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ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE 2014

BUSAN, KOREA

06 NOVEMBER 2014

ROOM A

SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE PLENARY

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>> CHAIRMAN: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Please take your seats. We will soon begin our Seventeenth and Eighteenth Plenary Meeting.

So Seventeenth Plenary Meeting is called to order.

(Gavel.)

Before approving the Draft Agenda of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Plenary meetings, let me summarize what we did yesterday. We approved 12th Series and 13th Series of Texts which are document 165 and 166 on their first and second readings.

And the Secretary-General made statements regarding Ukraine's proposal 84/Revision 2. Once again I would like to express my deep appreciation to the Delegation of Ukraine and Russia for their support and their cooperation and demonstrating very high spirit of compromising and consensus. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Now, I would like to submit this Draft Agenda of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Plenary Meetings for your approval. Any comments?

Poland, you have the floor.

>> POLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good morning to all colleagues. We would like to kindly request to change the Agenda so that the report of the Chairman of Committee 5, which is contained in Document 161, would be approved or noted before taking amendments to Resolution 99 and 125.

The reason for this is that once the document is noted, that would allow us to participate in the possible vote after that. Thank you very much and thank you for considering this.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Poland. I think that is a legitimate request. So if there would not be any opposition, I would like to submit this revised Draft Agenda to your approval. So the order of agenda will be first, approval of the agenda. Second, report from the Chairman of Committee 5 to Plenary. Then we will move to the current second Agenda Item, which will be the third Agenda Item, proposed amendments to Resolution 99 and Resolution 125.

Any comments?

This is approved accordingly, reflecting the proposal made by Poland. Thank you very much. Agenda is approved.

Now, we will move to the second Agenda Item, which is the report from the Chairman of Committee 5 to Plenary, Document Numbers 161. I would like to invite Chairman of Committee 5, Mr. Riehl, to present the report to the Plenary. Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Good morning, Chairman. And good morning, everyone.

I can refuse Poland nothing. Let us begin with Committee 5's report, the report by the Chairman.

I would ask you to take up Document 161, which is the report by the Chairman of Committee 5.

I'm not going to go into all of the details of this report. I'm simply going to clarify some of the points in there, some of the important points that we addressed in Committee 5. I'm also going to go into the details on the recommendations in my report. Firstly, in Committee 5 we decided to suppress a number of resolutions. Resolution 163, which was on the establishment of the Council Working Group on a stable ITU Constitution. We also suppressed Resolution 171, preparations for the world conference on international telecommunications in 2012.

Committee 5 agreed to or decided to revise some Resolutions, Resolution 21, special measures concerning alternative according procedures on international telecommunication networks. Resolution 146, review of the international telecommunication regulations. Resolution 166, number of Vice Chairmen of sector advisory groups, and other groups. Resolution 169 on the admission of academia. This Resolution was agreed to on the understanding that resolves four of this Resolution is to be interpreted as meaning that academia participation does not include ITU treaty-making conferences.

And we also modified Resolution 177 on conformance and interoperability.

Committee 5 also adopted new Resolutions. Com 5, one on global flight tracking for civil aviation draft regulation on strengthening the role of ITU with regard to transparency and confidence building measures and outer space activities. Resolution Com 553, review of the current methodologies and development of future vision for Sector Members, associates and academia in the activities of the ITU.

The Resolution Com 5/4 combating counterfeit telecommunication ICT devices. Resolution 5/5 assisting Member States to combat and deter mobile device theft.

And the new Resolution Com 5/6 countering miss appropriation and misuse of international telecommunication numbering resources.

Committee 5 agreed not to modify Resolution 86.

Com 5 is proposing recommendations to the Plenary. Firstly with regard to the stable Constitution, Recommendation 1. Committee 5 recommends that no modification to the structure of and hierarchy between the Constitution and the Convention as currently stipulated in the relevant parts of Article 4 of the Constitution and no amendment to any individual provision of the Constitution or the Convention be adopted at PP14.

Secondly, a recommendation made to suppress Resolution 163. Thirdly, to disband the Council Working Group on a stable Constitution established under Resolution 163.

There you have it, sir. Perhaps I will stop here.

If you wish to have any comments on this or if you perhaps have anything to add, so what I would suggest is that I stop each time, that we submit or present or introduce a recommendation. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Chairman of Committee 5, Mr. Riehl. So now I just open the floor for receiving your comments on Recommendation 1. Any comments on Recommendation 1?

Argentina, you have the floor.

>> ARGENTINA: Thank you, Chairman. We have a comment on point 2 of the report. Could you please indicate at what point we should make that? Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Point 2 is regarding Recommendation 2? Or point 2 in page number 1?

>> ARGENTINA: Thank you, Chairman. We were referring in this case to the non-modification of Resolution 86. In this regard we would like to make a comment.

(Pause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Argentina. Could you hold your comments for the moment? So we will go through the whole recommendation. If on one of the recommendations does not cover your comments, the point on Resolution 86, you can raise that point at the end of this presentation of this report. Would that be fine? Okay, thank you. Thank you for your understanding. Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Chairman. Good morning, everyone. I am going to talk firstly about the first recommendation, Recommendation Number 1. So Recommendation 1, 1. In the second line, we are talking about a no amendment to any individual provision. In the Arabic text we have no need to add in these words. In fact, this is the only pertains to the Arabic version.

In the Arabic text, we would like to talk about no amendment to any particular provision. This will be in the Arabic text.

We would like the Arabic version to read as follows: No amendments to any particular provision to the Constitution or the Convention. What we should put in is "all" instead of "some" in the Arabic version. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Saudi Arabia. The language will be aligned, through the Editorial Committee. Thank you.

Any other comments regarding Recommendation 1?

Thank you. Then Recommendation 1 is approved.

Now I will give the floor again back to Dr. Riehl. Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The second recommendation refers to space protocol and the recommendation is that Committee 5 recommends that Council continue to monitor any further developments on this matter, and that the Secretariat continue to express interest in ITU becoming the Supervisory Authority and respond to any questions raised by the Member States between now and the next Plenipotentiary Conference.

This is before you for approval.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The floor is open for comments on Recommendation 2. Any comments?

Thank you. It is approved.

Now, I would like to call upon the Chairman of committee 4 again to present Recommendation 3. Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Recommendation 3 refers to public access to documents and it reads as follows: Committee 5 recommends to provide public access to all input and output documents of all conferences and Assemblies of the Union starting from the beginning of the year 2015 unless where disclosure would cause potential harm to a legitimate private or public interest that outweighs the benefits of accessibility.

To instruct the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources to continue to review Document Access Policy in ITU to determine the extent to which documentation should be made publicly accessible and to prepare a draft Document Access Policy for submission to Council.

Consider the necessity to establish a dedicated group for that purpose.

Third, to instruct the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources to transmit the proposed access policy to Council for its consideration and provisional approval and its implementation as appropriate.

Four, to instruct and authorize Council to consider the report of the Council Working Group and as appropriate approve and implement the policy on an interim basis.

Five, to instruct the Council to submit the policy to 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference for final decision.

And I have something to add, Chairman, because Committee 5 has indicated that paragraph 1 of this document applies only to the documents and co-documents of final, that are final and not study groups. This is what I submit to you for approval.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. As the Chairman of Committee 4 mentioned, when you look at the bottom of the box for Recommendation 3, they clarified that the point 1 of the recommendation only covers input and output of conferences and Assemblies of the Union and does not cover the documents of study groups.

The floor is open on comments regarding access to documentation. Any comments?

Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning to you and to everybody. We are grateful to the Chairman of Committee 5 clarifying that the input and output document just for Assemblies and not for Study Groups and any other groups under that. That is a good clarification. Just a small clarification additional. This paragraph second line says "unless where disclosure would cause potential harm to legitimate," and so on and so forth. Who decides on that? Who decides whether a document would cause any harm to these as indicated here? We believe that this is the notifying administration.

