FINAL TRANSCRIPT

FIFTH WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION/ICT POLICY FORUM

PLENARY AND WORKING GROUP 1

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>> MR. IVO IVANOVSKI (CHAIR): Welcome back, Ladies and Gentlemen. I hope you enjoyed your lunch. We will now continue with the comments on the Secretary General. I will first turn in to His Excellency Rowland Espinosa, Vice‑Minister of Telecommunications to Costa Rica. Please, just to remind that we have to finish this session by 3:30. We have 17 more ministers to speak, so, please, three minutes limit. As precise as this morning's ministers and colleagues were, hopefully we can be on time and move on with the next session at 3:30. So, Espinosa, you have the floor.

>> MR. ROWLAND ESPINOSA: Thank you, Chairman. And thank you, Mr. Undersecretary General, Mr. Tao, Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the government of Costa Rica, I would like to express our greetings from our country. It is an honor to participate in this forum. It demonstrates our will to contribute to an inclusive society, which will allow us to link information and knowledge to economic development.

This Forum is one of the most relevant spaces for thinking about public policy that our countries need to develop ICTs. The state is first and foremost a driver which allows us to create conducive conditions for this development without, of course, restricting ourselves to the issue of connectivity.

Two years ago, our country launched a Digital Social Agreement. This is a public policy instrument. Through this, the Costa Rican state hopes to continue to progress towards an Information Society grounded in broadband Internet. We hope to create a digital governance, as well.

It is in this spirit that we, a small country within the South American continent, we have wanted to propose the more effective governance through expanding the use of digital technologies in the relationship between the state and its citizenry. We want to roll out broadband to 100 percent of the state's schools. This is our ambition. And we want to be recognized as one of the best‑connected countries on the continent. This is a significant challenge that we hope to achieve on our continent.

Perhaps no other generation has seen more clearly the progress that has been made for our country. It is important to launch innovative programmes such as child online protection, the International Telecommunications Union is the sponsor of this programme. This is an important programme which allows us to implement policies to protect young people.

I would like to take this opportunity, Chairman, to invite all countries to participate in this, to send representatives to the Young World Youth Summit which will take place in San Jose, in Costa Rica, from the 9th to the 11th of September. This event will take place under the auspices of ITU. And so I invite all countries to participate in this forum.

Lastly, I would like to say that Costa Rica is convinced of the importance of new technologies, in particular the Internet, so that citizens can participate in an inclusive way in innovation in Costa Rica in an open and participatory process so that they can be consulted on the six Draft Opinions and the Annex to the Secretary-General's Report.

We believe that there is a lot of consistency between the Opinions and the status that we have achieved in our country. Costa Rica welcomes the efforts made by the Secretary General. We would like to thank him for this document and these Annexed Opinions. Costa Rica recalls the commitment of the President, and we want the Internet to be an achievable utopia. The Internet must be thought of as hope, a hope for an integrated world with many opportunities where every person has an opportunity.

Thank you very much.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr. Espinosa, and thank you for mentioning the child online protection. I do encourage everybody to look at that programme from ITU. It's a wonderful programme. And thank you for the progress that Costa Rica has made for the broadband development.

Next, we have miss Her Excellency Ms Yee Woan Tan from Singapore. Please.

>> MS YEE WOAN TAN: Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Singapore delegation, I would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Chair of the 2013 WPTF. I would also like to express our appreciation to Dr. Touré, Secretary-General of the ITU, and his staff for the excellent arrangements for this Policy Forum.

The WPTF is an important platform which serves to encourage and facilitate constructive exchange of views and information on many of today's pressing ICT issues. The theme of this year's Policy Forum, "International Internet‑Related Public Policy Matters" is especially timely and pertinent. In this regard, Singapore takes note with appreciation the Secretary General's report and its draft opinions. There have been discussions in Internet‑related policies in the run-up to, during and after the World Conference on Telecommunication in Dubai in December last year. In particular, there were concerns about the inclusion of resolution 3 which seeks to foster an enabling environment for the greater growth of the Internet.

As a signatory of the treaty, Singapore has also heard similar concerns from our industry. In Singapore, the reference to the Internet is practical and relevant in the present operating environment. Indeed the Internet infrastructure today is crucial to telecommunications whether national or international. It is a critical development in reshaping the traditional modes of international telecommunications and the services that are delivered. It would thus be unrealistic to totally exclude mention of the Internet from discussions at a technical Forum such as WCIT12. It is our view that resolution 3 does not purport a move away from the multi-stakeholder model. We believe that it serves to encourage all stakeholders to continue discussion and collaboration on Internet matters.

Mr. Chairman, Singapore welcomes draft opinion 5 contained in and Annex B of the Secretary General's report for WPTF 13. Given the breadth of Internet Governance and the expansive issues covered, Singapore believes that it is necessary to adopt a multi-stakeholder approach towards Internet Governance.

Internet Governance should be inclusive and responsive and should not be the sole domain of any stakeholder governments and nongovernmental entities included. Broadly speaking, the government's role in Internet Governance would be to implement policies that would ensure high availability access to a safe and secure Internet and to create a conducive and business‑friendly environment for service providers and operators to provide innovative services and infrastructure. To achieve this, Singapore is committed to a balanced set of principles to promote the use of the Internet. In particular, Singapore has taken an open and transparent approach to net neutrality, to allow consumers to make informed choices when subscribing to Internet access, and also provide operators with sufficient commercial flexibility to differentiate their services.

While the Internet has brought significant benefit to societies, it is clear that there are ongoing challenges which the international community should continue to work on such to bring about an Internet that would encourage greater innovation, secure use and inclusiveness. Singapore remains committed to working closely with the ITU, fellow Member States and the telecommunication and Internet industry to promote the development of the Internet. We look forward to fruitful and informative discussions over the next few days. Thank you.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much for the support.

