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1 Introduction

One of the main problems facing the developing countries is the lack of access to broadband services.

Furthermore, one of the most important communication infrastructures is cables with the following advantages:

1. Marine and submarine cables securely and consistently deliver very high-capacity communications between population centres.

Such links are cost-effective, and the advantages of low cost and high bandwidth are becoming attractive to governments.

The amount of modern submarine fibre-optic cables laid in the world's oceans has exceeded a million kilometres and under pins the international internet. Almost all transoceanic telecommunications are now routed via the submarine cable network.

2. To promote robust, efficient, and cost-effective Internet interconnection environments and use of internet for the benefit of all people throughout the world.

By interconnecting IXPs the need to put all traffic through the more expensive long-distance links to the rest of the world would be eliminated and substantial cost-savings would be made.

According to the lower costs of local capacity by interconnecting IXPs, more bandwidth becomes available for local users. Thanks to interconnected IXPs, local links are often up to 10 times faster because of the reduced latency in traffic, which makes fewer hops to get to their destination.

New local content providers and services, which rely on high-speed low-cost connections become available, further benefiting from the broader user-base available via the IXP.

More choices for Internet providers become available on which to send upstream traffic to the rest of the Internet contributing to a smoother and more competitive wholesale transit market.

The following text should be added to section 3.5 of Appendix 1(to ANNEXC) Programme1:

3.5.11 Providing assistance through international cooperation on submarine cables for developing broadband access.

3.5.12 Promoting Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) as a long term solution to advance connectivity.