

**RESOLUTION No.7**

adopted by the  
**First World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC)**  
 of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Buenos Aires, April 1994

**Disaster Communications**

The World Telecommunication Development Conference (Buenos Aires 1994),

**noting**

the Tampere Declaration on Disaster Communications, issued by the group of experts in communications and disaster management, participating in the Conference on Disaster Communications held in Tampere, Finland, on 20 - 22 May 1991, annexed to this resolution,

**and noting further**

- a) the support which the Tampere Declaration has received from numerous national, regional and international organisations,
- b) Resolution No. 209 (Mob-87) Study and Implementation of a Global Land and Maritime Distress Safety System by the World Administrative Radio Conference on Mobile Services, 1987,
- c) the studies carried out by the Study Groups of ITU-R in response to Resolution No. 209 (Mob-87),
- d) the scope of studies in study groups of ITU-T, relevant to disaster communications, and in particular in ITU-T SG I, SG II, SG III and SG IV,

**recognising**

- a) that disasters have caused and are likely to continue to cause severe human suffering, loss of human lives and damage to property and environment,
- b) that disasters may have particularly devastating consequences in developing countries,
- c) that disaster preparedness requires the existence of de-centralised means of communications such as, but not limited to, those provided by mobile and portable Satellite Terminals and by the Amateur Radio Services, to supplement the possibly vulnerable elements of the national, regional and global communications networks.

**convinced**

- a) that the fast and efficient flow of information is essential for disaster mitigation, prevention and preparedness, as well as for disaster relief,
- b) that telecommunications can play a vital role in restoring the continuity of the development progress,

**concerned**

- a) that the development process is disrupted in the event of a disaster,
- b) that disaster situations, as they occur, often affect or destroy existing telecommunications facilities,

**resolves**

to invite the ITU-R

- a) to continue studying, as a matter of priority, the technical, operational and regulatory aspects of radio communications for disaster mitigation and relief,