Next, we have Ms. Linda Steneberg, head of delegation from the European Commission. You have the floor, please.

>> MS. LINDA STENEBERG: Thank you very much, Chair. Secretary General, deputy Secretary General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. I am delighted to be here this afternoon at the opening of this important event, and I'm honored to address you all.

The public awareness of Internet‑related policies is intensifying as we speak, and I'm sure that this Forum will prove to be another important chapter in the ongoing global debates. Indeed, the parallel event going on will also discuss many of the same issues. I trust that both these events therefore can contribute to develop an even better Internet for the future. On this pointy would like to express my gratitude to the Secretary General for setting up the multi-stakeholder experts group which has provided input to his report. The final results reflect perspectives from the public, from the private sectors as well as civil society that need to be taken into account if we are to achieve any true consensus.

Because it is only by preserving this multi-stakeholder approach that we can safeguard much of what is good about the Internet that we know today, its incredible diversity, the rapid rate at which it generates innovations and the value it brings both socially and economically to the communities around the world.

A lot of hard work from a wide range of international actors has contributed to this achievement. We should acknowledge the vital role played by institutions and organizations which have helped bring the benefits of the Internet to users everywhere. Many governments, too, have played a valuable role in facilitating the open environment that nurtures such innovation, protect Human Rights and supports the multi-stakeholder model of decision-making that underpins them. But this does not mean that all governments agree on the way forward. These meetings may be an opportunity for exchange of views of the kind of issues that are important and sensitive for governments.

I can be frank with you, the European Commission stands firmly behind the model where governments are not the only decision-makers, possibly not even the main ones. This does not mean, however, that we are happy to live with the division between governments at the global level on how the Internet's key decision-making functions should be executed.

So Vice President Nellie Kroes has announced her intention to bridge this divide and create an alliance of like‑minded states and other stakeholders that support the idea of a single, open and free Internet. And to achieve such a global cooperation, the European Commission understands how important it is that all countries deem they are in a position to participate and profit from the Internet's benefits.

We need 21st Century technology to properly address the governance of this 21st Century phenomena. To this end, we should all work to ensure that all stakeholders, including governments, can find their way through the multitude of events and mountains of papers that such distribute governance creates. The commission believes that the better resourced countries should offer a technical assistance vehicle to countries with few resources, a mechanism to digest the information and make it usable.

The European Commission is willing to play a very active role in achieving this objective, and we have actually made public our intentions yesterday together with a number of other partners.

So this week's Forum provides the useful opportunity to identify issues that could benefit from such support. This is the time to focus on issues we can agree and where we can work together to ensure the Internet continues to be open, free, and democratic, the way it was actually born to be. Let's start by insuring that the six opinions are adopted smoothly. I look forward to discussing with you on how we can succeed in bringing back consensus on the global Internet scene. Thank you very much for your attention. Thank You, Chair.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you.

Next we have representative from India, Deputy Director General, International Relations, Deputy Director‑General, Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Information Teletechnology, Mr. R.N. Jha.

>> MR. R.N. JHA: Thank you very much. From India, this report represented by counsel of technology. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I give the mic. Thank you very much.

>> MR. ANIL KAUSHAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the outset, my delegation would like to thank the Secretary General ITU for presenting an informative report for the fifth WPTF.

Telecommunication and ICT has emerged as the primary means for all around development of humanity. This is a significant technological innovation that have taken place at various levels over many decades. We wish to place a normal contribution of ITU which is the oldest international organization in the promotion and development of telecommunication and ICT. We believe that work on telecommunication Policy Forum has provided a good platform for deliberation of new ideas and reach a broad consensus on emerging area of common interests. This approach has enabled to take a stop of the current state of development, of relevant technologies and to add a new leaf in further advancement of telecommunication and ICT in the modern technological context.

Mr. Chairman, India is the world's largest democracy. That is important to telecommunication and ICT. I'm pleased to inform that in the major telecom policy which has been announced recently we have set an ambitious of getting 175 million dormant connections by 2017 and 600 million by 2020. Internet is available in nearly every country, and support application and services that touch on virtually all of human society. Information and communication infrastructure has become a critical resource for government, a vital part of national infrastructure, and a key driver for socioeconomic growth and development. Today the Internet is becoming one of the busy commodities of life and should be considered a global as well as national public good.

From the perspective or from the ITU Secretary-General’s report for the fifth World Telecommunication Policy Forum has captured the various Internet Governance and also serve a good reference point for further advancing our common endeavor to truly make Internet an effective tool for common good.

Mr. Chairman, India's report participation of all stakeholders in the global Internet Governance, in the respective roles and responsibilities as defined in the report of Working Group on Internet Governance. Sectors of governance such as standardization, high‑level policy formulation, and management of critical resources requires various level of expertise, and therefore stakeholders need to play specific role in accordance with their expertise, ability to and mandates. It is imperative to have necessary favor where stakeholders are enabled to partake their role in the sector of development and promotion of Internet in the large public interest. Draft opinion developed by multi-stakeholders informal groups during the preparatory programme basically complement their facts towards development and promotion of infrastructure and capacity building ‑‑ in the WSIS action lines. India supports the draft opinions as presented although draft opinions 4, 5, 6 should refer to all the 11 paragraphs Tunis Agenda.

In this regard, India has been on enhanced cooperation on various UN forums including UN General Assembly, commission on science and technology development, the Internet Governance Forum as well as many other Forums.

Mr. Chairman, with a growing importance of total dependence on Internet, it has become all the more necessary to take appropriate measures to ensure its safety, security and stability. While the Internet is fast becoming the socioeconomic backbone of the nation, the exponentially growing number of cyber-attacks is eroding the confidence and thus we will need to install in the users of the global network. We need to have a frank, open and thorough global discussion on how best to tackle the global menace of the cyber-attacks.

