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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

World Communications Year

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the General Assembly the report of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union, prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/40 of 19 November 1981.

* A/37/50/Rev.1.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 2097 (LXIII) of 29 July 1977, recommended that the General Assembly should proclaim a Transport and Communications Decade in Africa during the years 1978 and 1987 and that consideration should be given to the celebration during the Decade of a World Communications Year. The Assembly accepted this recommendation and adopted resolution 32/160 on 19 December 1977, in paragraph 5 of which it requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the International Telecommunication Union and other specialized agencies concerned, to propose one year during the Decade as World Communications Year and to submit a report to the Council containing a detailed programme of activities to be carried out during such a Year.
2. In its decision 1978/48 of 1 August 1978, the Economic and Social Council took note of the note by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on World Communications Year (E/1978/95), and of the indication that preliminary consultations among the organizations concerned had identified 1983 as the most appropriate year for designation as World Communications Year.
3. In 1979, the Secretary-General, as requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 5 of its resolution 32/160, submitted a report to the Economic and Social Council containing a programme of activities for the celebration of World Communications Year (E/1979/87). The Council, by decision 1979/63 of 3 August 1979, deferred action on the Secretary-General's recommendations and requested him to consult with Member States on the scope, proposed programme of activities and organizational structure for the Year and to report thereon to the Council at its second regular session of 1980.
4. The Secretary-General accordingly consulted Member States and submitted a report containing a summary of their views (E/1980/65 and Add.1 and 2) to the Council at its second regular session of 1980. At that session, the Council, by resolution 1980/69, recommended that the Secretary-General should continue consultations with Governments and submit revised proposals for a programme for the Year. By the same resolution the Council designated the International Telecommunication Union as the lead agency for the Year and requested that the report of the Secretary-General should also be submitted to the Administrative Council of ITU for consideration.
5. In compliance with that resolution, the Secretary-General transmitted the comments of Member States, together with a revised provisional programme of activities for the Year (E/1981/70), to the Administrative Council of ITU at its thirty-sixth session (1-19 June 1981) and to the Economic and Social Council of 1981 at its second regular session. The comments of the Administrative Council (E/1981/70/Add.1) and a report by the Secretary-General of ITU on the state of preparations for the Year (E/1981/70/Add.2) were also before that session of the Council, which recommended, in its resolution 1981/60, that the General Assembly should proclaim 1983 as World Communications Year: Development of Communications Infrastructures, provided all the preliminary arrangements for its financing from voluntary contributions were finalized before adopting a final decision.
6. The Secretary-General of ITU reported to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session (A/36/585) on the preliminary arrangements concerning

voluntary contributions towards financing the Year. At that session, the Assembly adopted resolution 36/40 on 19 November 1981 proclaiming 1983 World Communications Year: Development of Communications Infrastructures and requested the Secretary-General of ITU to report to the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the state of preparations for the Year.

7. The present report is therefore submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982 for consideration and transmission to the General Assembly.

II. INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE FOR WORLD COMMUNICATIONS YEAR

8. Following the General Assembly's proclamation of 1983 as World Communications Year: Development of Communications Infrastructures, and its designation of ITU as the lead agency for the Year, with responsibility for co-ordinating the interorganizational aspects of the programmes and activities of other agencies, the Secretary-General of ITU, as Co-ordinator for the Year, convened a meeting of the Inter-Agency Committee for the Year 1/ on 3 December 1981 at the Union's headquarters at Geneva.

9. At that meeting, the Committee:

(a) Adopted a plan of action for 1982 (see annex I);

(b) Approved the principle of the early establishment in each country of a WCY committee co-ordinating at the national level the preparations and implementation of the programme for the Year;

(c) Adopted measures designed to make the national committees as widely representative as possible;

(d) Prepared a guide containing information on the general guidelines, the organization and the financing of the Year. The Guide also provides practical details aimed at facilitating the establishment of national committees;

(e) Approved the presentation of the WCY Register of Activities;

(f) Reviewed the list of proposed pilot projects for the Year.

10. The Inter-Agency Committee expressed the view that, in order to achieve the objectives of WCY as defined by the General Assembly, namely, to enable all

1/ The meeting was attended by the United Nations, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank, the Universal Postal Union (UPU), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

countries to undertake an in-depth review and analysis of their policies on communications development and stimulate the accelerated development of communications infrastructures as an essential part of economic and social development, the action taken during the first half of 1982 was to be designed primarily to promote the establishment of a national committee for World Communications Year in each country.

