

PROPOSAL 18

Resolution 27 (Kyoto, 1994) - Participation of the Union in the United Nations Development Programme, in other programmes of the United Nations system and in other funding arrangements

Submitted by the following Member States:

Germany (Federal Republic of), Austria, Belarus (Republic of), Bulgaria (Republic of), Cyprus (Republic of), Spain, Estonia (Republic of), Finland, France, Lithuania (Republic of), Luxembourg, Norway, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Poland (Republic of), Slovak Republic, Czech Republic, Romania, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Slovenia (Republic of), Sweden, Switzerland (Confederation of) and Ukraine

Background

UNDP was created as central, coordinating and financing organization for the development activities of the United Nations. In this context, the mandate was given to the specialised agencies to execute projects within the programmes coordinated by UNDP¹ - in their respective specialised areas - in arrangement with the partner governments. This procedure was supplemented in the year 1976 by the introduction of the priority of "National Execution" that later became the exception² rather than the rule. Today the implementation of UNDP financed programs by the specialised agencies has marginal importance.

The ITU was little involved in UNDP's operational activities, e.g. UNDP project delivery in 2003 amounts to USD 1 174 314.00 (cf. financial operating report 2003), UNDP project delivery in 2005 amounts to USD 3 362 208.23 (cf. financial operating report 2004-2005), while the entire UN system spend about 10 billion USD per year, UNDP between three to four billion USD per year.

The percentage share for execution modalities breaks down as follows: national execution, the preferred modality, represents 60 per cent of the overall UNDP figure, followed by UNDP, 21 percent, UNOPS (*United Nations Office for Project Services*³), 10 per cent, and other agencies, including the 'big five', 7 per cent (see table 4 below).

¹ Cf. Resolution 2688 (XXV) of the UNGA of 11 December 1970, Paragraph 40: "The appropriate organizations of the United Nations system will, subject to this procedure, have first consideration as executing agents."

² Cf. Resolution 47/199 of the UNGA of 22. December 1992, Paragraph 15: ", Reiterates that national execution should be the norm for programmes and projects supported by the United Nations system, taking into account the needs and capacities of recipient countries;" and Decision of the UNDP Governing Council 93/25 of 17 June 1993

³ The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) was founded in 1995 within the UN system as an independent service provider in development cooperation. UNOPS does not finance any projects of its own, but is commissioned by UN bodies and other entities.

The growth of UNDP expenditure has been mainly in crisis countries, and this represents 70 per cent of the total UNDP delivery in 2004.

Table 4. Distribution of programme expenditure by execution modality: UNDP overall, 2004-2003
(in millions of dollars)

Executing agency	Regular resources and other resources (excluding funds)			
	2004	%	2003	%
National execution	1 750	60%	1 656	66%
UNOPS	277	10%	244	10%
"Big five" organizations #/	78	3%	55	2%
Other agencies	111	4%	71	3%
UNDP	654	21%	440	18%
NGOs	51	2%	32	1%
Total	2 921	100%	2 498	100%

*DESA, FAO, ILO, UNESCO and UNIDO.

According to decisions of the member states, UNDP is limited to five main areas. World leaders have pledged to achieve the Millennium Development Goals⁴, including the overarching goal of cutting poverty in half by 2015. UNDP's network links and coordinates global and national efforts to reach these Goals. UNDP's focus is helping countries build and share solutions to the challenges of:

- Democratic Governance
- Poverty Reduction
- Crisis Prevention and Recovery
- Energy and Environment
- HIV/AIDS

UNDP helps developing countries attract and use aid effectively. In all UNDP activities, the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women is encouraged.

The strategy plan of UNDP foresees sub items for each of these main areas (so-called Services Lines). Telecommunication projects fall under the Service Line 1.8 "Making ICTD work for the poor". So far agreed upon between UNDP and the government of the recipient partner country within the four years country program and provided that financing is secured, these projects are executed just like any other project: The decision, which arrangement for implementation is chosen is taken by UNDP together with the partner government. Priority has National Execution (see above remarks).

Since 1994 the UNDP Governing Council was replaced by the Executive Board.

⁴ Within goal 8 "develop global partnership for development", target 18 "in cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications" applies.

Proposal

Amend Resolution 27 (Kyoto, 1994) in order to reflect the decisions taken in the United Nations development system in the context of the Millennium Development Goals and with regard to the priority for national execution.

EUR/12/52
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RESOLUTION 27 (Rev. ~~Kyoto, 1994~~ Antalya, 2006)

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The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (~~Antalya, 2006~~),

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having noted

a) No. 45 of the Constitution of the International Telecommunication Union (Nice, 1989) establishing the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT);

b) ~~the decisions of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Doha, 2006)~~,

Deleted: the sections of the report of the Council dealing with the technical cooperation activities of the Union (Document 20) and the decisions of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Buenos Aires, 1994)

recognizing

that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and particularly its inter-country programme ~~and its multi-year funding framework (MYFF), are~~ one of the valuable means of assisting the developing countries in improving their telecommunication ~~/ICT infrastructures and~~ services;

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expressing its appreciation

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of the consideration given to this matter in certain regions by UNDP in making available ~~allocations for inter-country and MYFF telecommunication/ICT projects,~~ while noting however that these allocations do not adequately meet some regions' aspirations,

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resolves

that the Union, as part of its dual function as the United Nations specialized agency, and ~~executing agency for implementing projects under the United Nations development system and other funding arrangements,~~ shall continue to participate in UNDP activities, within the framework of the Constitution (Geneva, 1992) and under the conditions established by the ~~United Nations General Assembly, by the UNDP Executive Board~~ or by other competent bodies of the United Nations system,

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invites UNDP

with a view to strengthening technical cooperation in the telecommunication/ICT sector and thereby contributing significantly to achieving the Millenium Development Goals and in particular reducing human poverty, to consider favourably a sufficient increase of the allocations to country and inter-country assistance projects and to sectoral support activities in this sector,

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invites Member governments

to pursue this matter appropriately with a view to achieving the objective of this Resolution,

invites those Members of the Union which are also Members of the UNDP
Executive Board

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to take steps to ensure this Resolution is given favourable consideration in that Board,

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instructs the Secretary-General

1 to submit each year to the Council a detailed report on the Union's participation in UNDP and other funding arrangements;

2 to submit to the Council such recommendations as he may deem necessary to improve the efficiency of that participation,

instructs the Council

to take all necessary measures to ensure maximum efficiency of the Union's participation in UNDP and other funding arrangements, taking into account the decisions of the UNDP Executive Board and the need to maintain a balance between income and expenditure.

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