So we suggest that we mention here "as indicated by the submitting Member States." It is the Member States who decide what documents should and should not be, but not any other authorities. Because the document is the authority of the submitting administration, and that right should be kept for that administration.

So simply add "as indicated by the submitting Member States."

Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Iran. Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: (No English interpretation.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Sorry. There is no English interpretation. So interpreters, could you check the English channel? There is no English interpretation.

Is it working now?

>> INTERPRETER: The channel is now working. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Could you repeat, Saudi Arabia? Could you repeat your statement again, please?

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to support the proposal made by the Distinguished Delegate of Iran concerning the third line of paragraph 1 of the recommendation. Now, concerning paragraphs 2 and 3, I would like to make a comment.

Conference of the Plenipotentiary Conference is providing documents to Council, and the Council then refers to the Working Group which is created by Council.

And for this reason, I was expecting Council to ask the Working Group to fulfill the work requested, because we are speaking about Council. And the Council should request the Council Working Group to do such-and-such. It is the same formula used then in the third paragraph.

But there should be no direct communication between the Plenipotentiary Conference and the Council Working Group. So it has to be addressed through the Council, for the Council to remit to Council Working Group.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Saudi Arabia. Lebanon, you have the floor.

>> LEBANON: So I return then to Recommendation 3. Paragraph 1, and specifically this refers to the input and output documents of all conferences and Assemblies of the Union. Would these documents then be subject to a decision about whether they should be published and distributed or not? Obviously if they have been approved at the Conferences and Assemblies, I think that all of the countries who participated already and we should simply put final stop after 2015 without "unless where disclosure would cause potential harm," et cetera. Because from the moment they are approved at a public Conference or Assembly, they are public documents and that's it.

Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Lebanon. Sweden, you have the floor.

>> SWEDEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good morning. First of all, I would like to note that our understanding is that Recommendation 3 is a compromise achieved in Committee 5 and a special group dealing with the documentation. We would definitely not support reopening this issue again.

Our initial proposal was to open up all documents in the Union. However, as part of the compromise we accepted that at this time we only deal with the input and output documents to Conferences and Assemblies.

Having said that, we cannot support the proposal from Iran to introduce a veto from Member States to certain documents. This was not part of the compromise and I think it is not appropriate to reopen the debate on this issue.

This may be an issue that could be discussed in the Council Working Group on the financial and human resources when they consider the document policy from the Union, but it is nothing we can support now and we will probably not support it in the work of the Council Working Group when it is discussed there.

Having said that, I fully understand the proposal from Saudi Arabia to amend to change number 2 and 3 that don't change the substance. It is more a thing of organizational issue and how we instruct the Council and the Council Working Group.

So that doesn't change the substance. So that may be possible to discuss. But coming back to number 1 we cannot support the proposal to add additional text to Recommendation 3, issue one, limiting the openness of input and output documents. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Sweden. Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. The will reason we raised the question is the structure of the sentence. The sentence said that "where disclosure would cause potential interference." We just ask, who decides whether or not this disclosure causes interference? Or causes harm? That is the question. We are not objecting to any opening documents output and input. Delegate of Lebanon is right, output document, there is no other action. Output is approved. The only thing, for input. We have no problem if you delete the sentence after "unless where necessary." Put full stop after" "2015." But to close where disclosure requires that who decides on that?

That is the question we raised. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Iran. Russia, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As said by the Distinguished Delegate of Sweden, this paragraph reflected in Recommendation 3 is already a compromise text. Therefore, it is something that is equally negative for each one of the two sides, which is why we suggest that this paragraph be retained as it is with no changes at all. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Russia. So before giving the floor to the Chairman of Committee 5 to address the issues raised by Member States, so Iran proposed that regarding the Recommendation 3, number 1, we should decide who will make a call about when disclosure would cause potential harm to legitimate private or public interests. And there were opinions from Sweden and Russia that this is a compromise text, so they would not want to open discussion at this stage again on this recommendation.

Saudi Arabia raised concerns on this Recommendation Number 2 and 3 because the Plenipotentiary just makes instruction to Council Working Group, not going through the Council itself. There must be some kind of structural problem here, so that should be addressed in 2 and 3. That was supported by Sweden.

And Lebanon actually also raised the point on this.

Sorry, I could not read my note. They want to stop after year 2015 in Recommendation 3, 1.

Now I would like to invite the Chairman of Committee 5 to address this issue. Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Chairman. Yes, this is the result of compromise, Recommendation 3, 1. As usually occurs in compromises, it is not a perfect text. Therefore, I do suggest that we simply do not touch it unless we want to run the risk of having very extensive discussions.

Now, concerning the text and adapting it, we should accept what was said by Saudi Arabia, to instruct Council, to instruct the Council Working Group. This would be at the beginning of both paragraphs 2 and 3. To instruct the Council Working Group, which is not very attractive linguistically, but effective. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Riehl. So let me summarize this. So regarding the point raised by Saudi Arabia, we just adopt or include that revision into this Recommendation 3. So Recommendation 3, Number 2 and Number 3 will begin: "To instruct the Council to instruct the Council Working Group."

Yes, this is a little bit awkward. I think somebody can massage this text. But the spirit is something like that.

So 2 and 3 would reflect the kind of points raised by Saudi Arabia.

Regarding this point number 1, actually there are different views on this issue. I think the reason that Mr. Riehl actually liked one paragraph under the Recommendation 3 box is to address some of the concerns raised by the parties during the discussion. So when you look at this paragraph, it says that this above-mentioned recommendation only covers input and output documents of conferences and Assemblies.

We have another issue point raised by Iran on this matter. I think we could discuss this matter in the Council. So Iran, if you could indulge me, I would like to propose to keep this text, Recommendation 3, as is. Then the issue which was raised by our esteemed colleague from Iran would be discussed in the Council meeting.

Would that be acceptable? Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Certainly it would be acceptable if we decide properly that the decision on disclosure is something under the authority and sovereignty of the submitting administration, we would have no problem if we discuss at the Council and take it as it is.

With respect to the massaging of paragraphs 2 and 3, it would be simple to say that to "instruct Council Working Group to the Council, not having two times instruct, instruct. It is whether to instruct Council Working Group to the Council. You put that to respect the hierarchy.

And we have no problem with your proposal with the understanding that the authority deciding on the issue is the submitting administration. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Iran.

So the text will be, regarding points 2 and 3, as proposed by our colleague from Iran: To instruct the Council Working Group through the Council."

Would that be fine, Saudi Arabia? Okay, thank you.

Lebanon, you have the floor.

>> LEBANON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. After the comments of the distinguished Delegations of Sweden and Russia, these are issues of the fifth Committee, but the Plenary reigns above all. And obviously the Plenary is the one where, it is a place where countries can express individual opinions concerning what has been done in the Committees.

And the work of the Committees is obviously very good and to be honored. But we are the ones here who make the decision. And, therefore, if I go back to paragraph 1, it says to provide public access to all input and output documents. Documents, work documents that have been distributed into the boxes of each one of the Delegates, so the Delegates can work. And these documents have been put online on the ITU website and have been made available to the diverse Delegations and conferences before they have come to the conference. And those are the input documents. Then the output documents are the final documents and this is for all conferences, all Conferences and Assemblies. I want to stress this repeatedly. This from the beginning of the year 2015, save for the case when disclosure would cause potential harm.

What are we speaking about here? Disclosure? If a country or a Delegate provides a copy to somebody else, is this disclosure? if the ITU puts something online or gives a copy at the request of the state or if the ITU, as I said, puts it online, is that the disclosure? What is disclosure?

Frankly, personally, and I don't understand what disclosure means here. So it has to be clearly defined. Would cause potential harm? What are we speaking about when we speak about potential harm? To the Union itself? To a state or all the states? To an administration? What public interest are we harming here? We have to define whose interest?

