



**Journal Title:** Telecommunication Journal

**Journal Issue:** Vol. 41, no. 5 (1974)

**Author:** M. Mili

**Article Title:** Sixth World Telecommunication Day: 17 May 1974: Message from the Secretary-General of the ITU

**Page number(s):** p. 282

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# Editorial

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## Sixth World Telecommunication Day

17 May 1974

### Message from the Secretary-General of the ITU

The countries Members of the International Telecommunication Union are celebrating World Telecommunication Day for the sixth time.

Particular importance attaches to the Day this year in view of the interest displayed in it by the delegates to the Union's Plenipotentiary Conference, which was held at the end of last year.

At this Conference, they adopted a resolution calling upon the Members States to celebrate the Day in order to publicize the importance of telecommunications for economic, social and cultural development.

The theme adopted for 1974 is "Telecommunications and Transport". The part played by telecommunications in the development of transport is well known.

Although radiotelegraphy first gained its reputation by use at sea, it was rapidly adopted by the other means of transport whose development it did much to promote.

In all forms of transport, whether in aviation, road transport, railways or in the large public urban transport systems of the present day, communication media are used to

ensure safety, the free flow of traffic and economic operation.

As in all other sectors of human activity in which they are employed, telecommunications used for transport have to be regulated and co-ordinated on a world-wide scale.

This is the task of the countries Members of the ITU whose representatives are engaged, at world and regional conferences and in the meetings of study groups, in devising solutions appropriate to the development of techniques and the particular conditions governing the operation of the various means of transportation.

Without such global co-operation, the telecommunication systems used in any service could not be effective.

It seems particularly appropriate to stress the importance of telecommunications at a time when the World Maritime Radio Conference coincides with the centenary year of Marconi who, together with Popov and various others, was one of the pioneers of radiocommunications.

M. MILI