>> CHAIR: Reminder for your time, please.

>> INDIA: I understand ITU study groups are carrying out excellent job on formulating the standard leading to security.

Finally, we understand that Dr. Touré and Secretariat are working for the rules set for them by the membership. India applauds the Secretary General's efforts in opening the participation of all stakeholders in preparatory process which include both members and nonmembers. We also commend the Secretary General’s efforts to promote greater participation of all the stakeholders in the Policy Forum. India shows ITU its support and look forward to constructive collaborations during our colleagues during the coming three days. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. Thank you.

[Applause.]

Next we have head of the delegation from Canada, Ms. Pamela Miller. Please, you have the floor.

>> MS. PAMELA MILLER: Canada welcomes the opportunity to participate in this fifth Policy Forum and looks forward to engaging in discussions with colleagues on this important subject of Internet‑related public policy matters. Canada offered comments on the Secretary General's report to the Forum and participated in the informal Expert Group which provided us with the excellent opportunity to reach consensus on the six draft opinions which served as the key outputs from the Expert Group.

The consensus reached at the IEG is in part a result of its open nature and broad composition underscoring the importance of strengthening the current multi-stakeholder model of Internet Governance that has proven to be particularly effective in promoting competition, investment, private/public sector partnerships and technological innovation.

While we do understand and appreciate that there may be differences of opinion engendered by the theme of this year's Forum, we need to recognize the success attained by the IEG in reaching consensus on the six draft opinions submitted for our consideration.

It is also important to acknowledge that the essential purpose of a Policy Forum is to serve as a venue for exchanging views and information on policy and regulatory matters with no prescriptor of regulatory outcomes.

Taking these factors into account, the anticipated outcome, agreement by consensus on the six draft opinions, will serve to enrich the debate on the theme of the fifth Forum and provide valuable information for those not fully engaged in the subjects addressed by these opinions.

Moreover, the opinions, as drafted and approved by consensus, provide valuable insights and information on key topics. It is our view that the report of the Secretary General as well as a positive outcome of the strategic dialogue will provide all participants with greater understanding and appreciation of the issues associated with the theme of this year's Policy Forum. While we could propose certain improvements and refinements to the texts of the six draft opinions, we are prepared to support the consensus text developed by the IEG in the interest of achieving a successful outcome.

In closing, we would like to provide our full support to Chairman Ivanovski and the Working Group chairs and to reiterate our commitment to an outcome that can be supported by all. Thank you.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Ms. Miller. Thank you for the support.

Next we have the Chief Information Officer of Internet Society, Ms. Lynn St. Amour.

>> MS LYNN ST. AMOUR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Secretary General, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is a pleasure for the Internet Society to participate in the 2013 World Telecommunication ICT Policy Forum. The Internet Society is a global nonprofit organisation fully dedicated to the belief that the Internet is for everyone. This week we will all consider some of the most important issues facing the future of the Internet: How to expand access to the Internet, how to deploy critical new technologies such as IPv6 and essentially important to all of us: How to assure that all processes addressing Internet issues are inclusive of all stakeholders.

The challenges are great. While more than 2‑1/2 billion people have access to the Internet today, two‑thirds of the world has yet to come online. The pace of technological innovation is fast, and the results often so profound that there are understandable concerns. In the midst of all of this, policy-makers naturally wonder what their role is in the broader Internet ecosystem and how to make good public policy in the face of such rapid change.

There are many important and complex questions that demand the collective energy and expertise from all stakeholders to address fully. And there is much we could do together. Those who favor the existing model of multi-stakeholder development should redouble their efforts to understand the underlying concerns of governments. These governments are concerned about, inter alia, security, privacy, consumer protection. Governments have a stake in these areas. And as we have said previously need to be part of the multi-stakeholder discussions.

At the same time, policymakers and governments need to keep an open mind about the approach that so many advocate with respect to Internet development. It's true that this approach puts many key Internet‑related decisions in the hands of businesses, computer scientists, technical organizations and even end‑users with a different role for governments than perhaps they are used to. But the process does not reflect a lack of governance. On the contrary, it is the model of governance that has served the Internet, and individuals from across the world extraordinarily well, leading to innovations and infrastructure development that may not have come about at all with the top‑down model and certainly wouldn't have come as quickly. In the Internet Society's contribution to the WPTF, we highlight the internet model of multi-stakeholder engagement as the best way to ensure the stability, security and growth of the open global Internet. It is important to emphasize that we don't advocate for the multi-stakeholder model as an end in and of itself. Instead, we believe that an approach that fully includes all stakeholders is most likely to make progress solving the very complex problems facing us.

In fact, we can point to many examples from around the world where stakeholders have come together cooperatively to develop solutions or to create economic opportunities. Let's learn from these successes. They can clearly be applied to a range of international Internet public policy questions.

The Secretary General's report and the draft WPTF opinions provide important perspectives for the Forum to consider over the coming days, and we will offer specific contributions on the opinions in the Working Groups over the coming days.

In closing, we look forward to continuing the dialogue started many years ago. And as the Secretary General said, continue to build the bridges so that access really is everyone's future. Thank you.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you to ISOC for the support and absolutely the multistakeholderism is the future, and I assure you that we will continue in that direction and we will have a consensus at the end of the Policy Forum.

We have Director General from APNIC, Mr. Paul Wilson. Mr. Wilson, you have the floor.

>> MR. PAUL WILSON: Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, all.

I'm Paul Wilson, Director General of APNIC. I really do appreciate the chance to be here and share views with the participants of the WTPF and I thank the ITU for creating the opportunity.