And what is potential harm? Frankly, these terms are unclear. They have to be defined. And given the situation today with Internet, with the freedom, with the accessibility to all information, when our Union says there are certain working documents, input and output, that should not be disclosed? Can we not put them online after having discussed them, dealt with them, commented on them?

I think there is a lack of coherence. Therefore, if we cannot change this compromise that was achieved in Committee 5, then perhaps what we should do is eliminate it entirely. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Lebanon. Actually, you're right. The Plenary is the supreme organ. So if the Plenary decides something that overrides all decisions of Committees. There is no doubt about that.

But to this point, because this decision, we made a decision on this PP14 to open all input and output documents in the last week's meeting. This decision actually expands the horizon, opening up the documents to all conferences.

Actually, conferences and Assemblies of the Union. So this itself has some meaning. It is not inconsistent with the kind of current practice, because this is a kind of expanding new horizons to the upcoming Assemblies and conferences. That is my understanding.

I would like to invite the Chairman of Committee 5 to address these points raised by our esteemed colleague from Lebanon. Before giving the floor to the Chairman of Committee 5, I would give the floor to a few Member States.

Sweden, you have the floor.

>> SWEDEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we indicated, we accepted the compromise achieved in Committee 5. However, as stated by the previous Delegate, there is a problem with the last part of the sentence. We agree. From the Swedish and European view we propose to open up all documents to the Union unless there were certain conditions where you could keep the documents secret.

However, that was not the case for input documents to conferences and Assemblies. That was mainly related to other documents. We fully agree with the previous speaker that for conferences and Assemblies of the Union we don't see any risk that the document will cause potential harm to legitimate private or public interests.

From our point of view, regarding issue number one here, the last part of the sentence or the paragraph is really a nonissue. So if the meeting so agrees, we are prepared to accept the proposal to put the full stop after "2015" in this case.

But as we said from the beginning we are prepared to accept the compromise. If the meeting accepts to delete the last part, then we are fully prepared to accept that. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Sweden. But as you rightly pointed out, when we accept this point 1, this is a kind of compromise text. I believe that this issue was discussed in length in Committee 5, and Committee 5 actually came up with this compromise text. And there are different views on this matter in this conference room. We just reopen the discussion on this matter again, then I don't know where it goes.

So please, please, we already accepted the reasonable point made by Saudi Arabia. If we will stick on this Recommendation 3 for the whole morning, then we will be in trouble. This will open other recommendations, and we will go back to the Resolutions again. That is not the purpose or aim of any Delegation here. So please bear with me on this matter. There are many countries actually asked for the floor. Let me ask you again: If you could bear with me, please withdraw your request to the floor so we can go forward on other recommendations and we can cover other important policy matters.

South Africa, you have the floor.

>> SOUTH AFRICA: Thank you, Chairperson. With respect to the last person you made for withdrawing, but I am calling for consistency. We need to be very consistent. We ask Iran that they can ask whatever they make to the Council Working Group, let's do so with other parties. We cannot choose our way out. So let's keep the compromises exactly the way they are and continue so we don't have to cope with the others. I agree with you, let's be careful in terms of favoring others, leaving others out, which will just create trouble for all of us.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, South Africa. I will keep that in mind. I did not intend to favor anybody. Keep that fiscal year. Philippines, you have the floor.

>> PHILIPPINES: Thank you, Chair. There is indeed a concern, a legitimate question on the phrase "unless" after item 1 of Recommendation 3.

But precisely because the Plenipot does not have the time to flesh out the details on this. Certainly, some other bodies need to flesh this. The issue in this case is not the power of the Plenipot or the supremacy of anybody other than the Plenipot. The Plenipot represents all the members of the Union. It is the supreme authority in this Union.

But the mere fact that the Plenipot Delegates its power to Council for the Council to flesh out the details of this "unless" for the Council to arrive at the solution on how to implement this, that that does not detract from the supreme power of the Plenipot over the Council.

Precisely, the Plenipot by delegating its power to Council asserts its authority. The delegation of the power of the Plenipot to the Council is not an abdication of the power of the Plenipot. Neither is it recognition that the Council is supreme over the Plenipot. The delegation simply says that the Plenary power, the supreme power resides with the Plenipot. That is why because it is the Plenipot, the Council can exercise only those powers as are delegated to it by the Plenipot.

Either forego by the suggestion of the Chairman that we refer this to the Council by appropriate delegation of power from the Plenipot. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Philippines. Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. We are fully at your disposal. We want to collaborate with you. However, on the request or not request, the suggestion of our distinguished Secretary-General, all input and output of this Plenary, of this conference, the supreme conference of the ITU was made available without any conditions.

Why not to put the full stop after 2015 and not continue discussing this very delicate issue at the Council? If the people have difficulty with that, we are at your disposal to put the sentence as it is, but asking Council to clarify who is the deciding authority for this disclosure.

But the simplest way, Chairman, perhaps you may ask whether colleagues agree to put a full stop after "2015" which creates no problem, input, output of the Assemblies conferences. Both proposals, Mr. Chairman, are acceptable and it is at your discretion to propose any of the two as you wish. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Iran. UAE, you have the floor.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning to everybody. We are at your disposal. And we are all willing to adopt the text proposed with the amendments as indicated for sections 2 and 3.

And this was proposed by the Distinguished Delegate of Saudi Arabia. Everybody has accepted those changes for 2 and 3.

However, concerning paragraph 1, there are difficulties concerning putting a full stop after 2015. Because there was a consensus for this sentence in the small group.

The Arab Group did not want to permit the distribution about the documents of conference and Assemblies and the Plenipotentiary. But with that added sentence, we accepted it. So we propose that this text be adopted as is in this paper. We cannot accept eliminating what comes after "2015." Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, UAE.

Brazil, you have the floor.

>> BRAZIL: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Brazil also favors the amendments coming from Saudi Arabia. But we think also just like you that we should keep the text as it is. Further details, any other concerns regarding this text must be dealt with within the Council Working Group of Financial and Human Resources and after to the Plenary of the Council, not here in this Plenary.

Mr. Chairman, we plead to our colleague now that we should defer this considerations that are really important and must be dealt, but in the Council. And the Council Working Group, not here in the Plenary. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Thank you, Brazil.

Lebanon, you have the floor.

>> LEBANON: Thank you, Chairman. I do not wish to take up too much of the time of the Plenipotentiary at this point, but I think this is an important point.

The availability of documents in certain associations and institutes and so on. No leader of public freedom in all countries should have access to all these documents.

It is an essential issue for this Plenipotentiary Conference and essential result for the next four years. It's a key issue. This is why we are insisting on returning to this particular point.

We are open to any spirit of conciliation and compromise, but we should not have a compromise which has certain regrettable results in the future. On points two and three we agree with Saudi Arabia's proposal and all those countries which supported it.

As regards 1, I think if there is a compromise to be made, if we do not manage to put in a full stop following "2015" we should follow this with "unless the Council decides upon disclosure."

So "unless the Council decides upon disclosure." if that is not the case, sir, I would suggest something else that we add into this recommendation a footnote in which some countries may state their reservation and Lebanon will be the first country to do so.

Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Lebanon. Yes, I think you made your point very clear and your voice is well heard and your point is well taken by the whole Union.

I think your last suggestion could be, I think, the one I think we should pursue at this moment. Thank you for your comments.

Now, U.S., you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. As you know, we proposed to this conference to open all documents and we were part of this compromise. We can certainly support the proposal to end Recommendation 1 at "2015" because doing that would mean that we would simply adopt the same practice that we adopted here at this Plenipotentiary Conference. That all input and output documents would be available to the general public. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, United States. I just want to give the floor to Mr. Riehl, but before giving the floor to Mr. Riehl, let me summarize this.