11. The Committee also emphasized how important it was for the national committees to comprise representatives of all sectors of activity concerned with the development of communications infrastructures, whether they are responsible for them or whether their activities depend on them, ^{2/} with a view to drawing up a plan of action for achieving the objectives of the World Communications Year, based on collective reflection and concerted action at the national level. The activities conducted as part of the Year should constitute a starting point for new national policies for the development of communications infrastructures based on a global view of requirements and on co-ordination among all the sectors concerned.

12. The key role of the national committees for the success of WCY prompted the Inter-Agency Committee to ask the Co-ordinator for the Year to invite the executive head of each United Nations agency to launch an appeal to the governmental authorities and non-governmental organizations whose activities fall within their field of competence. The purpose of this appeal was to seek their support for the establishment of a National Committee in each country and their active participation in the national, regional and international efforts deployed for the Year, in particular by securing the effective participation of their own sector of activity in the work of the National Committee.

13. In addition, an official letter was sent to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Member countries of the Union, either through their permanent mission in Geneva or directly in the event there is no mission. This letter informed them of the proclamation of WCY by the General Assembly, and stressed the necessity of establishing national committees to co-ordinate the preparations and implementation of this programme. It also expressed the wish that their Governments would take the appropriate steps to facilitate the establishment of such committees.

14. Of capital importance in this respect is the national political will to develop specific action for the promotion of economic and social development through the establishment of communications infrastructures. This political will was demonstrated on 19 November 1981 by the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 36/40 and could find expression in the participation of not only sectoral government bodies, but also intersectoral and multidisciplinary ministries (e.g. national planning, economy, finance, development and co-operation) in the national committees.

^{2/} Governmental authorities and non-governmental bodies dealing with common carrier telecommunications, radio, television, press, aviation, transport, education, agriculture, health, posts, industry and commerce, meteorology, public services and other users.

15. In accordance with the plan of action adopted, the Co-ordinator for the Year, on behalf of the Inter-Agency Committee, also made arrangements for a general information campaign aimed at involving bodies concerned with the development of communications infrastructures in the activities of the Year. The regional organizations working with the agencies represented on the Committee have been contacted in this connexion, together with scientific and industrial organizations, recognized private operating agencies, donors, radio amateurs and other organizations interested in WCY activities.

16. Several regional broadcasting organizations ^{3/} have also been provided with information and invited to call on their member organizations to lend full support to WCY, in particular by making circuits available for reporting on the activities of the Year "through existing means of information, including radio and television broadcasts", as called for in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 36/40.

17. In addition, the secretariat for the Year has disseminated the Guide to WCY and published the first two issues of WCY Bulletin. This information bulletin is designed to support and encourage the national committees in the preparation of their programme of activities.

18. As agreed at its meeting in December 1981, the Inter-Agency Committee met again at Geneva on 15 April 1982 to take stock of the progress made in the preparatory work and to review the programmes and activities proposed by the agencies concerned. It also agreed on the general outline of the present report for submission to the ITU Administrative Council at its thirty-seventh session in 1982 and, subsequently to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1982.

III. PROGRAMME FOR THE YEAR

19. The programme for the Year has been formulated in collaboration with the organizations of the United Nations system during interagency meetings on World Communications Year. The guidelines concerning the criteria and modalities applicable to international years have been duly taken into account when preparing this programme.

20. Although the programme for the Year is organized on three levels (national, regional and international), the over-all activities will be directed towards specific achievements at the national level. Projects for inclusion in the programme for the Year must meet the following criteria:

(a) Each project must contribute specifically to the co-ordinated establishment of communications infrastructures;

^{3/} European Broadcasting Union (EBU), Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU), Caribbean Broadcasting Union (CBU), Inter-American Association of Broadcasters (IAAB), North American National Broadcasters Association (NANBA), Ibero-American Television Organization (OTI), International Radio and Television Organization (OIRT) and the Union of National Radio and Television Organizations of Africa (URTNA).

(b) Each project must foster endogenous economic and social development in the country or countries concerned;

(c) Each project must be designed to generate productive ideas for the rational establishment of communications structures, either through the implementation of the projects or through the analysis of the results achieved;

(d) Taking into account the fact that the Year will take place in the middle of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, projects carried out in Africa must help to achieve the targets of the Decade which now form part of the Lagos Plan of Action; 4/

(e) Finally, the projects taken together must constitute a consistent programme of definite value, in line with national priorities.