APNIC is the regional registry for the Asia Pacific. We are the Asia Pacific Network Information Center. We're responsible for allocation and management of IPv4 and IPv6 addresses. In our case, in a very large region that accounts for half of the world's population. We're one of five similar organizations, though. And we share these important responsibilities globally in respective geographic regions as were counted by Fadi Chehadé this morning. Most 689 RIRs, by the way, are members of the ITU‑T and/or D sectors. And this year I happen to be serving as the Chair of the collective of the five RIRs which are the number of resource organization or the NRO which is also engaged in the ITU in a number of ways.

The Internet is growing faster in the Asia Pacific than in any other region of the world. We've got huge new markets that are still far from fully developed. And it was actually APNIC which first reached the end of our own available stock of IPD4 addresses back in 2011. We've been joined since then by the ripe NTC, the registry for Europe and the Middle East. That said, we actually still do have IPv4 addresses available from regional reserves that were set aside from a few years ago and these will be available in small rations for many years. And these provisions that have been made were the result of decisions that have been made by the regional respective RIR communities.

I'd like to explain this a little further, the way in which of the RIRs operates.

We allocate V4 and V6 addresses according to what we call open bottom‑up policy development processes and the policies that are developed through those. In this context, our policies are the technical rules and the procedures and which addresses are allocated or transferred or registered, certified, et cetera. But the rules that are directly determined by multi-stakeholder processes and rules that the RIRs must obey in doing our work. So essentially from the early work of the Internet that any interested party, business or technical society or public sector could participate in defining policies and procedures for IP addressing.

So, in this way, a truly multi-stakeholder approach is taken to the actual decision-making on real and current issues and in realtime. Decisions, for instance, on the management of IPv6 addresses, on the measures that we had in place for managing the exhaustion of IPv4. A specific example being the IPv4 rationing process that I've just mentioned. So it strikes me as very important that two of the six opinions proposed for this Forum are about IPv6. There seems to be no greater demonstration possible of the recognition and the facts of IPv6 as a critical factor in Global Telecommunications today.

The RIRs express this in the contribution to the Forum, contribution No. 8 which was submitted on behalf of ripe IPC on behalf of all of us. We welcome the spirit of these two opinions and we can support most of their text.

The Internet's transition to IPv6 is going to be a long process, but it's one that's underway right now. The main driver has to do with IPv4 address‑based exhaustion and will certainly soon run out of IPv4 addresses in all regions. These are the addresses needed for instruction development. Preparations for IPv6 deployment, therefore, are imperative. And we as a global community of Internet users, we do have a duty to make this happen. It was good to hear the sentiment expressed so clearly in some contributions today, including that of Saudi Arabia. In an information document to conclude, an information document I contributed to this Forum, document No. 12, I've listed a number of specific measures the governments and businesses can take. So I'd refer you to that and hope to be able to address them further tomorrow. I do hope that the final outcomes of this Forum concur with us in that we all need to work harder and together to generate the momentum that IPv6 needs for its success so once again I thank the ITU for creating this opportunity to include views from all stakeholders in this process, which does seem to be genuinely seen as a joint endeavor. We appreciate having been part of the informal Expert Group of the WTPF. We hope that the ITU will continue to make these proceedings even more inclusive so that all stakeholder voices can be heard in a real way in the spirit of the WSIS and Tunis Agenda. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Wilson. Thank you.

[Applause.]

Wonderful to hear that RIR's also on board with this.

Next we go with the Honorable Dr. Edward Omane Boamah, Minister of Communication of Ghana. Your Excellency.

>> MR. EDWARD OMANE BOAMAH: Your Excellency, Mr. Chairman, ministers, Distinguished Delegates, thank you for this opportunity. Many thanks also go to the ITU and the concerned agencies for providing this great opportunity to exchange views on important policy issues that respond to the ICT and telecommunication environment. I bring to this Forum the compliments of the Republic of Ghana who remain convinced that the enabling capabilities of information technology will provide humankind with a recipe for socioeconomic development and global peace.

We commend the ITU for helping to connect all the world's people wherever they live and whatever their means.

Mr. Chairman, since the release of the Milan report identification of the missing link, it is commendable that the ITU has committed itself to help bridge the widening divide. Telecom reforms and creation of enabling environment and are taken in Ghana during the mid-1990s have indeed yielded positive results and today we confidently report that Ghana's total mobile telephone subscription has reached 26.5 million for a population of 24.5 million.

Presently, Ghana is served with five submarine cables. Four days ago, the fifth one, that is the Africa coast to Europe submarine cable system was integrated in Accra, bringing on board additional 5.1 terabytes to increase the overall submarine cable capacity to 12.3 terabytes.

Complimenting this is a national terrestrial optic fiber network that has been built to cover all the districts and constituency areas of the country.

In June 2012, in fulfillment of ITU's connect Africa agenda, Ghana successfully connected its terrestrial optic fiber with those of neighboring sister countries of Burkina Faso and Togo. We also established a presence on the western boarder preparing to directly connect with Côte d'Ivoire in addition to the submarine link. The Ghana e-government platform project is upgrading existing wireless size to LTE, and this will involve 90 sites and to enable the deployment of ICT applications in education, health, commerce, government and other business opportunities.

With an investment in broadband, Internet use is growing steadily with increasing capacity for the deployment much fourth generation applications. In partnership with government community, government has supported development of critical infrastructure by arranging for the supply of three additional switches for Internet Exchange Points and the root main server.