So there are views that we should make it clear that we delegate the power to the Council to make a decision on this matter, and add something, or full stop at the year 2015. That would just follow the same kind of practice we established here in the Plenipotentiary. And there are views, they have some problem with that. That's the reason they compromise with this text by adding the last part.

There are many different views here. I think this kind of discussion was already occurred in the Committee level. And Committee actually came up with this compromise text as a part of recommendation to the Plenary. So please, consider this situation. I do know that if we think certain things are better than the other thing, we should follow that. We also need to understand that we have different views on certain matters. That's the reason we actually charge the concept of compromise. I do not want to put a vote on anything because we have not done any vote on this Plenipotentiary Conference. I think that's a great achievement. I don't want to put any kind of taint on this great achievement we have achieved so far.

Having said that I would like to give the floor to Mr. Riehl. Mr. Riehl, you have the floor Switzerland.

Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Chairman. I think that it is not up to the Chair of Committee 5 to take this decision. As I have understood it from my colleagues, there are also opinions expressed in Committee 5 and in the Working Group. The fact is that for this PP14, we accepted and various Delegations have talked about this. We accepted unrestricted access to documents as we also did with WICT. And I think that is an achievement.

Now, I know that compromise is often not ideal, compromises. But I do feel it is difficult to overturn this compromise. What I would suggest is that we leave the text as it stands and we leave it up to the Council, the Council Working Group to find a solution to what is suggested in this recommendation.

It is not the best solution we could find, but I think that it is the best solution given what we have heard and given the fact that we had a difficult compromise in Committee 5. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Switzerland. I think Lebanon made a very good suggestion, actually. Because Lebanon proposed to stick to the compromise, but provide written statements that will be put into the summary record of this conference.

I think that would be the solution for this matter. I will close the list of speakers on this matter. And after listening to Qatar and Lebanon, I will propose my compromise proposal on this matter. Qatar, you have the floor.

>> QATAR: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. And good morning to you all. Everybody is aware that we do not have much time and there are many topics to handle.

Therefore, as you have said, the Working Group has worked hard in order to reach a consensus regarding this complicated matter.

And hence, we agree with what you have said, Mr. Chairperson, with regards to putting an end to this discussion. And we support what was said by the UAE and Saudi Arabia and also the last intervention by the Chairperson of the Committee to leave this to the Council.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Qatar. Lebanon, you have the floor.

>> LEBANON: Thank you, Chairman. Chairman, I listened with interest to the intervention of the Chair of Committee 5. He was talking about a compromise, but my attention was drawn when he said that he thought it would be difficult to return to this compromise.

Sir, the structure of the work of the Plenipotentiary is that the topics of the conference are distributed out to Committees. If a Committee achieves a compromise, that is a good thing. But there are various levels of compromise. There is a compromise at the level of each Committee, but there is also compromise on the level of the Plenipotentiary itself.

Of the Plenary Session.

A compromise may have been reached in Committee 5, but it does remain at that level. What I'm talking about now is a compromise at the level of the Plenary. And the compromise within the Plenary is at a higher level than that of Committee 5.

What I am saying is that there are various different levels of compromise. I think it's an essential point to make. I think that this conference which we are having at the moment, which is in this country of freedom, accessibility, intelligence will, I think it is a shame that we can achieve a compromise within a Committee which restricts accessibility within the Union. This is a Union which in its essence is open. The documents of our discussions, of our Working Groups, of our conferences being restricted access, is that what this is to be?

Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Lebanon. I think we share the same kind of idea, the same kind of view on this matter. Even though the compromise was made in the Working Group level and the Committee level, if there is a kind of general consensus in the Plenary, the Plenary could make a change on the matter which was decided in the Committee level and Working Group level.

And if we can feel the general consensus on this matter in this conference, I think we should do that.

But given that this is, I do agree that this is a very important matter. That's the reason we made the decision to open all input and output documents of this Plenipotentiary Conference to the public. After making that decision, we had gone through a series of discussions on this matter, how to decide general access to policy, access to document policies of Union in the Committee 5.

We heard from many different countries, and they have different views. What I'm saying is not just blocking the discussion on this matter to set a higher level of compromise. What I'm saying is practically, if you do not have some kind of unanimous consensus on this matter in this conference, actually most of the members in this room, in this Plenary conference were in the Committee 5 discussions when we discussed this matter.

What I am proposing -- actually, this was your proposal. Actually, that was really appreciated from my side. So at this point my proposal is we just stick with the recommendation made by the Committee 5 with the modification to reflect the changes, the point raised by Saudi Arabia, which was said before on point number 2 and point number 3. And if countries would like to submit their statement, please do so. Then we will include that in the summary record. That is my proposal.

Would that be acceptable to the Plenary?

Thank you. Thank you very much.

So Recommendation 3 is approved with those modifications. Thank you very much.

Switzerland?

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Now I give the floor back to Dr. Riehl to introduce Recommendation 4. Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Chairman. So we had stopped at Recommendation 2 on space assets. Committee 5 recommended that the -- we continue to monitor other things in this matter.

Sorry, sir, I fell behind. We are in fact further on. We are actually on Recommendation 4.

We should not go backwards.

I do beg your pardon, sir.

So Recommendation 4 is pertaining to the French version of Article 36 and 38 of the ITU Convention.

The Committee 5 recommends to the Plenary that it be clarified in the French version. In the French version of the ITU version, the word "taxes" should have the meaning of the word "tarif." This concerns the French version.

So I submit this recommendation for your consideration, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. Riehl. The floor is open for comments on Recommendation 4. Any comments?

It is approved. Thank you.

Now, I will give the floor back to you, Dr. Riehl. Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Chairman. We are moving now to Recommendation 5. This is the next point of the report. It refers to Resolution 119. Committee 5 decided not to modify Resolution 119 on methods to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the radio regulations board. However, Committee 5 does recommend firstly concerning the proposal to document the process for reconsideration of a previous RRB decision, Committee 5 recommends that the Plenary Meeting include the following text in its minutes.

Following discussions about a possible modification of Resolution 119 to include a request to the radio regulations board and to the world Radiocommunication conference 2015 to consider the conditions for a reconsideration of a previous RRB decision, it was noted that the WRC or RRB are the appropriate bodies to decide on such conditions on the basis of proposals from administrations.

That's the first part. It is complicated as sentences go, but it was difficult to make it more simple given the subject matter.

Secondly, concerning the proposal regarding the prevention of conflicts of interest, Committee 5 recommends the Plenary to take a decision to require each RRB member to sign the following declaration at the time of taking office. This is point 2 under Recommendation 5.

Sir, I will not read out the entire text, which is in Document 161, so as to save time. With that, I would submit a Recommendation 5 to the Plenary for consideration. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. Riehl. Recommendation 5 is open for your comments. Any comments? Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I have a question regarding this text under paragraph 1. Do we understand that both bodies, that is to say the and the RRB are complementary in this contest? Because the word "all" might make us understand either or these two bodies. Maybe, at least in the Arabic version we can say that it was noted that WRC or the RRB are the appropriate bodies to decide on such decisions. Therefore, I think we should replace "all" by the word "and" to include at least in the Arabic version of this text. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. This is appropriate. We will align the Arabic version with this text. Thank you.

Any other comments?

Thank you, Recommendation 5 is approved. I would like to call upon Dr. Riehl again to introduce Recommendation 6 Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Chairman. Recommendation 6 is a very specific problem. It relates to the Colombian administration and pertains to SATCOL. I am not going to read out the text because it is a specific issue. What was requested is that the satellite network should be addressed in a very specific way. It was recommended that the RRB should take appropriate action to facilitate the case by the WRC. I submit this recommendation to the Plenary. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ambassador Riehl. Recommendation 6 is open for comments. Any comments?

Thank you, it's approved.

Now I invite Ambassador Riehl again to read out Recommendation 7. Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Chairman. Turning to Recommendation 7, this refers to Resolution 22. Committee 5 decided not to modify Resolution 22, which is about apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunications services.