21. The financial resources for the Year are entirely dependent on voluntary contributions. The WCY Fund, made up of contributions in cash or in kind, will be used:

(a) To finance the implementation of specific projects, known as pilot projects;

(b) To send short-term consultants to assist countries, on request, in formulating and implementing their programmes;

(c) To cover the operating expenses of the Year secretariat;

(d) To produce basic documentation designed to help the national committees in their work.

A. National programmes

22. It will be for each country, through its National Committee, to draw up the programme of activities best suited to its needs. It will also have to arrange for the financing of those activities, with the exception of the activities mentioned in paragraph 21. Activities developed at the country level will be published in the "WCY Register of Activities", which will be updated periodically to take account of programme developments. National programmes may include pilot projects, conferences, seminars and information activities.

1. Pilot projects

23. Pilot projects have been formulated by the agencies which take part in the Inter-Agency Committee in collaboration with their Member States, or proposed directly by governmental authorities or industrial groups.

4/ The Lagos Plan of Action has been adopted with a view to implementing the Monrovia Strategy aimed at fostering the economic development of Africa.

24. Pilot projects form part of the efforts deployed by the United Nations system to further a balanced economic and social development. The implementation of such projects, the impact of which will be felt far beyond 1983, is of vital importance for a number of countries and regions and should foster the accelerated development of communications infrastructures, thus meeting the expectations of the international community, as expressed by the General Assembly. Such projects are called upon to act as a catalyst, stimulating the development of similar projects in the future on the basis of experience acquired. A list containing essential information on these projects has been published by the Year secretariat, at the request of the Member States. Several proposals for project implementation and/or financing have been put forward and are being studied. Supplements will be issued to include pilot projects submitted after the publication of the list so as to have regular updates.

2. Conferences/seminars

25. Conferences or seminars might be organized at the national level on the main subject areas of the Year:

- (a) Consideration of development problems;
- (b) Review and analysis of national communications policy, in collaboration with users;
- (c) Study of the role of human resources in the development of communications;
- (d) Evaluation of the social and economic impact of a modern communication network;
- (e) Improvement of the programming of technical assistance projects.

26. Such conferences or seminars might be attended by the representatives of governmental bodies, infrastructure users, and scientific and university researchers.

3. Public information

27. Full, precise and up-to-date information on the communications of tomorrow and the vital role they will play in the modern world is necessary in order to bring the Year's objectives to the public notice, enhance national, regional and world communications and create an impact that will last well beyond 1983. Such information should provide an opportunity to attract public attention and make people aware of the importance of communications for social and economic development.

28. The aim must be to inform the public of the Year's objectives, in particular by means of:

- (a) Press campaigns;
- (b) Production and broadcasting of radio and television programmes;

(c) Production and dissemination of documentation, posters and other material aimed at the general public.

29. In this connexion, the WCY secretariat will take full advantage of the world-wide network of United Nations information centres to disseminate information in the countries/regions where they operate.

B. Regional and international programmes

30. The main purpose of the regional and international programmes is to assist national committees in their activities and provide them with logistic support. The programme will comprise the implementation of pilot projects at the regional or international level, organization of conferences or seminars and information activities; it will complement the programmes undertaken in a purely national framework. Regional activities already enjoy the support and collaboration of the United Nations economic commissions and other regional organizations (see annex III).

31. Some regional and international pilot projects have been included in the list of WCY projects (see paras. 23 and 24 above).

32. Multisectorial conferences and seminars on the development of communications infrastructures may also be organized. Their purpose will be:

- (a) To review the results obtained with regard to the development of the regional network;
- (b) To analyse the obstacles to the development of communications infrastructures for all services (maritime, aeronautical, public telecommunications, postal services etc.);
- (c) To propose solutions for eliminating those obstacles;
- (d) To propose objectives for the short-, medium- and long-term development of the regional network;
- (e) To emphasize the close link between the development of communications infrastructures and social and economic development;
- (f) To strengthen regional structures (intergovernmental and non-governmental regional organizations).

