

## FINAL COMMUNIQUE' (ES/CPL/01/2003)

The 1<sup>st</sup> Extraordinary Session of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the African Telecommunications Union, having met in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire from 26 - 27 August 2003;

### Having Considered

1. Report of the Secretary General on implementation of Resolution 07 of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries in Nairobi, August 2002, dealing with: -
  - Progress on Ratification and Accession to the 1999 ATU Constitution and Convention;
  - Conditionalities and modalities for election of a Secretary General and members of Administrative Council;
  - Options for more equitable distribution of ITU Region D Council Seats between African sub-regions;
  - Staff recruitment and profiles;
  - Status on implementation of the Strategic Plan 2002/2006 and Membership contributions to Annual Work Programme Budgets
2. Report of the Chairperson of the Ministerial Oversight Committee (MOC) on: -
  - Activities and achievements of MOC in the period 1998 / 2003;
  - Activities, achievements and ongoing programmes of the African Connection Centre for Strategic Planning (ACCSP);
  - Modalities for transfer of ongoing programmes to the General Secretariat.
3. Report and Recommendations of the Chairperson of the Conference Preparatory Committee on above issues.

### Elects

- 1) Mr. Akossi Akossi as Secretary General of the African Telecommunications Union for a three term starting January 2004;
- 2) The Members of the Administrative Council as follows: -

North Africa :	Egypt, Tunisia
West Africa:	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria
Central Africa:	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Burundi, Chad
Eastern Africa:	Ethiopia, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda
Southern Africa :	Lesotho, Malawi, Zimbabwe
Host Country :	Kenya

## **Decides**

- 1) to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the Conference Plenipotentiaries in 2006 at the temporary headquarters of the Union, Nairobi, Kenya.
- 2) to terminate the mandates of the Ministerial Oversight Committee (MOC) and African Connection Centre for Strategic Planning and passes a Vote of thanks to the leadership of these initiatives and their respective partners.

## **Adopts**

1. Resolution on issues of non-payment of Annual Contributions to Annual Work Programme budgets;
2. Resolution on the installation of RASCOM multimedia terminals in every post office in Africa
3. Resolution on the activities of Ministerial Oversight Committee;
4. Resolution on the activities of African Connection Centre for Strategic Planning and transfer of ongoing programmes to the General Secretariat;
5. Resolution on strengthening the role of the African Telecommunications Union in the African Union;
6. Resolution on equitable distribution of ITU Region D Council seats to African Sub-regions;

## **Urges Member States**

- 1) to ratify or accede to the 1999 ATU Constitution and Convention, as soon as possible;
- 2) to honour their financial obligations towards the Union on time;
- 3) to participate actively in the preparation for upcoming international ICT conferences (e.g World Summit on Information Society 2003, Regional Radiocommunications Conference 2004, and World Telecom Standards Assembly 2004);
- 4) to encourage potential Member States and Associate Members to join ATU;
- 5) to support the RASCOM programme and RASCOM network deployment.

**Requests** Core Activity Partners to continue forging closer co-operation with ATU for rapid advancements of ICTs in Africa;