# **INTUG**

Ensuring the voice of the user is heard wherever telecommunications policy is decided

## **Ewan Sutherland**

executive director ewan@intug.net

# **INTUG our aims**

- real and effective competition
- genuine choice for users
- lower prices
- higher quality
- constructive co-operation with
  - international bodies
  - governments
  - regulators

# **INTUG our activities**

- lobbying
  - global
  - regional
- national policy processes
- speeches and presentations
- a source of information
- networking
- informal channels
- early awareness of issues

# INTUG our influence

- genuine experiences and real evidence of the marketplace
- exchange of information
- constructive relationships with international bodies
- taking telecommunications expertise to broader business to broader business organisations
- years of experience

# INTUG our lobbying

- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- World Trade Organisation (WTO)
- Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
- European Union (EU)
- Inter-American Commission for Telecommunications (CITEL)

# **INTUG** the results

- the end of state monopoly provision
- increasing choice
- lower prices
- reduction of the power of dominant operators
- recognition by regulators and intergovernmental bodies of the the value of independent user views

# INTUG european VPN users association

- overlapping membership
- shared interests
- strong commercial focus
- Millennium bug web site (jointly EVUA and INTUG)
- sharing of reports
  - countries
  - suppliers



# **INTUG** history



- founded in 1974
- worked with ICC since 1977
- a seat at ITU since 1979
- at OECD through BIAC since 1982
- major role in the 1987 EU Green Paper
- helped establish the AGB in 1998
- joined APECTEL and CITEL in 2000

# **INTUG** members

- national associations
- corporations
- individuals

# **INTUG** organisation

- Executive Committee
- Council of national associations
- Plenary meetings
- Annual General Meeting

- web site
- distribution lists

# INTUG executive committee

**Chairman** Diana Sharpe Vice-Chairmen for

- Africa
   Mike van den Bergh
- AmericasBill Coopman
- Asia-Pacific
   Ernie Newman
- **Europe**Allan Fischer-Madsen

- Associate members
   Nick White
- Regulatory affairs
   Vivienne Peters
- **Finance**Yves Lubino

# INTUG networking

- lobbying governments and NRAs
- pressuring TelCos
- attracting new members
- generating revenues

sharing concerns and successes

# **INTUG ITU**

- ITU-Telecom standardisation
- ITU-Radiocommunications
- ITU-Development
- global and regional conferences
- once at the top of the telecoms policy hierarchy - currently looking at radical reform



# **INTUG** world trade organisation

- opening up markets to competition
- removing barriers to foreign investment
- General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS)
- Basic Telecommunications Agreement (BTA)
- direct INTUG input and through the AGB

# INTUG OECD

- 29 member states sharing of best governmental and regulatory practice to maximise economic growth
- reviews of issues and national policies
- workshops and statistics
- INTUG works through BIAC



# INTUG asia pacific economic cooperation

- best practice, experience, collaboration and research
- APEC TEL regional ministers of telecommunications
- guest status from 2000, some national associations in national delegations



# **INTUG** Inter-American Telecommunications Commission

- CITEL part of the Organisation of American States (OAS)
- covers of the Americas
- new for INTUG from 2001
- public telecommunications services
  - tariffs
  - universal service

# INTUG european union

- European Commission
  - Information Society DG
  - Competition DG
- European Parliament
- Telecommunications Council



# INTUG alliance for global business

- established in 1998 by BIAC, GIIC, ICC, INTUG and WITSA and now joined by the GBDe
- broader business base to leverage telecommunications issues
- Global Action Plan for e-commerce
  - very widely supported



# 15 March 2001 Hillerød

# INTUG

# business and industry advisory committee

- advisory body of the OECD
- very broadly based
- includes manufacturers and operators
- many languages, cultures and approaches to government/industry relations
- telecommunications users are represented by INTUG



# **INTUG** international chamber of commerce

- speaks authoritatively on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world
- Commission for Telecommunications and Information Technology
  - Domain names WG
  - Telecommunications WG
- very active in e-commerce



# **INTUG surveys**

- GSM international roaming charges
- Liberalisation matrix (with ICC)
- Local Loop Unbundling
- Leased lines (national v. international)
- General costs

# **INTUG surveys**

- often hard work
  - gathering
  - authenticating
- results provide
  - leverage with regulators
  - proof to operators
  - a check on the market

# INTUG position papers

- local loop unbundling
- global roaming
- the Reform of the ITU
- universal access
- additional papers for INTUG Europe
  - 1999 Communications Review
  - eEurope
  - leased lines

# INTUG conclusions

- global and local
- has a place at the policy table
- works through partnerships
- future issues
  - e-commerce
  - telecommunications

# INTUG e-commerce

- cheap and flexible access to infrastructure for:
  - businesses
  - individual consumers
- could overwhelm the telecommunications revenues
- bundling with fixed and mobile

# **INTUG** telecommunications

- oligopoly through mergers?
- rethinking sector regulation
- unbundling local loops
- migration to 3G mobile
- everything on IP networks
- domain names