Information activities

33. In the area of public information, the Inter-Agency Committee will assist in the dissemination of information on the objectives and programmes of the Year through the regional bodies. The secretariat of WCY will publish basic documentation for the benefit of the national committees, including the following:

(a) An information bulletin which the national committees can use to disseminate information on the Year (four issues in 1982 and six in 1983) and which is also designed to permit the international exchange of information on proposals, plans, activities and projects carried out within the framework of the Year at the national, regional and international levels;

(b) The register of activities of the programme for the Year, which will be regularly brought up to date as the programme develops, to facilitate the co-ordination of national, regional and international activities and assist organizations which so desire to establish contacts where activities are of common interest;

(c) A leaflet, a poster and an emblem, which may be reproduced and circulated by the national committees or regional bodies;

(d) A guide intended to facilitate the establishment of World Communications Year national committees and assist them in formulating programmes of activities in support of the Year's objectives, carrying out those programmes and assessing the results achieved. The final version of the Guide to WCY 83 will be published at the end of 1982 to take into account the comments received;

(e) The secretariat of WCY also intends to make available audio-visual material: films, sound and television recordings specially produced for the Year, and photographs.

* * *

34. Thanks to the close co-operation of the specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations, as well as other international organizations participating in the work of the Inter-Agency Committee, and their determination to contribute to the success of the Year, the plan of action for 1982 has so far been implemented according to schedule.

35. This co-operation has also made it possible to co-ordinate and harmonize programmes so as to avoid overlapping between WCY activities and the regular activities of some organizations.

36. The ITU Administrative Council, which met at Geneva from 19 April to 7 May 1982, studied both a report by the Secretary-General of ITU on the developments that had taken place in respect of World Communications Year since its last session, and the present report. It welcomed the progress made in the preparatory work for the Year, particularly those activities designed to produce practical results in the field of communications infrastructures, and requested the Plenipotentiary Conference, the supreme organ of ITU, which is to meet from 28 September to 5 November 1982, to schedule a formal meeting devoted to World Communications Year at the end of the Conference. With a view to emphasizing the importance it attaches to World Communications Year, the Council adopted resolution 872, the text of which is reproduced in annex V.

ANNEX I

Plan of action for 1982

Date

1. 1st quarter of 1982

- (a) Distribution of the Guide to WCY end January
- (b) Official letters announcing the proclamation of WCY to: end January
 - (i) Administrations
 - (ii) Ministries of Foreign Affairs, through Permanent Missions
- (c) General information action: end March
 - (i) Regional organizations;
 - (ii) Organizations such as EBU, URTNA etc.;
 - (iii) Scientific organizations and RPOAs;
 - (iv) Donors;
 - (v) Universities;
 - (vi) Radio;
 - (vii) Press;
 - (viii) Other non-governmental organizations.
- (d) World Communications Year Bulletin, published by the WCY secretariat on the basis of four issues in 1982 and six issues in 1983

World Communications Year Bulletin (No. 1) end March

- (e) Preparation of report to Economic and Social Council end March

2. 2nd quarter of 1982

- (a) Meeting of the WCY Inter-Agency Committee 15 April
- (b) World Communications Year Bulletin (No. 2) June
- (c) First edition of "Register of Activities" June

	<u>Date</u>
3. <u>3rd quarter of 1982</u>	
(a) Report of the Secretary-General of ITU before the Economic and Social Council	July
(b) <u>World Communications Year Bulletin</u> (No. 3)	September
4. <u>4th quarter of 1982</u>	
(a) Meeting of national officials responsible for the Year (in Nairobi)	(during the ITU Pleni- potentiary Conference)
(b) Global meeting in Nairobi for the opening of the Year	
(c) Meeting of Inter-Agency Committee	end November
(d) Final edition of the <u>Guide to WCY</u>	end 1982
(e) <u>World Communications Year Bulletin</u> (No. 4)	December

ANNEX II

Programme of activities proposed by organizations and organs of the
United Nations system

A. International Telecommunication Union

1. As the lead agency of the Year, ITU has, inter alia:

(a) Prepared reports for submission to various conferences and seminars where WCY was to be discussed;

(b) Presented the aims and objectives of WCY to various regional and international bodies;

(c) Published basic documentation, including the Guide to WCY 83 and the WCY Bulletin;

(d) Prepared, planned and followed up inter-agency meetings to ensure the harmonization and co-ordination of programmes throughout the United Nations system.