Mr. Chairman, it is in this respect that the delegation of Ghana salutes the ITU for convening the WPTF 2013 to consider the draft opinions on how to advance the development of broadband and the Internet. Accordingly, Ghana supports the promotion of internet exchange points as a long term solution for advanced connectivity to fostering an enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity, capacity building for the deployment of IPv6, the adoption of IPv6 and transition from IPv4, multi-stakeholder-ism in Internet Governance and appreciating the enhanced cooperation process. Mr. Chairman, the delegation of Ghana is optimistic that the exchanges in this Forum will be guided by the need for inclusion and also taking into consideration the spectre of the digital divide that we wish to close. Thank you.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you, honorable Minister, thank you.

Next we have a representative from a cellular operation association of India, the associate Director General, Mr. Vikram Tiwathia. He was here. Do we have Mr. Vikram in the room? Going once? Going twice? Gone.

Next we would like to invite Mr. Kumar Singarajah, Director of Regulatory Affairs and Business Development of Avanti Communication Group.

>> MR. KUMAR SINGARAJAH: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We'd like to first thank the ITU Secretary-General, Dr. Touré, for the opportunity for the smaller sector members to participate as stakeholders in this WTPF.

Avanti Communications is a member of the global Vset Forum which is also sector member of the ITU and a member of the European satellite operators association.

We warmly welcome this telecom Policy Forum and its efforts to promote the global development of broadband services.

We positively support the development of draft opinion No. 2 on fostering an enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity.

I think it's well recognized including as pointed out by the speakers this morning that the vast majority of broadband services and Internet services being provided around the world are being provided by terrestrial fixed, that includes fiber, cable, ADSL, as well as terrestrial mobile networks 2G, 3G 4G and in future 5G. But we'd just like to softly mention that there are several global, regional and national satellite operators around the world who are already providing various forms of Internet access and broadband services and substantial investments continue to be made of high billions of dollars by satellite operators and their service providers in countries to enable broadband connectivity, in particular to help provide connectivity in underserved and unserved areas, recognizing that probably more than 50 percent of the world's population is outside that coverage.

So, we just make a plea that in the finalization of draft opinion No. 2, some reflexion is made on a technology‑neutral basis of the role of all network platforms in this regard. Thank you very much for your consideration.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. Thank you.

Next we have the head of the delegation of Korea, Miss Kyung‑hee Song of Korea.

>> MS. KYUNG‑HEE SONG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Republic of Korea welcomes the opportunity to participate in the fifth WPTF and appreciates the efforts made by the ITU in recent years to increase the cooperation among the major stakeholders in improving the global governance structure of the Internet. The Internet has become a critical infrastructure affecting all aspects of the national rights of the global society infrastructures. The Republic of Korea recognizes that the participation by major stakeholders is an important principle and our support for the multi-stakeholder cooperation model has been clearly expressed during the 2008 meeting.

We would like to commend and support the productive discussions by the Secretary General and the informal Expert Group in producing the six draft opinions to be discussed during this meeting and hope that the Member States will be able to arrive at general consensus on these very important issues.

The Internet is a space that has thrived on the global interoperability of voluntary cooperation among the stakeholders. The ever widening reach and the consequential increase in the importance of the Internet have made cooperation among the stakeholders even more crucial. In this respect, we believe that a global discussion on the multi-stakeholder model would enable a more robust, flexible and effective development of the Internet. This would be possible only when all the major stakeholders, including governments, are able to participate and contribute to the development of the Internet.

Historically, the degree of participation by the various stakeholders has changed in tandem to the changing characteristic of the Internet. Technology experts, civil society, privacy businesses and the government have held different roles in different times in the history of Internet development. We believe that this voluntary participation and cooperation has been instrumental in its development but also believe that encouraging complexity and importance of the Internet now merits more substantial cooperation and participation by the stakeholders.

We have the difficulty of reaching a global consensus on sensitive issues regarding the Internet Governance during WCIT. We are pleased to see that this Forum has taken some important steps toward a more global consensus. We believe that more work would be needed in the future to achieve global consensus on how the Internet issues develop and be governed. In this regard, we would like to direct your attention to the Asian-Pacific regional governance Forum and the Seoul conference on cyberspace being held in Seoul later this year. And the ITU plenipotentiary that will take place in Busan, Korea in 2014.

We look forward to the development of the future Internet based upon increased cooperation and participation. Thank you.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. Thank you for the support coming from the leader of the broadband in the world.

Next we'll have Mr. Eddy Padilla from Guatemala, Superintendent of the Communications.

Eddy?

>> MR. EDDY PADILLA: Secretary-General, Ladies and Gentlemen of the ITU, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. I should like to thank the ITU for helping Guatemala to participate in this Forum. It is an honour for us to be able to come and take stock of this sector in our country.

We think the development of telecommunications is the key to the development of our country. All the countries represented here have their own specific conditions. They have special ways of resolving their own problems. Guatemala has a law on telecommunications from 1996. But since then, many things have changed. And the telecommunication market has developed rapidly. We now have a much larger number of fixed lines. As for mobile, we've moved from some 60,000 to some 20 million in very few years. Moreover, communication has been greatly facilitated. There is more openness. And ICTs are more integrated, especially in urban areas. We are now launching new initiatives using technology. And through our regulations and policies to promote the development for the generations of the future. And this is a link. This is a new system. And it is also a challenge we must ensure broader coverage by broadband. And this is a priority domestically and at international level. We have to reach out to everybody to improve living standards, to provide better health services, to give better opportunities to boys and girls so that tomorrow they will have a better life.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. Next we have the head of the delegation from United Kingdom, Mr. Mark Carvell.

>> MR. MARK CARVELL: Yes, Thank You, Chair. Good afternoon, everybody. And I'm very grateful for in opportunity as head of the United Kingdom delegation to make a statement. And first of all let me add my note of congratulations to you, Minister, as the Chair of this important Forum. And we wish you well with the role you have to play this week. This very important role.

Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates, the WTPF 13 is an important global Forum for discussing and ex changing views on a range of important issues relating to Internet public policy. We appreciate very much the work by Secretary General Dr. Touré in preparing his report and also we commend the ITU Secretariat for convening this important Forum. We also welcome the diverse community much experts here to ensure that our discussions are fully informed. The Forum would not succeed without their contributions.

And I'm especially pleased to see high representation of ICANN including the CEO, the regional registries and other key bodies active in this area.

As Dr. Touré said this morning, we must ensure that all voices are heard.

I also want to commend the multi-stakeholder informal experts group for all its hard work in preparing the six nonbinding draft opinions which provide the basis for our discussions. We are extremely grateful to Petko Kantchev for chairing this group. We know that chairing the wide and diverse group is not always easy. Contributors do not always achieve their objectives, but it's a process of building on concensus and we really appreciate Petko's work in achieving that consensus. We believe that the opinions are coherent and well‑founded and supported by stakeholder communities in both developed and developing economies. The UK, therefore, fully supports the six draft opinions and hopes that the Forum, after due consideration, will proceed to endorse them.

The UK believes that the ITU has an important role to play in coordination with other international organizations which are active in managing and developing the Internet's infrastructure. Discussions this is week relating to fostering an enabling environment for greater broadband connectivity will underscore the ITU's pivotal role, firstly, facilitating development of the infrastructure that will ensure the benefits of the global information economy are fully realized by all states, and secondly, in fostering competitive, well-regulated telecommunications markets.

The Tunis Agenda for the world summit on Information Society makes clear, the development and expansion of the Internet is essentially market‑led and has been driven by both private and government initiatives. This is essential for ensuring the Internet remains a driver for economic growth and freedom of expression. Governments and intergovernmental organizations must come together with industry, the technical community, civil society and academia to ensure that the opportunities and challenges created by the global information economy are addressed in such a way that preserves the Internet's openness, dynamism and innovation that has created so many opportunities for us to distance worldwide. As the Secretary General’s report states, the multi-stakeholder model was recognized by the world summit as the model for Internet Governance. This paved the way for the establishment of the Internet Governance Forum, the IGF, which will be convened for the eighth time in Bali in October. The UK government fully supports the IGF and its progress in building on success and enhancing its impact on promoting and sharing best practices and technology solutions.

As the WSIS plus 10 view progresses, it's time to take stock of all these actions, activities, initiatives, cooperation, and collaboration and undertake some analysis of the overall direction.

The UK supports, therefore, the Working Group on enhanced cooperation, which the commission on science and technology for development, the CSTD, has established in order to undertake this vital group of mapping activities, analyzing areas of successful cooperation and determining if there are gaps in ensuring closer cooperation. The discussions here in Geneva this week therefore provide a valuable opportunity for governments, intergovernmental organizations and experts from the stakeholder communities to discuss these issues based on the vital preparatory consensus‑based work of the multi-stakeholder IEG. The United Kingdom delegation looks forward to participating and contributing to ideas based upon draft opinions. Thank you very much for your attention.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you to the union delegation for the time that you spent during the preparation period of the opinions and thank you for the support.

Next we have Mr. László, coordinator and head of security, policy department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs from Hungary.

>> MR LASZLO DEAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My delegation also appreciates the opportunity to discuss ICT policy issues at this world telecommunication Forum. We agree with you that these issues should be addressed in an open dialogue with open multi-stakeholder participation.

My delegation is of the view that the online environment is different from that in which the traditional telecommunications policy operates and has to be aware of this when looking for the appropriate forum to formulate recommendations and take decisions on the Internet Governance.

The positions of government on this issue are important, as are the views of all the other actors in a digital community. But in line with the WSIS principles, there are also others who have an important stake in Internet Governance and public policy. Their points of view must also be heard and should be taken into account in our deliberations. We appreciate the ITU's efforts towards moving toward enabling this at the WPTF.

We also thank the ITU Secretary General for his report and we are grateful for the draft options prepared by the informal experts group. Hungary values the consensus reached in the IEG and supports the adoption of the opinions which would be nonbinding. We would strongly not open up the text at this juncture.

We also appreciate that the Secretary General's report recognizes the role the Government Advisory Committee plays in ICANN structure. Hungary is in favor of broadening the exchanges between the GAC, the ICANN board and other members of the ICANN community, keeping in mind, though, GAC's main task, which is to provide advice on issues of public policy.

Hungary is strongly in favor of the multi-stakeholder model of governance of the Internet, which has so far proven to be an effective and efficient mechanism for the development of the Internet and its many positive contributions to innovation and economic growth.

We are further satisfied with the definition of Internet Governance as laid out in the Tunis Agenda, including the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder group in the process.

The CSTD Working Group on enhanced cooperation will begin its work later this month. The group received a clear mandate from the General Assembly of the UN, and we hope that it will be able to fulfill the mandate and come up with meaningful results.

We agree that the role of governments can be further strengthened in the framework of enhanced cooperation. There are a number of policy issues of common interest for governments that a cooperation is essential and can be further improved. Cybercrime is one such issue which Hungary sees as a challenge of fundamental importance for the whole of the international community. The appropriate venue to discuss this and other issues will, however, the CSTD Working Group, in our view. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much.

Next we go with representative Burundi, Minister of telecommunication, information, communication with the parliament. Her Excellency Nihazi. Burundi?

>> MS LEOCADIE NIHAZI: Thank you, Chairman. The delegation of Burundi has taken note of the report of the ITU Secretary General, and we would sincerely like to thank the Secretary General for his efforts made to organize this extremely important Forum for Internet Governance. We also welcome the draft opinions which are very useful and very important in innovating to strengthen our country's economic growth. I would like to take this opportunity that I have to describe the situation of ICTs in Burundi.