We are also proposing a recommendation. The relevant ITU-T Study Groups are invited to continue their work on network externalities for international Internet connections and on the development of appropriate costing methodologies for international Internet connections. That is the text of the recommendation that I am proposing. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you again. So Recommendation 7 is open for comments. Any comments on Recommendation 7?

Thank you. It is approved now I give the floor back to Dr. Riehl to introduce Recommendation 8. Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Chairman. Recommendation 8. This pertains to election procedures. It is desirable to improve the electoral process of the elected officials in the Union. In this regard, the Council should study the issue and recommend to Member States options for implementing new procedures to improve the electoral process of the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, and Directors of the Bureaux.

Due consideration should be given to several options, such as presentations, interactive sessions, live sessions, interviews, submission of questions, through webcasting and remote participation, as well as further enhancing the election portal on the ITU website. Council is invited to initiate these studies in its 2015 session in order to implement these possible improvements.

This is also a text which was subject to various discussions and is also subject to a compromise. Thank you, sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. Riehl. Now, Recommendation 8 is open for discussion. Any comments on Recommendation 8?

Brazil, you have the floor.

>> BRAZIL: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman I would wish to participate all colleagues who participated in the discussions of the Draft Resolution presented on the electoral procedures. Due to time constraints we had to work fast, and the results were appropriate for this conference.

I would also wish to thank the Delegates who expressed their views and apologize for lengthy procedures in conducting the discussions taking in regards to my colleagues, Mr. Arasteh from Iran and Mr. John Omo from Kenya. We look forward to the future discussions on this issue and that we can count on your wise and experienced views. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Brazil. Thank you for your participation in this specific matter. Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. In the Arabic version of Recommendation 8, it says to improve the process. Maybe in the Arabic language we can say the election procedures. Election procedures. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Saudi Arabia. The English version is electoral process, but we will align the language with the Arabic version. Thank you very much. Any other comments? Thank you. Recommendation 8 is approved.

Now I give the floor back to Dr. Riehl to finish his report to the presentation of this report to the Plenary. Dr. Riehl, Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Chairman. I would like to add that Committee 5 also considered other proposals, in particular regarding terminology. And following various exchanges of views, Committee 5 noted the importance of this issue of terminology as particulars the definitions of terms such as decision, recommendation.

So this was actually the subject of various discussions. Committee 5 encourages Member States to continue to examine this issue with a view to the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018.

The second point is that Committee 5 agreed not to provide a definition of the term ICT at this conference.

Finally, with regard to number 166 of the general rules of conferences, Assemblies and meetings of the Union, Committee agreed not to modify this figure at this conference, even if it does have some obsolete points in it.

Sir, I would like to conclude by warmly thanking all of my colleagues who took part in this work. My Vice Chairs, the Secretariat, the interpreters, and all of those who contributed to our excellent working spirit, cooperative, warm working environment.

This Committee 5 in Busan for me was most pleasant one to Chair, given the spirit in which we worked. Thank you, sir.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Chairman of Committee 5, Dr. Riehl. We really appreciate your hard work and your Vice Chairs and Chairs of Ad Hoc Groups and the Secretariat who are, who have been working closely with you. Again, congratulations on your excellent work. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: By the way, I promised to come back to Argentina to address the point Argentina raised regarding this Resolution 86. So I would like to give the floor to Argentina to address this issue. Argentina, you have the floor.

>> ARGENTINA: Thank you, Chairman. Thank you for recalling our intervention. In this regard, in the debates which the Committee had regarding Resolution 86, proposal, multi-country proposal was submitted from the Americas which is supported by Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay and others regarding a modification of Resolution 86.

We did not reach consensus within this session on modifying the Resolution. In this regard, it was agreed that the next WRC15 would be called upon to look at the modification of this Resolution 86, given the proposal which is submitted to this Plenipotentiary. This was the aim of our intervention.

We don't see this reflected in the report of this Committee, and of course we would like it to be included, to be reflected. Thank you, sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: Would it be fine that it will be included in the summary record of this conference? So what you just mentioned would be included in the summary record of this whole conference? Would that be fine?

Not in the report of this, this report, but in the summary record of the minutes of the conference. Would that be acceptable to Argentina?

Argentina, you have the floor.

>> ARGENTINA: Thank you, Chairman. The truth is that we wanted it to be in the summary records and we don't have a problem; we can accept the solution. But what I had mentioned at first is what was important. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Thank you.

Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning to everybody. Mr. Chairman, we had an observation concerning the report presented by the Chair of Committee 5. We wanted to thank him for his excellent work. The high quality of the report. And we had asked for the floor after having studied item 4 in the second paragraph where it says "other issues" regarding the definition of the term "ICT" at this conference. And in Committee 5 we had agreed to not provide a definition of the term "ICT" at this conference.

Based on this agreement we had decided to eliminate that paragraph in 140 that requested a definition of the term ICT. In the second paragraph of that report, it had been indicated that this issue would be studied during the next conference, during the next Plenipotentiary Conference, and during the Council meeting should it be necessary.

Now, given the results achieved in Committee 5 and after having eliminated that paragraph in Resolution 140, perhaps we can eliminate the last part of this sentence: And that the matter be addressed at the next Plenipotentiary Conference and if needed at Council," because it has been done.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And my apologies if I have asked for the floor to refer once again to the content of this report. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Saudi Arabia. Lebanon, you have the floor.

>> LEBANON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am insisting on the issue that I wanted to mention because I am convinced that this is correct and well founded. And the first, concerning the first paragraph of this proposed Resolution, thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Lebanon. Could you repeat part of that recommendation that you mentioned, actually? I didn't get it, sorry. Lebanon, you have the floor.

>> LEBANON: So I was referring to the publication of input and output documents. We speak about the first paragraph of this proposed Resolution. What is the conclusion of the exchange that we had? So it's concerning that first paragraph where we speak about the publication of final documents. What is the result of that discussion?

>> CHAIRMAN: The outcome of that discussion is we approved this Recommendation 3 with the modification proposed by the Saudi Arabia on point 2 and point 3 and all the different views on this Recommendation 3 will be noted in the summary record. So if you provide your statement, then we will put that in the summary record. That is the decision made on this Recommendation 3.

Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We had three points to make. First with respect to the proposal of the Distinguished Delegate of Saudi Arabia, on page 6 of the document in English, I hope all figures are the same. In the first line towards the end of the line "and that the matter to be addressed."

We understand that the proposal was to delete this portion. We support that, Chairman. This conference should not create any action for the next Plenipotentiary Conference. It is up to the membership, regional organization to submit proposals if they want to re-discuss it, they do it. But the first line is okay. We have a full stop after this conference. This is the first point.

The second point is with respect to the proposal of Argentina. We have no problem with the statement, but we don't want this Plenipotentiary asks WRC to review the Resolution 86. Mr. Chairman, Resolution 86 is Plenipotentiary Resolution. And WRC could not embark on any decision or discussion about that. However, there is another Resolution addressing similar topic and by coincidence that also Resolution 86 of WRC. And it is up to WRC based on proposal of membership to modify or not that Resolution. But we should be very clear there is no instruction from this Plenipotentiary Conference to review Resolution 86 of the Plenipotentiary Conference by the WRC because this is outside its mandate.

Third point, Mr. Chairman, with respect to the proposal of the Distinguished Colleague from RRC countries, the definition of Resolutions, recommends, the Chair of Committee 5 mentioned the proposal was complex. In fact we should say the issues raised in the proposal was complex. Not the proposal itself.

Having that condition, Mr. Chairman, we would not like that the status of the recommendation be in any way. Recommendations are optional and should continue to be optional. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Iran. U.S., you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We wish to support the wise proposal of the Distinguished Delegate from Saudi Arabia, that we end the sentence on page 6, first full paragraph, with a full stop after "at this conference."

