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ITU Secretary General, Mr. *Hamadoun I. Touré* , stated that the number once again confirms that information technology (*IT*) and communication continue to be an important ' *leader* ' in the information society. According to *Brahima Sanou* , Director of ITU Telecommunications Development Department, this is a turning point in the development of the ICT sector. He also added that ITU's mission is to bring IT to ordinary people wherever they are.

According to the ITU, Internet users will touch the 3 billion mark at the end of 2014, accounting for about 40% of the world population. Among them, 78% came from developed countries and 22% came from developing countries. Moreover, people in developing countries account for more than 90% of those who have not used the Internet.

In Africa, only about a fifth of the population has access to the Internet while in the United States, nearly two-thirds of the population will be online by the end of the year. Europe has the highest Internet access rate, reaching 75%, and the Asia-Pacific region has the most Internet users.

Mobile broadband subscribers will reach 2.3 billion people, 55% of which come from developing countries. In ITU's statistics, this is still the fastest growing segment with a 2-digit growth rate in 2014. In contrast, fixed broadband has grown quite sluggish in this area. Asia-Pacific dominates the number of fixed Internet users.

The number of mobile phone subscribers is expected to reach 7 billion by the end of 2014, but fixed phone subscribers continue to decline.

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