mr. Hussain Shareef, Maldives

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Working Document: 09-E, and 09-E Corr. 1

### **Summary of proceedings**

The issue paper on **Infrastructure & New Technology** highlighted issues prominently voiced by representatives of administrations and operators at ITU and other events that would help the infrastructure to benefit from rapidly advancing features of new technologies and their declining costs.

The issues focused in the paper are as follows.

- I. Promotion of industry cooperation to enable harmonious application of new technologies and their standards for enhancing access to affordable service.**
- II. Measures to overcome errors and shortcomings of network planning, investments, choice of new technologies and cost of funding.**
- III. Measures to overcome impediments hindering transparent, neutral interconnection of any to any network.**
- IV. Easing the burden of regulatory impediments -high licensing fees, resistance to activate the Band Width of the local loop.**

The above issues were illustrated with reference to information given in documents 9-E corrigendum of typical instances of the market scenario and options to remedy the problems

The views expressed in respect of the above s and other requirements of the countries are reported below:

1. Reference was made to paper 14-E by the delegate of Indonesia where it is stated that ITU should support invitation of investors, vendors to create new technologies and applications to provide affordable services. In addition, efforts should be made to extend the Internet and other new services to reach rural areas in addition to existing one way radio and television broadcasts.
2. Referring to the data quoted in the paper 52-E "Keeping the Head above water", the representatives from French Polynesia stated that the commonly used telecommunications indicators (i.e. teledensity) would be incomplete without data of the markets not yet served. Hence data of these markets should also be considered. In this regard reference is made to importance accorded in the issue paper at para 1 and 3 to the need to provide service timely and cost effectively to these markets.

3. The representative from Cook Islands stated that, as mentioned in the presentation, VoIp is a distraction from the main problem of Internet Interconnection to the backbone. Therefore, ITU should also focus on Internet interconnection to overcome the problem. The volume of exchanged traffic to make the connectivity viable will grow with the planned improvement of local access facilities such as use of DSL techniques.
4. The delegate of PNG referring to the paper 38-E, stressed the importance of viable connectivity to the global network. Bilateral negotiations with carriers, due to the weak bargaining power of these small markets have not yielded fruitful outcome. Hence, the delegate said that the ITU should assist them in commercial negotiations with telecom carriers.
5. The representative for ABU referred to the paper 7-E paragraph 3.1 concerning application of digital broadcasting to leap frog into modern services and reserve the same focus as provided by IMT 2000.
6. Delegate of Bangladesh referred to the difficulties encountered in interconnection of competing network and the escalating network congestion due to the fast growth of the Internet. In this regard the delegate was apprised of the proposal made by the ITU similar to that in the issue paper. As for mitigating network congestion, the ITU has developed a generic tool to overcome the shortcomings of the traffic monitoring system voiced at ITU events which has also been offered to BTTB
7. The delegate of Nepal required clarification on the remark made in the presentation that VoIP is just one of the many applications. The presentation also mentioned that it is more important to focus on the needs of interconnectivity of any to any networks to meet the QoS needs of the Internet traffic. He requested more information on the problems of interconnection
8. The Chairman of the FG7 Task Force referred to document 58-E on the draft of the pilot project "Wireless IP Infrastructure and New Technologies for Internet Services in Rural and Remote Areas". Information of the time frame and other particulars of the pilot project are provided in Doc.40E. Proposals are being invited from the region to set up the pilot project "Wireless IP Infrastructure for Internet Services in Rural and Remote Areas". It is envisaged in the first stage to set up at least one pilot station in each of the regions .
9. The ITU, referring to concerns expressed on Internet Interconnections, outlined a generic model that could help to harmonize the neutrality and transparency requirements of interconnection points to satisfy the interest of all stake holders. To accomplish this the model proposes the interconnection points be operated by the regulator or by a consortiums of the operators

10. A participant from the press, referring to the issues on interconnection, announced to the meeting that a forum on Internet interconnectivity and other issues is being organized jointly with the ITU and others to be convened during the CommunicAsia 2001.

### **Recommendations**

- a) The ITU to assist small countries in commercial negotiations with carriers for interconnection to the backbone or global networks.
- b) The ITU to include in their statistics data of markets not yet served, in particular, those of small markets of developing countries.
- c) The ITU to promote industry cooperation to enable harmonious application of new technologies and their standards for enhancing access to affordable service.
- d) The ITU to promote national and regional initiatives for efficient exchanging of national, intra and inter regional Internet traffic, for setting up of neutral and transparent Internet traffic exchange points .
- e) The ITU to assist broadcasting sector on application of digital delivery systems to rural areas to meet the needs of converging networks
- f) Countries to submit proposals requested in document 40-E and 58-E in respect of the wireless IP rural telecommunications project

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