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, United States. Russia, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chairman. I think that the text which we have at the moment on page 6 regarding definition of the term "ICT" does not reflect the agreement and the consensus which was agreed at Committee 5.

Of course, we are at the Plenary Meeting and they have the right, we have the right to review such decisions. I see that the majority of speakers who spoke to this point support this proposal, this sentence. I would actually like to leave the door open to future opportunities and say that this issue may be considered at the next Plenipotentiary Conference. So we can soften it. We are not excluding the possibility of addressing this issue at the next Plenipotentiary if in the period of preparing for this conference we have some kind of proposal. Of course, everything happens on the basis of proposals. If there's a proposal, then there will be a consideration of it. If there is not a proposal, there will not be a consideration of it.

We should leave the door open to this. So I would suggest that we take into account the compromise proposal, using the words "if any" or maybe." I submit this for your consideration. Thank you, sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Russia. Cameroon, you have the floor.

>> CAMEROON: Thank you, Chairman.

Good morning. In fact, I didn't want to speak about this issue, but about another one. It was concerning Recommendation 4. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Yes, please go ahead, Cameroon. You have the floor.

>> CAMEROON: Thank you, Chairman.

What I wanted to do is to speak about Recommendation 4, which concerns the definition in French of tarifs and taxes. And we would like to thank the conference for what has been expressed here. Obviously we are not going to be modifying anything, and we leave fully satisfied. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Cameroon. Sweden, you have the floor.

>> SWEDEN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Well, just a few remarks on this under discussion. There are several issues that we are discussing at the same time.

Regarding page 6, the reference to the term "ICT," we share the views expressed by some of the previous speakers that there should be a full stop after the word "conference" in the first line. We do not think it's appropriate to discuss now if something will be discussed or not at the future conference, since that will depend upon the input. There is nothing prohibiting the next conference to discuss it, but we are not going to give any instruction to the next conference that they also may discuss it. Even if there's nothing mentioned about the next conference, if there are inputs they of course will be taken on board into the discussions.

Regarding Resolution 86, we also share the views by Iran that we have to be careful which Resolution we request the WRC to review. The Resolution 86 from the Plenipot or from the WRC. I assume that the only Resolution that can be reviewed by the WRC is the Resolution from previous WRC.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Sweden. Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We consider that the general agreement to put a full stop after "this conference" on page 6, third line. Committee 5 agreed not to provide a definition for the term "ICT" at this conference, full stop.

The Distinguished Delegate of the Russian Federation proposed we add a sentence that this issue may be considered by the next Plenipotentiary Conference based on the proposal of Member States. Perhaps we don't need that. Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 is sovereign. In fact, it is not "may" will consider. If a party submit something, why we say it may not be considered? It is quite confident, perhaps that matter should be left as it is and say that in a minute that the Plenipotentiary Conference decide according to the proposal made by Member States, but not may consider or will consider or should consider. It is not any appropriateness to discuss that matter. Perhaps we should have a full stop and end that business and take the consensus reached at this meeting. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Iran.

Switzerland, you have the floor.

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Chairman. I hope it is the last time that I have to speak as Chair of Committee 5 in this meeting, because I really am going to be needing a coffee pretty soon. I am not the only one in this room, I think, that does.

Concerning the issue regarding definition of the term "ICT." At this conference we have decided to not provide a definition. What happens after that? Simply if a Delegation or Delegations want to make a proposal for the Plenipot in 2018, everybody is free to do that. Obviously it simply will depend on what situation there is at that time.

So I request that my statement be in the summary records of this Plenary so that it is clear to everybody we are not providing a definition of the term "ICT" at this conference. Any Delegation who may wish to do so can simply provide a definition to the 2018 Plenipot. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Switzerland. Argentina, you have the floor.

>> ARGENTINA: Thank you, Chairman. First of all, thank you to the Delegates of Iran and Sweden concerning Resolution 86. Obviously, we do know that this Resolution has to be dealt with specifically in the WRC. Now, what we should do is in this report of Committee 5 clearly indicate what has been stated regarding the subject with the issues that were contained therein. And then we would be at peace with this item and everybody would know what has been done concerning this issue. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Argentina. Russia, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chairman. We always stand ready to find compromises and not to make issues more complicated. So we are in agreement with what the Chair of Committee 5 said and also with our colleague from Argentina. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Lebanon, you have the floor.

>> LEBANON: Thank you, Chairman. I have comments concerning on page 6, regarding other issues. I would like to thank Frédéric Riehl for his comment. But I just had a coffee, so I can continue working.

Now, those who worked in Committee 5 are experts in the area of telecommunications. When it is said that ITU in its Plenary cannot provide a definition of the term "ICT" then what are we leaving to the students of engineering and other faculties in the world? We are saying that the ITU cannot provide a definition of the term "ICT"?

It has decided not to define it? It cannot define it? I would like to come back to this issue. Even in Korea, the country of smart telecom, we are saying now in a Plenipot that we cannot provide a definition of "ICT"? One of two things. Either we don't really know what the real definition could be or we are choosing to not provide it just now.

And I would suggest and propose to the Plenary that we simply eliminate this paragraph because it is not very elegant. In a final ITU document that is going to be in the hands of students, researchers, Professors, that we include a sentence indicating that ITU cannot provide a definition of the term "ICT."

With my apologies to Mr. Riehl I do suggest that we should simply eliminate this paragraph that states "committee 5 agreed not to provide a definition of ICT at this conference and that the matter be addressed at -- I suggest that we eliminate it entirely until the end, at the Council.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you Lebanon. Now I have Guyana and South Africa in my list, my speakers' list. I would like to close the list of speakers and I would like to propose something to you regarding this matter.

So the list of speakers is closed.

Guyana, you have the floor.

>> GUYANA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Unfortunately, we were not able to participate in the Committee discussions on this definition of the term "ICT," but I would like to seek some clarifications.

It seems as though the position taken to not define the term "ICT" was probably because there were many contributions and they could not have come to a compromise. But I would like to ask a question. Is the term "ICT" different from the acronym "ICT"? And I agree with our colleague that spoke before me just now that if we say to the world that we are not defining the term "ICT," then it might very well lead to some confusion.

When we speak about, I have seen in many documents when we say telecoms, we run a slash ICT. If we are using it almost in our daily lives and we are not defining it, we may be causing confusion to lots of people.

So first of all I would like to find out if the term "ICT" is different from the acronym "ICT" and the acronym ICT as far as I understand it means information and communications technologies. And having said that, if they mean one and the same, then we might be causing some amount of confusion when we use it and we are agreeing not to define it. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Guyana. South Africa, please.

>> SOUTH AFRICA: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson, thank you to all the speakers. We are just requesting for a break, also to request we should not convert the Plenary into an academic research or Study Group on these issues. They are really pertinent, important, but I believe that the debate we are having now, the analysis, the inputs we are now raising tend to reduce the Plenary into a Study Group. We would just request as to respect that, especially because you had closed the matter. You closed the report. The Chairperson closed the report on the proposals, but we seem to be we are making your work now difficult, asking all these questions and pecking you to reengage -- expecting you to reengage us on all these issues that you had closed.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, South Africa. Thank you for saying on my behalf, but I think the discussion on this matter clearly shows the importance of this matter. I think the Delegations already put forward this idea in the Committee 5 meeting and they already submitted their documents on this ICT definition matters. It shows how important this matter is.

But I think through long discussions on this matter, Committee 5 agreed not to provide a definition of the term "ICT" at this Congress.

The Distinguished Delegate from Lebanon asked us to strike out the whole thing because maybe it would give a negative impression to the world on the work of ITU.

In my view, what actually is written in the document actually shows the work they have done through Committee 5. They have done a lot of work on this definition of ICT, even though the conclusion is that they could not agree to provide the definition of the term "ICT." That's the reason I think it might be valid to have this simple sentence that we would not reach agreement on this definition of "ICT" in this report.

