

Wednesday, September 17, 1997, 1:30–4:00 p.m., Room 1107
 Wednesday, September 24, 1997, 1:30–4:00 p.m., Room 1408
 Wednesday, October 8, 1997, 1:30–4:00 p.m., Room 1207

The purpose of ITAC is to advise the Department on policy, technical and operational matters and to provide strategic planning recommendations, with respect to international telecommunications and information issues. To assist in preparations for certain meetings of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Department establishes ad hoc groups open to any and all government, industry or other interested participants in accordance with the ITAC advisory committee charter. The purpose and agenda of this ITAC Ad Hoc Group is to develop and recommend positions and, as appropriate, written contributions for submission by the United States in connection with the 1998 WTPF, as described below. Questions regarding the agenda or Ad Hoc activities in general may be directed to the chairman, Richard Shrum, State Department, at 202-647-0050; Fx: 202-647-7407, e-mail (uuencode):shrumre@ms6820wpoa.us-state.gov.

The ITU will convene the second Policy Forum in Geneva, March 16–18, 1998, in order to discuss and exchange views on the theme of trade in telecommunications services. The agenda will include: (a) the general implications for the ITU membership of the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreement on trade in basic telecom services, with respect to telecom policies, regulations and regulatory structures, and the implications for developing countries, particularly with respect to financial strategies to promote network and service development; (b) actions to assist ITU membership in adapting to changes in the telecom environment including analysis of the current situation and possible cooperative actions to facilitate transition; and (c) the evolution of the international telecom environment, particularly the current accounting and settlement system. Discussions at the WTPF shall be based on a report of the Secretary-General, incorporating contributions and comments of the ITU membership, which will serve as the sole working document of the Forum. Preparations for WTPF will include an informal group of experts convened by the Secretary-General to assist in developing the report, and a working group of representatives of the ITU-T and ITU-D Sectors and the ITU

Secretariat to conduct case studies in developing countries.

All participants may join in discussions, subject to instructions of the chair. In this regard, entry to the building is controlled. If you wish to attend, please send a fax to 202-647-7407 at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting, providing name, affiliation, date of birth and social security number, to arrange for pre-clearance. One of the following valid photo ID's is required for admittance: U.S. driver's license with picture, passport, Government ID (company ID's are not accepted). Enter through the "C" Street Main Lobby.

Dated: August 26, 1997.

John T. Gilsenan,

Acting ITAC Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 97-23165 Filed 8-29-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-45-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2599]

Ad Hoc on the International Telecommunication Union Strategic Planning Working Group International Telecommunications Advisory Committee (ITAC); Meeting Notice

The Department of State announces the establishment, under its International telecommunications Advisory Committee (ITAC), of an Ad Hoc Group to prepare for the ITU Strategic Planning Working Group. The first three meetings will be held at the Department of State, 2202 "C" Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., as follows:

Wednesday, September 17, 1997, 9:30–12:00 noon, Room 1107
 Wednesday, September 24, 1997, 9:30–12:00 noon, Room 1408
 Wednesday, October 8, 1997, 9:30–12:00 noon, Room 1207

The purpose of ITAC is to advise the Department on policy, technical and operational matters and to provide strategic planning recommendations, with respect to international telecommunications and information issues. To assist in preparations for certain meetings of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Department establishes ad hoc groups open to any and all government, industry or other interested participants in accordance with the ITAC advisory committee charter. The purpose and agenda of this ITAC Ad Hoc Group is to develop and recommend positions and, as appropriate, written contributions for submission by the United States to the ITU Working Group described below. Questions regarding the agenda or Ad

Hoc activities in general may be directed to the chairman, Richard C. Beard, State Department, at 202-647-5832; Fx: 202-647-5957.

The ITU Strategic Planning Working Group will prepare a draft strategic plan for the Union for 1999–2003, including linkages among overall policies, Sector priorities and programs, and financial factors for the period. The draft strategic plan will be considered at the May, 1998 session of Council, and ultimately at the upcoming Plenipotentiary Conference in Minneapolis. ITU Member States and Sector Members are invited to submit comments on the draft plan by November 30. The ITU Working Group will convene a meeting in February 1998 in order to finalize the draft strategic plan.

All participants may join in discussions, subject to instructions of the chair. In this regard, entry to the building is controlled. If you wish to attend, please send a fax to 202-647-5957 at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting, providing name, affiliation, date of birth and social security number, to arrange for pre-clearance. One of the following valid photo ID's is required for admittance: U.S. driver's license with picture, passport, Government ID (company ID's are not accepted). Enter through the "C" Street Main Lobby.

Dated: August 26, 1997.

John T. Gilsenan,

Acting ITAC Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 97-23166 Filed 8-29-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-45-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2597]

Advisory Committee on Private International Law; Meeting of Study Group on Electronic Commerce

The Department of State's Advisory Committee Study Group on Electronic Commerce will hold its next meeting Thursday, September 18 in Washington, DC from 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to review legal issues and possible international guidelines, model national laws or other international legal initiatives on electronic signatures, including digital signature systems, that could be developed by international organizations.

The Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled immediately prior to meetings of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL) new Drafting Group on a proposed uniform electronic