2. As a member of the Inter-Agency Committee, ITU has drawn up the following programme of activities:

(a) TELECOM 83, one of the outstanding telecommunication events of WCY 83, the many aspects of which coincide with the objectives of the Year:

(i) World exhibition: directed towards the exchange of information and transfer of technology in telecommunications and electronics;

(ii) FORUM 83 consisting of two parts:

(a) An economic symposium on "Economic and financial aspects of telecommunications";

(b) A technical symposium on "Integration of the world telecommunication network";

(iii) Book Fair 83: an opportunity to exchange ideas and information by means of the publications exhibited; these will include textbooks for secondary schools and vocational training schools dealing with all aspects of telecommunications and electronics;

(iv) Golden Antenna 83: festival of films and audio-visual productions covering all aspects of telecommunications and electronics, including their applications and their role in economic and social development throughout the world;

/...

(v) Youth in the Electronic Age 83: world-wide photo and drawing competition to help young people learn about the ever-growing use of telecommunications in the world and the role of telecommunications techniques in economic and social development;

(vi) Public relations:

(a) A meeting has been scheduled in 1983 for public relations officials to enable them to discuss ways of promoting telecommunications development at the national and international levels and to take stock of the activities undertaken in connexion with WCY;

(b) Publication of a directory of public relations services in the field of telecommunications aimed at facilitating the exchange of know-how in this area of activity.

3. Every month the Telecommunication Journal, the Union's official publication, devotes a section to WCY 83.

4. In 1983, the theme of World Telecommunication Day, celebrated on 17 May every year, will focus on the promotion of telecommunications infrastructures.

B. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

5. The 21st General Conference of UNESCO approved the following activities, to be undertaken in 1983. These activities form part of the WCY programme of activities:

(a) Publication of a series of ITU/UNESCO studies undertaken in the Member countries so as to adopt telecommunications tariffs policies that would reduce the tariffs applicable to the exchange of information;

(b) Publication of various studies dealing with the establishment of a new World Information and Communication Order; these studies will include regional and international communications systems used for the exchange of information;

(c) In addition to its participation to the World Book Fair 1983, organized by ITU, UNESCO may organize an exhibition at its headquarters in Paris. This exhibition would present a retrospective of the literature published by the Communication sector of UNESCO;

(d) UNESCO publication information office has agreed to make a series of information broadcasts and to issue press releases on WCY. Articles will also be published in the Courrier, the official publication of UNESCO.

6. UNESCO has undertaken, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa, to develop a low-cost audio unit, that is, a mixing console, a low-powered VHF FM transmitter, which could perhaps be fed by solar (photovoltaic) cells, and an FM receiver powered by a solar battery. This community-radio sound-broadcasting production and transmission unit, which is intended mainly for

rural areas, could be combined with earth space receivers belonging to a domestic or regional communication satellite network. UNESCO and ECA envisage that, in an initial phase, this pilot equipment will be operated in a developing African country, and then in other regions of the world, so that its technical performance and socio-economic implications for the development of each region can be analysed.

C. International Civil Aviation Organization

7. It is envisaged that an eminent personality in the field of aeronautical telecommunications will be invited to address the ICAO Assembly which will take place in 1983.

8. An exhibition on aeronautical telecommunications may be organized at ICAO Headquarters during the Assembly to celebrate the World Communications Year.

9. ICAO plans to devote an issue of its Bulletin in 1983 to aeronautical communications.

10. The attention of States and financial institutions will be drawn to the recommendations set out in the studies on aeronautical telecommunications in Africa, Central America and South-East Asia which were completed in 1981. The recommendations made in other similar studies that ICAO is to conduct during its next three-year programme will also be brought to the attention of its Member countries and of financial institutions.

11. ICAO will hold an international meeting of experts on aeronautical communications. Organized by ICAO's Communications/Meteorology Division the meeting will:

(a) Review the basic concepts of the global aeronautical telecommunications network;

(b) Seek ways to improve it, taking advantage of the latest technological breakthroughs (computer and satellite technology, etc.); special consideration will be given to the exchange of meteorological information and other vital air navigation data transmitted to pilots and ground personnel over the aeronautical fixed telecommunications network.