Burundi adopted a national policy for the development of information and communication technologies in 2011. This policy is based around 10 strategic pillars, including e‑government, e‑governance, Burundi online, rural connectivity and universal access as well as secure electronic transactions.

Regarding the establishment of an Internet exchange point, a team composed of Internet users and government officials have developed statutes so that first and foremost there is a legal and regulatory framework for this. The following phase is the establishment of this IAEX before the end of this year.

As for broadband, the fiber optic project, which will cover the entire country, is underway. The first phase will connect government institutions, universities, schools, hospitals and public and private institutions. The test of the fiber is set for June of this year. The construction of fiber optics for the second and third are underway. Given the importance of the Internet and the communication sector in Burundi, the African telecommunications union has assisted us in building the capacities of those active in the Internet sector.

We also welcome the assistance provided by ITU. The challenges in this field are significant since a majority of these activities require equally significant funding. The cooperation of all ITU members is therefore necessary.

Before I conclude, I would like to express my hope that the outcomes of this Forum will bear their fruits. Thank you.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Excellency.

Next we have His Excellency, Mr Mahjed – from the United Arab Emirates, Deputy Director of the Telecommunication Regulatory Authority.

>> MR. MAJED AL MESMAR: Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen. It's a great pleasure to attend the fifth world telecommunication Policy Forum which is being held alongside WSIS. The United Arab Emirate, appreciates the efforts of the Secretary General and the Secretariat preparing a thorough and well-deliberated report which encompasses the vital issues related to the theme of this WTPF, international Internet‑related public policy matters.

RCTs have become a critical resource for the global societies and have become a vital element for the economic growth and development. The opportunities and challenges brought by the ICTs and Internet require mutual collaboration and recognition. This sense of collaboration and recognition was evident as the WCIT 2012 in Dubai where almost entire membership recognized the promotion of a multi-stakeholder approach in dealing with telecommunications and ICT.

The UAE was among the first countries in the region which has invested extensively in the ICT. It is the belief of our government commitment to provide the best technical services in the country. And beyond that, we strongly believe that the time has now come to work toward future understanding that the economy is now very much dependent on the ICT.

Keeping up the pace, we in the United Arab Emirates are working extensively in order to further accelerate the broadband penetration and the e‑government initiatives. We are here today to exchange views and deliberate on many of the challenging issues. And we are grateful to the informal Expert Group, as well, for working hard in coming up with the six draft opinions. These opinions cover a wide range of Internet‑related global public policy issues of significant relevance. And we are very assured that they will set the right tone for the fruitful and productive discussions.

Mr. Chairman, I wish to conclude my remarks by once again express my profound gratitude to the ITU for organising this Forum and wish this Forum success in all its deliberations. Thank you.

[Applause.]

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Excellence, thank you.

Next we have the Minister of telecommunications from Lebanon, His Excellency, Nicholas Sehnaoui.

>> MR IMAD HOBALLAH: Thank you, Chairman. We would like to welcome you, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates. We would like to thank Dr. Touré and his colleagues as well as all of the ITU staff. In fact, we need to thank all of the Working Groups that led to the production of these opinions and recommendations. On behalf of Lebanon, we would like to underline the following. First of all, we are convinced, as a government people of the areas of fundamental freedoms as enshrinement in international law. And all of the official documents of the united nation toss. We believe that there needs to be freedom of information as well as insuring the confidentiality of personal data and to safeguard this we also believe in the rights of people to access all the data and information without any ambiguity or limits imposed by any country.

We also need to eliminate all forms of piracy, all criminal attacks.

We believe that diminished or reduced democracy is not possible since we need to guarantee the multi-stakeholder approach. We need to ensure that the needs of people are satisfied across the range. And this, through the Internet.

We also consider that the Internet and all stakeholders have every right to access without any discrimination and this has been established by organizations and companies in order to guarantee the expansion of the Internet.

Nevertheless, we need greater efforts to be made so that we can put an end to illiteracy as well as to poverty. There is a need to reduce the risks that could be posed in inter-generations. The Internet is more than a technological development or an influx of data and information. We must take into account its political elements and the aspirations of people and states so that the Internet is not a scourge but, rather, a windfall for human beings.

The general policies of states are necessary for the multiple stakeholders as well as for civil society members so that hand‑in‑hand we can achieve democracy and represent this democracy. Internet Governance is important, but the efforts being made are not yet at the necessary level. These efforts being made by states are not yet at the institutional level. There is a need to act rapidly to remedy this. We are attempting to perfect all of the objectives concerning Internet Governance, and this must take into account the relative approach which must be done with all the necessary support so as to be able to serve the decision-makers in a judicious fashion.

We are in favor of forming a joint Working Group involving all stakeholders so that the organization's decisions can be neutral and so that we can establish and implement policies which serve states, peoples, institutions and businesses, as well.

Thus, the digital divide will be reduced.

Thank you very much. The interpreters apologize, but the delegate from Lebanon was speaking too quickly.

>> CHAIR: We have exhausted the time for all the comments on the report. In case there are some members who would like to submit the report, please send in to Secretariat so they can be properly treated.

Next we go to the next item on the agenda. It is the organization and the work and time management. I would like to invite Secretary General to propose a structure, chairs and the Vice Chairs. Secretary-General?

>> DR. HAMADOUN TOURÉ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and good afternoon to you all. As you have seen in the programme which has been on the ITU website for almost a month now, we have proposed to have three Working Groups. Working Group 1 of the plenary which will cover the draft opinion as a long term solution to advance connectivity. Draft opinion 2 on fostering the enabling environment of broadband connectivity. The Working Group 1 for this group, I would propose Mr. Daniel Cavalcanti from Brazil as Chair. And Vice Chair, Miss Sally Wentworth, senior director of public policy, Internet Society.