But I think it seems that there is a general consensus in the room that we will make a full stop after "at this conference" as proposed by Saudi Arabia and supported by many countries, Member States.

I would like to propose to revise this second paragraph of page 6 to make a full stop after "at this conference," and strike out the following part: And the part that would be deleted from the paragraph, and I think there are many Member States who have different ideas and thoughts on this matter.

So if you provide your statement, that will be recorded and included in the summary record and minutes of this Plenary Meeting.

Regarding the matter on Argentina, when this matter was first brought to our attention I already proposed to put Argentina's remarks on my summary record. So that will be on the record.

At the same time, the concerns raised by our Distinguished Colleagues on the relevance of this Article, that point was well taken.

With that, I think everybody wants coffee. Don't you? So I think with that -- Lebanon, you have the floor.

>> LEBANON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I return once again to this issue of the definition of the term ICT. In Document 161 that we are studying, we refer to this term. Page 1, page 2 mentions the term ICT.

In other documents of the conference we also refer to it. So if we now do not have a clear definition of the term "ICT" how can we use it in all those documents? What do we do with all those documents?

I come back to my proposal. In order to be coherent, either we say the conference was not able to reach a consensus concerning the definition of the term "ICT." Otherwise, all documents produced that have this term are essentially ambiguous. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Lebanon.

Thank you for your points. Actually, that point was also raised by many colleagues when we discussed this definition of the term "ICT," and that was in the report actually. But this report is the Chairman's report. The Chairman of Committee 5's report. This is not the kind of report which actually determines the definition of ICT. This is the Chairman's report which reports what has been discussed in the Committee 5. Nothing more than that. Nothing less than that. This is the report what was discussed in Committee 5.

I would like to propose once again that we will stop after -- I think this is actually endorsed by the Chairman of Committee 5. Regarding the term of "ICT." So we will stop after "at this conference" and strike out the following part. That's the proposal.

I think I just want to remind you once again this is not the place to discuss specific matters, policy matters. The discussion should be focused on the matter we discussed in Committee 5. If somebody has a problem with the -- the brain betrays me again at this time of the conference.

The point is, if you have a problem with the kind of text, if you feel that the text is not accurate related to what was discussed in Committee 5, you could raise the point. As far as the text is correct with what is discussed in the Committee 5, we should approve this document, the Chairman's report of Committee 5.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. I will take that as approval of this document. We will take 15-minute coffee break and come back at 11:45. Thank you very much.

(Coffee break.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Now, we will resume our Seventeenth Plenary Meeting.

The Agenda Item we will address is the proposed amendments to Resolution 99 and Resolution 125. These Document Number is DT/83. The revision of this document is part of the process. You can soon find this document on the Web, but we will put the document on the screen so you can see the document. When the Secretary-General will introduce these two Resolutions.

First of all, I would like to express my deep appreciation to the an ran countries including Palestine and Israel to demonstrate the high spirit of cooperation and compromise to reach a consensus on these two documents. These two documents we could reach consensus on these two documents as a package, as a package.

Let me once again give thanks to the Arabic countries including Palestine and Israel on this excellent compromise.

Now I would like to invite the Secretary-General to introduce Resolution 99. Secretary-General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is really the result of very, very good compromise from all parties and I would like to take the opportunity to really thank them for their cooperation. Through these two Resolutions, we will end this conference without a single vote, and with Resolution on Ukraine and, between Ukraine and Russia we were able, with a statement between Ukraine and Russia, we were able to bring this conference to a conclusion without a single voting.

This is true to the tradition of ITU. I would like to congratulate all parties for making their best efforts.

Let me now read Resolution 99. Resolution 99, Status of Palestine in ITU.

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014)

recalling

a) the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

b) Resolution 67/19 of the United Nations General Assembly, which decides to accord to

Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations and the Palestinian request dated 12 December 2012 to use the term “State of Palestine” following adoption of this UNGA Resolution;

bbis) that recognition of a State is a matter of national decision;

c) Resolutions 32 (Kyoto, 1994) and 125 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

d) Resolution 18 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference;

e) that Nos 6 and 7 of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution provide "to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants" and "to promote the use of telecommunication services with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations"

considering

a) that the basic instruments of the Union have as a purpose to strengthen peace and security in the world by means of international cooperation and better understanding among peoples;

b) that, to achieve the above purpose, ITU needs to have a universal character.

considering further

a) the outcomes of both the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society;

b) the participation of Palestine in the Regional Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva 2006), and the acceptance of Palestinian requirements in the digital broadcasting plan, subject to its notifying the ITU Secretary-General that it accepts the rights and commits to observe the obligations arising therefrom;

c) successive developments and changes in the information and communication technology sector under the responsibility of the Palestinian Authority, towards restructuring and liberalization of the sector and competition;

d) that the State of Palestine is a member of the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);

e) that many, but not all, ITU Member States recognize the State of Palestine.

bearing in mind

the basic principles in the preamble to the Constitution.

resolves

that pending any further change in the current status of the State of Palestine as observer in ITU the following shall apply:

1 the provisions of the Administrative Regulations, and related resolutions and recommendations, shall be applied to the Palestinian Authority in the same manner as they are applied to administrations as defined in No.1002 of the Constitution, and the General Secretariat and the three Bureaux shall act accordingly, in particular in relation to international access code, call signs, and the processing of frequency assignment notifications;

2 The delegation of the State of Palestine shall participate in all ITU conferences, assemblies and meetings, including treaty making conferences with the following additional rights:

the right to raise points of order;

the right to submit proposals, except proposals to amend the Constitution, the Convention and the General Rules of conferences, Assemblies and Meetings of the Union;

the right to participate in debates;

the right to be included on the list of speakers under any agenda item, subject to the provisions of the second indent above;

the right of reply;

the right to attend the heads of delegation meeting;

the right to request the verbatim insertion of any declaration made during the course of the debates;

the right to provide chairmen and vice-chairmen of technical meetings and groups, including study group meetings and sub-group meetings;

3 the Palestinian delegation shall be seated among the delegations of Member States in the French alphabetical order;

4 Palestinian operating agencies, scientific or industrial organizations and financial and development institutions dealing with telecommunication matters may apply directly to the Secretary-General to participate in the activities of the Union as Sector Members or Associates, and said requests will be duly acted upon

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to ensure the implementation of this resolution and all other resolutions adopted by. plenipotentiary conferences on Palestine, particularly decisions relating to international access code and processing of frequency assignment notifications, and to report periodically to the Council on progress in these matters;

2 to coordinate activities of the three Sectors of the Union in accordance with resolves above in order to ensure maximum effectiveness of actions taken by the Union in favour of the State of Palestine and to report progress in these matters to the next session of the Council and the next plenipotentiary conference.

Mr. Chairman, this is the full text of this Resolution agreed by all the parties that I present to you here, Mr. Chairman, for approval for this august Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary-General. Now, I would like to submit this Resolution 99 for your approval on your first reading as blue document.

Any comments? Approved.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Now, I would like to submit this document again for your second reading as pink document.

Any comments? Approved.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Before giving the floor again to the Secretary-General to introduce the Resolution 125, I would like to remind you that as we did yesterday, I will not open the floor for discussion on these two important Resolutions. We have made important consensus and compromise on these matters. Once again I congratulate all concerned parties. After his introduction and approval of this 125, we will take a lunch break.

I give the floor again to the Secretary-General. Secretary-General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Mr. Chairman, thank you very much. I would like to congratulate everyone here for approving these very important documents and this Resolution. I hope that the same will apply for the Resolution 125, which I shall be reading now.

They were negotiated as a package, so I hope that your approval for the second will also come, to ensure that really the words and commitments that each and every one of us who were involved during the negotiations will be kept as such.