D. Universal Postal Union

12. National activities normally to be financed by the postal administrations concerned:

(a) Issue of postage stamps (69 Postal administrations have indicated their intention of issuing such stamps), first day covers, special date-stamps or slogan postmarks, specially designed for WCY;

- (b) Use of special inscription with the WCY emblem on all PTT stationery;
 - (c) Radio and television programmes, publication of articles and holding of press conferences emphasizing the role of communications on the economic and social development, and other public information activities (films, creation/strengthening of users' associations);
 - (d) Exemption from cost of postage for certain mail dispatched on one day of World Communications Year;
 - (e) Organization of philatelic exhibitions, participation in national and international exhibitions, organization of a postal week and of a communications day, especially in schools and universities;
 - (f) Organization of literary, drawing and poster contests for young people; creation of post offices and formal opening, etc.;
 - (g) Organization of conferences, colloquia and seminars; organization of a round-table discussion with postal officials and officials from the Ministries of Planning, Finance and Economy.
13. International and/or regional activities which could be financed in part by UPU:
- (a) Organization of a world philatelic exhibition;
 - (b) Assistance to postal administrations in the production of posters or prospectuses by provision of models;
 - (c) Provision, in the languages of the periodical "Union postale" of the memorandum on the role of the post as a factor in economic, social and cultural development;
 - (d) 9 October 1983: UPU Day for the promotion of postal communications infrastructures.

E. World Meteorological Organization

14. The theme on "The Weather Observer", chosen by WMO for World Meteorological Day 1983, will provide an opportunity to highlight the importance of World Communications Year.
15. WMO is considering issuing appropriate press releases in connexion with World Communications Year and to include suitable articles in the quarterly editions of the WMO Bulletin during 1983, embracing the possibility of a message by the Secretary-General of ITU on this occasion.
16. Special attention might be focused on the importance of World Communications Year during the ninth session of the World Meteorological Congress, to be held in 1983.

F. International Maritime Organization

17. The IMO might consider choosing a theme for "World Maritime Day" to focus attention on maritime radiocommunications.

18. A special edition of IMO News might be issued in 1983 on the contributions of maritime radiocommunications to safety of shipping and pollution prevention.

19. A special exhibition might be held at the thirteenth session of the Assembly displaying a reconstruction of a ship's radio station with modern equipment, including a ship's satellite terminal. Subject to the co-operation of the appropriate United Kingdom authorities, arrangements might be made for the radio station to communicate with ships at sea at pre-arranged times.

G. Economic Commission for Africa

20. A number of activities designed to promote telecommunications are contemplated by ECA. This programme of activities has been submitted to the governing bodies of the Commission, but the resources required for its implementation could not as yet be secured. The programme is divided into two broad categories: (a) information activities, and (b) study and research activities.

21. Information activities

(a) Production of a colour film of about 30 minutes' duration for general distribution in the region, possibly with the assistance of national broadcasting authorities and television organizations and Ministries of Information. The following topics are proposed:

- (i) Role of communications in a developing society;
- (ii) Planning, organization and operation of communication services and possible role of users in this effort;
- (iii) Possible future developments and trends in communication services;

(b) Organization of exhibitions as part of ECA's 25th anniversary demonstrating the endogenous capacities of the countries concerned with respect to telecommunications and, in particular, PANAFTEL and the production of telecommunication and electronic equipment.

22. Study and research activities. Study and research activities have been formulated as pilot projects, the implementation of which will enable the desired results to be achieved.

WCY-ECA-1 Modernization and tradition in broadcasting, the objectives of which are:

- (a) To collect and analyse information about the effect of life patterns of individuals and groups by broadcasting imported and traditional cultures;

(b) To offer solutions to developing countries for the problems of domesticating sound and television broadcast media.

WCY-ECA-2 Appropriate rural communications technology, the objectives of which are:

(a) To undertake a full study of the feasibility of designing and producing low-cost radio broadcast equipment suitable for the circumstances and needs of Africa;

(b) To explore the potential for a greater role for rural community communications systems in national development.

23. Given the importance of the development of communications infrastructures for the African continent and considering the contribution of the Year to attaining the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Transport and Communications, which now form part of the Lagos Plan of Action, ECA hopes to find extra-budgetary sources of financing to enable it to carry out its proposed programme of activities.

ANNEX III

Action taken by the various agencies and organs of the United Nations system to promote the establishment of national committees

A. International Telecommunication Union

1. As the lead agency, ITU has sent an official letter through diplomatic channels to Ministers of Foreign Affairs, emphasizing the importance of national committees and expressing the hope that their governments would contemplate taking suitable steps to facilitate their establishment.

