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Delivered at the
TERMIUM Exposition

Beirut, Lebanon
September 20, 2000

Telecommunications Policy Goals

- An innovative, efficient and reliable telecom. system
- Accessible to the entire population
- Subject to reasonable rates and terms of use

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Accomplishment of Telecom. Goals

- Competition
- Independent Regulator
- Minimal Regulation

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Competition

- Privatize incumbent service provider
- Encourage open market entry by multiple service providers

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Minimal Regulation

- Appropriate when a competitive marketplace has been achieved
- Best regulatory framework uses carefully focused regulation and economic incentives

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Optimal ISP Environment

- Competition, multiple service providers
- Fair prices for essential facilities & services
- Reasonable terms of service for essential facilities & services
- ISPs permitted to provide wide range of services

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Promote ISP Market Entry

- Is regulation necessary to promote market entry?
- Regulation to create optimal ISP environment
 - entry requirement
 - service requirements
 - ownership restrictions

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Incumbent Entry Into ISP Market

- Is incumbent service provider permitted to offer ISP services? Wholesale? Retail?
- If so, must ensure reasonable pricing and fair service for other ISPs: tariffed rates, service restrictions, interconnection obligations

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Promoting Diverse ISP Services

- Should service obligations/limitations be imposed on ISPs (including incumbent service provider)?
- Should different ISP services be subject to different regulatory treatment?
- Should any limits be imposed on ISP provision of content?

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Use of Multiple Media to Provide Internet Access

- Should the use of different media (telecom., cable TV, wireless) to access the Internet be permitted?
- If so, should they be subject to different regulatory requirements (such as open access)?

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Promote Diverse Internet Access Equipment

- Multiple technologies provide Internet access
 - PCs
 - WAP-enabled mobile phones
 - Internet appliances
- Internet growth will be encouraged by promoting distribution and use of these devices

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Conclusion

- Internet value promoted by maximum users, multiple uses
- Policy goal: multiple ISPs, multiple applications, reasonable rates and terms of service, diverse access systems
- Regulation only as necessary to handle transitory dislocations