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Agenda item: PL 1.4

Document C14/58-E  
22 April 2014  
Original: French

**Note by the Secretary-General**

**CONTRIBUTION FROM CAMEROON – CONFORMANCE AND INTEROPERABILITY  
OF EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS**

I have the honour to transmit to the Member States of the Council a contribution received from **Cameroon**.

Dr Hamadoun I. TOURÉ  
Secretary-General

## CONTRIBUTION FROM CAMEROON

### CONFORMANCE AND INTEROPERABILITY OF EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS

#### 1 Background

One of the concerns expressed at ITU world assemblies relates to the conformance and interoperability (C&I) of ICT equipment made available on the market, especially in the developing countries.

The purpose of the “Conformance and Interoperability” programme instituted by PP-10 Resolution 177, WTSA-12 Resolution 76 and WTDC-10 Resolution 47 is thus to enhance the ITU-T Recommendations with the aim of narrowing both the digital divide and the standardization gap by providing the aforementioned countries with the tools and specialized competencies they require to set up regional C&I test centres.

The programme is based on four pillars:

- conformity assessment, consisting in assessing the degree of a product’s conformity in relation to ITU standards;
- events on interoperability, based on the compatibility of the products of different vendors;
- capacity building, based on raising the awareness of decision-makers and entrepreneurs regarding the importance of conformity and interoperability testing;
- the establishment of ICT test centres in different regions of the world.

#### 2 Situation in Cameroon

The Agence de Régulation des Télécommunications (ART) is responsible for the type-approval of equipment and carries out the C&I tests referred to above within the limits of its resources. It must be recognized that type-approval as currently implemented is unsatisfactory.

#### 3 Proposal

Cameroon requests BDT’s assistance in implementing the subregional telecommunication maintenance centre. It fully supports the principle of continuing the programme and proposes that the Council instruct the Sectors to pursue the programme.

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