2. As a United Nations agency, ITU has sent the text of General Assembly resolution 36/40 to the governmental bodies and non-governmental organizations whose activities fall within its sphere of competence, requesting their support for the establishment of national committees and stressing the need for those committees to be as representative as possible. It has also suggested that the role of the telecommunication administration at the national level is similar to that of ITU at the international level, i.e. an institution responsible for programme co-ordination. This appeal was also sent to:

(a) Regional broadcasting organizations collaborating with ITU [European Broadcasting Union (EBU), Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU), Caribbean Broadcasting Union (CBU), Inter-American Association of Broadcasters (IAAB), North American National Broadcasters Association (NANBA), Ibero-American Television Organization (OTI), International Radio and Television Organization (OIRT) and the Union of National Radio and Television Organizations of Africa (URTNA)];

(b) Recognized private operating agencies;

(c) Donors;

(d) Radio amateurs.

B. United Nations Development Programme

3. UNDP has drawn the attention of its Resident Representatives to General Assembly resolution 36/40, an extract of which has been published in a UNDP information bulletin.

4. Moreover, the directors of the four regional bureaux and the European office have been informed of the appeal to be launched to governmental authorities with a view to ensuring that all sectors which depend upon communications infrastructures are represented on the national committees. In this respect, the list of correspondents appointed by telecommunications administrations has been sent to all the field offices for further action at the country level.

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5. The UNDP office at Nouakchott (Mauritania) has approached the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation with a request that representations be made to the authorities concerned to set up a national committee, and has asked to be notified of the committee's establishment so that it can collaborate more closely with the responsible national authorities.

6. The UNDP office at New Delhi (India) has sent the text of resolution 36/40 to the Under-Secretary of the Finance Ministry (Department of Economic Affairs) asking that its contents be brought to the attention of the appropriate governmental authorities, for follow-up action. Copies of both the letter and resolution 36/40 have been sent to the Assistant Counsellor for Telecommunications at the Ministry of Communications.

7. The UNDP office in Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) undertook similar action and forwarded to the Technical Secretary of the Presidency the appeal made by the UNDP Administrator. Copy of this correspondence was sent to the Directorate General of Telecommunications.

8. Lastly, the UNDP office at Athens (Greece) has requested the co-operation of the Director-General of P & T, Ministry of Communications, to whom copies of the General Assembly resolution, the letter sent by the Co-ordinator for the Year to the Administrator of UNDP and the list of correspondents for the Year have been sent.

C. Food and Agriculture Organization

9. The Director-General of FAO has taken the necessary steps to bring the matter to the attention of both the governmental authorities responsible for agriculture in its Member States and to the non-governmental organizations having consultative status with FAO. He has stressed the importance of WCY for agricultural development and hence the need to support the national committees.

D. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

10. A circular letter has been sent to all UNESCO national commissions asking them to contact the authorities of the various ministries concerned with communication which participate in the work of UNESCO and to seek their support for the Year. A letter was also sent to all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with communication and information, asking them to get in touch with their respective WCY national committee with a view to taking an active part in preparations of the Year.

E. International Civil Aviation Organization

11. The Secretary-General of ICAO has informed the civil aviation administration of Member countries of the importance attached by his organization to the Year as a

means for promoting the improvement of aeronautical telecommunications. He has suggested that all civil aviation authorities should participate actively in the work of such national committees as may be set up by their governments, a task which more often than not will devolve upon the Minister responsible for telecommunications. He also invited the non-governmental organizations having consultative status with ICAO to participate, as appropriate, in World Communications Year and particularly by playing a part in the activities of the World Communications Year National Committees.

F. World Meteorological Organization

12. WMO has sent a circular letter (PR-3389) to the meteorological and hydrometeorological services of all its Member States, requesting them to contact the competent authorities in their country with a view to setting up a national committee or preparing and implementing a programme for the Year. To this end, WMO has made available the list of correspondents appointed by telecommunication administrations, together with the text of resolution 36/40. The text of the resolution has also been brought to the attention of non-governmental organizations having consultative status with WMO. Their assistance and close co-operation in the action taken at the national and international levels in support of the Year has been sought and, in that connexion, they were informed that a guide providing guidance for the setting up of WCY National Committees, entitled Guide to WCY 83 was available for those who are or will be participating in the World Year.