So Resolution 125, Busan, 2014.

Assistance and Support to Palestine for rebuilding its telecommunication networks.

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Busan, 2014)

recalling

a) Resolutions 125 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), 125 (Rev. Antalya, 2006), 125 (Marrakesh, 2002) 99 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) and 32 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference;

b) Resolutions 18 (Rev. Dubai, 2014), 18 (Rev. Hyderabad, 2010), 18 (Rev. Doha, 2006), 18 (Rev. Istanbul, 2002) and 18 (Valletta, 1998) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC);

c) the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

d) Nos 6 and 7 of the ITU Constitution indicating among the purposes of the Union "to promote the extension of the benefits of the new telecommunication technologies to all the world's inhabitants" and "to promote the use of telecommunication services with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations";

e) the terms of Resolution 67/19 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), under which it was decided to accord to Palestine non-member observer State status in the United Nations;

f) UNGA Resolution 67/229, which recognizes the Palestinian people’s right to permanent sovereignty over their natural resources, specifically land, water, energy and other natural resources, in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem

g) Resolution 9 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) of WTDC, which recognizes that it is the sovereign right of every State to manage spectrum use within its territories.

considering

a) that the ITU Constitution and Convention are designed to strengthen peace and security in the world for the development of international cooperation and better understanding among the peoples concerned;

b) that ITU's policy of assistance to Palestine for the development of its telecommunication sector has been efficient but has not yet fulfilled its goals, due to the prevailing situation;

c) that, for Palestine to take an effective part in the new information society, it has to build its information society;

considering further

a) that the establishment of a reliable and modern telecommunication network is an essential part of economic and social development and is of the utmost importance to the future of the Palestinian people;

b) that the international community has an important role in assisting Palestine to develop a modern and reliable telecommunication network;

c) that Palestine at present does not have international telecommunication networks on account of difficulties for their establishment.

mindful

of the fundamental principles contained in the Preamble of the Constitution,

noting

the Telecommunication Development Bureau's (BDT) long-term technical assistance to Palestine for the development of its telecommunications in implementation of Resolution 32 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the urgent need for assistance to be provided in the various fields of communication and information

noting with grave concern

the restrictions and difficulties related to the current situation in Palestine that are preventing access to telecommunication/ ICT means, services and applications and which constitute a continuing obstacle to telecommunication/ICT development in Palestine,

resolves

1 that the plan of action initiated after the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto, 1994) within the framework of the activities of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector, with the specialized assistance of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector, shall be continued and enhanced in order to provide assistance and support to Palestine for rebuilding and developing its telecommunication infrastructure, re-establishing institutions in this sector, developing telecommunication legislation and a regulatory framework including a numbering plan, radio-frequency spectrum management, tariff and human resource development and all other forms of assistance;

2 to urgently enable, through assistance, Palestine, to obtain and manage the required radio spectrum to operate its telecommunication networks and wireless services in particular those related to the transition and migration to digital terrestrial television broadcasting in the frequency band 470-694 MHz and identify mechanisms for ensuring that Palestine can exploit the 694-862 MHz frequency band resulting from the digital transition for broadband mobile service uses and applications to be used at the end of the world radiocommunication conference 2015, taking into account the Interim agreement signed between the Parties; through full collaboration and support of the radiocommunications and the telecommunication development bureaux;

3 to instruct the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Director of the telecommunication Development Bureau to ensure that this resolution is implemented urges Member States to make every effort with a view to:

i) preserving the Palestinian telecommunication infrastructure;

ii) facilitating the establishment of Palestine's own international gateway networks, including satellite earth stations, submarine cables, optical fibres and microwave systems;

iii) providing all forms of assistance and support to Palestine, bilaterally or through executive measures taken by ITU, in rebuilding, restoring and developing the Palestinian telecommunication network;

iv) assisting Palestine in recovering its entitlements accruing from incoming and outgoing international traffic;

v) providing assistance to Palestine in support of the implementation of BDT projects, including human resources capacity building invites the Council to allocate the necessary funds within available resources for the implementation of this resolution

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

1 to continue and enhance the technical assistance provided to Palestine for the development of its telecommunications, taking into consideration the need to overcome the increasing and escalating difficulties encountered in the provision of this assistance during the previous cycle since 2002;

2 to take appropriate measures within the mandate of BDT aimed at facilitating the establishment of international access networks, including terrestrial and satellite stations submarine cables, optical fibre and microwave systems;

3 to implement e-health, e-education, e-government, spectrum planning and management and human resources development projects and all other forms of assistance,

instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

to ensure that ITUR continues the collaboration with ITUD in the implementation of this resolution

instructs the Secretary-General

1 to ensure that this resolution and all other resolutions adopted by the Plenipotentiary conference on Palestine, in particular in relation to the international access code and the processing of frequency assignment notifications, are implemented, and to submit periodic reports to the Council on progress on these questions;

2 to coordinate the activities carried out by the three ITU Sectors in accordance with resolves above, to ensure that the Union's action in favour of Palestine is as effective as possible, and to report on the matter to the Council and to the next plenipotentiary conference on the progress achieved on these issues;

3 to submit an annual report to the ITU Council on progress made in implementing this resolution.

Mr. Chairman, this is the end of Resolution 125 as agreed by all parties. And I hereby submit it to the approval of the Plenipotentiary Conference here in Busan. Thank you.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary-General. Now I submit this Resolution 125 for your approval on your first reading as blue document. Any comments? Approved.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Now, I submit this document Resolution 125 for your second reading as a pink document. Any comments?. Thank you, Resolution 125 is approved.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Once again, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Arab countries, in particular Palestine, Egypt and UAE, and Israel, and the United States on their support to make this compromise and this consensus document.

At the same time, I cannot prevent myself from saying thanks to the Secretary-General for his tireless effort to bring this consensus to this conference. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Having said that, I just want to remind you that you can already deposit your declarations in Room 22 and we will start our afternoon session promptly at 2:30 p.m., because we still have a number of issues to discuss. That will be Document Number 456.

The Secretary-General wants the floor. Mr. Secretary-General.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Mr. Chairman, I would also like to thank you personally for your support during this process, and take the opportunity to thank all the parties involved. And I have personally learned a lot in this process. You know, I gained a lot. Made many friends I hope in this process, and especially learned a lot from many people. I would like to really thank all of you who have been involved in it. The United States, Germany, with top diplomats who have really brought to light for me many things that I have not known before.

The United Arab Emirates, Egypt, for their tireless efforts. And, of course, I need to congratulate both the state of Palestine and the state of Israel for their willingness to work this out and come to a common agreement.

These two Resolutions are making ITU bigger than ever. And I take this as a personal gift to myself that you gave me here in assuring that my last Plenipotentiary Conference as Secretary-General is ending on this very happy note, that we are all going back home with. It is something that we will look back for many years and be proud.

You cannot imagine the joy that I feel deep inside, especially having had the trust of from all the parties. That makes me feel good because I know tensions are high in many places in the world. But having put your confidence in me, in my humble person and giving me this kind of opportunity fills me with joy.

Of course, this is the highest respect we could also give to our host country who has done marvelous things for this Union and has brought us together in a very, very pleasant atmosphere.

This has been a great conference. I mean, it is not time for saying many things yet. We still have time to conclude, but I can tell you that I will finish this conference a happy man. Don't ask me if I would really do this again because indeed it was not that easy, but indeed the result is simply pleasant.

I can assure all the parties that there is nothing between the lines here. I put my own credibility and the credibility of this Union that I represent on the table here, that there is nothing between the lines. I hope that the Union will continue to play its role of being the bridge among nations, among the people of this world. Together we are really making this world a better place.

I thank you very much. Thank you, thank you, and thank you again.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: We will meet again at 2:30. The meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much.

(The meeting of the Seventeenth Plenary concluded.)

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