

Presentation 1: Wireless Broadband in the Global Scene

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Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) is already deployed in many countries in the Americas and has contributed significantly to increasing teledensity particularly in rural areas. More recently, Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) has extended the capability of FWA to include high speed IP data access. Important new technological developments are now underway in this area. Significantly, a new open standard for BWA has been proposed for inclusion recently in an ITU-R Recommendation, which is supported by a very broad consortium of leading wireless industry companies. Low cost interoperable equipment will enable operators to offer services at attractive prices and will stimulate demand for wireless broadband access from the public. This in turn will lead to demand from operators for access to the spectrum required to deliver those services.

This presentation emphasizes the importance of harmonized approaches for radio equipment specifications and spectrum used for a timely and efficient BWA deployment.