G. International Maritime Organization

13. IMO is to present the text of General Assembly resolution 36/40 to the June 1982 session of its Council. The request by the Inter-Agency Committee concerning the support required at the country level for the establishment of national committees will also be transmitted to the Council for information and, if necessary, follow-up. The measures taken by the Council will be communicated to the Co-ordinator for the Year as soon as they are known.

H. Universal Postal Union

14. Before the official proclamation of the World Communications Year by the General Assembly, UPU had already asked its Member administrations to designate an official who would represent the postal sector in National WCY Committees to be set up in conjunction with the Year (Congress Doc. 5/Add.1 of 1978 and circular letter 1252.1(I) 972 of 1980).

15. The attention of Postal administrations of UPU was drawn again to this request, in circular letter 1252.1(I) 940 of August 1981. As of 20 February 1982, nine Postal representatives had been designated and will presumably contact the WCY correspondent in their respective country to join their efforts in accelerating the setting up of their national committees.

16. In its circular letter 1252.1(I) 360 of 25 March 1982, UPU again invited the Postal administrations of its member countries to designate their representatives to the WCY National Committees.

I. Economic Commission for Latin America

17. ECLA has sent a note verbale to the Foreign Ministers of its member States, requesting their support for the establishment of a WCY National Committee in each country. To this end, the text of resolution 36/40 has been sent to each Minister.

J. Economic Commission for Africa

18. ECA has requested all its African member States to support the establishment of national committees for the preparation and implementation of national programmes for the Year.

K. Economic Commission for Western Asia

19. The Commission has sent the text of resolution 36/40 and the list of official correspondents to the governmental authorities of its member States.

ANNEX IV

Status of the special fund for World Communications Year

<u>Donors</u>	<u>United States dollars</u>	
	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Kind</u>
Germany, Federal Republic of		1 300 000
Belgium		100 000
Bolivia	5 000	
Bulgaria		11 737
India	20 000	
Indonesia	10 000	
Japan	100 000	
Kuwait	100 000	
Liechtenstein	1 000	
Luxembourg	10 000	
Malawi	3 700	
Malaysia	7 000	
Mali	1 818	
Netherlands	18 248	
Oman	25 000	
Pakistan	5 000	
Sweden		324 000
United Republic of Cameroon	3 636	
United States of America	360 450	1 014 000
Venezuela	10 000	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	680 852	2 749 737
Individual contribution: Mr. B. C. Cullen, Belgium	170	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	681 022	2 749 737
		681 022
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	GRAND TOTAL	3 430 759
		<hr/> <hr/>

ANNEX V

RESOLUTION 872 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

World Communications Year: Development of
Communications Infrastructures a/

The Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union,

Considering resolution 36/40, adopted on 19 November 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly, which, in paragraph 1, "Endorses the proposal made by the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 1 of its resolution 1981/60 and proclaims the year 1983 World Communications Year: Development of Communications Infrastructures, with the International Telecommunication Union serving as the lead agency for the Year and having responsibility for co-ordinating the interorganizational aspects of the programmes and activities of other agencies",

Recalling resolution No. 820 adopted by the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union at its thirty-third session in 1978 and emphasizing the importance of such a year for the International Telecommunication Union and its Member countries and for the harmonious development of telecommunications of all kinds throughout the world,

Having taken note of the report by the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union contained in document 5798(Rev.1)/CA37,

Also convinced that a World Communications Year will provide an opportunity for all countries to undertake an in-depth review and analysis of their policies on communications development and will stimulate the accelerated development of communications infrastructures,

Decides to invite the Members of the International Telecommunication Union in accordance with resolution 36/40 of the United Nations General Assembly:

1. To take an active part in achieving the objectives of World Communications Year;
2. To contribute voluntarily to the special Fund for World Communications Year administered by the International Telecommunication Union in order to increase the resources available for national, regional and world-wide projects;

a/ Document 5798(Rev.1)/CA37 (1982).

3. To ensure that circuits are available to report on the activities of World Communications Year through existing means of information, including radio and television broadcasts;

Decides also to invite the Members of the Union, in accordance with their resources, to establish National Committees for the Year representing all sectors interested in communications;

Requests the Plenipotentiaries of the Nairobi Conference (September-November 1982) to foresee, towards the end of the Conference, a formal plenary meeting devoted to the World Communications Year;

Instructs the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union:

1. To bring this resolution to the attention of Member countries of the Union;
2. To submit a report on the subject at the Administrative Council session in 1983.