The Working Group 2 of the plenary will cover the draft opinions 3 and 4. Draft opinion 3 on supporting capacity building for the deployment of IPv6. And draft opinion 4 on the support of IPv6 adoption and transition from IPv4.

For Working Group 2, I propose as Chair Mr. Musab Abdullah, Manager, strategy and PMO telecommunication literature Bali. And as Vice Chair, someone from the civil society, Mr. Genal Lindse Michel, General Coordinator, Cabda, Africa.

Working Group 3 will cover draft opinions 5 and 6. Draft opinion 5 on supporting multi-stakeholder in Internet Governance and draft opinion 6 on supporting operationalizing the enhanced cooperation process. I propose for this Working Group 3 as chair Mr. Petko Kantchev, advisor of ministry of transport, information and technology and communications of Bulgaria. Petko was already very ably chairing the IEG, and I'm very pretty sure he will do a good job. And as Vice Chair we are proposing Dr. Park Sun-he Korea, Department of Technology and society from Republic of Korea.

So, this is a proposal for the work. Conference. Of course, from now on, we will be in Working Groups in plenary sessions here, not parallel Working Groups as Doreen Bogdan has mentioned this morning. So, Mr. Chairman, this is my proposal of the three Working Groups.

The topics they will be covering and the names of chairs and Vice Chairs for approval of this plenary before we start. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you.

[Applause.]

I see no objection. So we should congratulate all the chairs and Vice Chairs.

In terms of our working methods for the Working Groups, we will proceed one by one. So that means the sooner the first one finishes with consensus, then the second one can start and the second finishes then we'll start with the first one. The Working Group 1 will meet from 4:15 to 5:30 today in this room. And tomorrow from 9:30 till 10:45. Working Group 2 will meet from 11:15 to 12:30 tomorrow and from 2:30:00 p.m. till 3:45:00 p.m. tomorrow. Working Group 3 will meet from 4:15 till 5:30 tomorrow and from 9:30 to 10:45 on Thursday morning.

Regarding the agenda for the Working Groups, the draft agenda for the Working Groups have available in the website in the documents ADM/6, 7 and 8.

Each of them includes an allocation of documents.

I recognize that we will have limited time in the Working Groups, as we need to turn the draft opinions around for Thursday's plenary. I count on good cooperation.

I would like to congratulate the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Working Groups.

Now we go for a coffee break. And then we get back at 4:15 starting with Working Group No. 1. Thank you, everybody.

[Applause.]

(coffee break held).

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>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Good afternoon. Please take your seats.

So welcome to Working Group 1. I wish to thank Dr. Brahima Sanou, director of the BDT. Thank you for joining us today. This Working Group will discuss draft opinion 1, promoting IXPs as a long term solution to advanced connectivity and draft opinion 2, fostering an enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity as well as related contributions. Do have the agenda? But just for your information, the agenda has already been accepted by the assembly and it is administrative document No. 7 currently in its revision 2.

The agenda document is available on the website and eventually will be up on the screen. Let's move forward. As many of you know these opinions were approved by consensus by the informal Expert Group of 180 experts and forwarded to be discussed here at the WPTF 13. All the contributions we have received are supportive of these draft opinions. A couple of modifications have, in fact, been suggested and we will see if there are consensus on these additional contributions. This is how I plan to conduct Working Group 1.

We will first focus on draft opinion 1, on promoting IXPs as a long term solution to advance connectivity. I will call upon all contributors to present their contributions to this opinion. Then we can discuss any suggested changes to see if there is agreement on a way forward.

In sequence, we will follow the same process for opinion 2, fostering and enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity.

So as you can see, we have two opinions to review in a very limited time. We just have an hour and 15 minutes today and the same tomorrow morning. So please I would ask you all respectfully to make your comments and interventions very brief. With this, let’s then move on to opinion 1. You are no doubt aware of the importance of Internet exchange points and facilitating the exchange of local Internet traffic with an aim of improving quality, increasing connectivity and reducing the cost of interconnections. This opinion aims to facilitate the use of IXPs and raise awareness of the importance of local, national and regional Internet Exchange Points among ITU membership. It also includes references to capacity building and raising awareness of the importance of IXPs. I will now call upon the following delegations that have contributions on opinion 1 to very briefly present them. I'll first nominate the contributors. First will be the United States with contribution document No. 6. Turkey, contribution No. 7; RIPE NCC, contribution document No. 8, ISOC contribution document No. 9 and Australia, contribution document No. 11.

Having said that, we will move to the presentation of the first document, United States.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you, very much, Mr. Chairman. And good afternoon, friends. With respect to opinion 1, the United States would just like to observe as we observed earlier this morning that opinion 1 is not perfect but we are willing to accept it as it came out of the informal experts group. We think that the opinion is complementary to our support for the creation of Internet Exchange Points at the national, regional and international level. We believe that IXPs can be valuable tools to lower connectivity costs, improve speed and encourage the development of local content. We also believe that IXPs are most effective in places that encourage marketplace competition, private investment and the free flow of information online.

Mr. Chairman, I think that we have two paths that we can take forward today. We can take time to try and make this opinion perfect and get the language correct, but I suspect we will have 100 different opinions on what "perfect" is. And, instead, I think as many of the speakers we heard earlier suggested, we should use our time profitably to discuss these opinions, to hear the questions of our colleagues, to hear the answers, and to learn how best to implement this opinion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, United States.

[Applause.]

Next, Turkey, contribution document No. 7. Turkey, you have the floor.

>> Turkey: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Now Turkey has already submitted this contribution and now the contribution is going to be introduced by the presence of the regulatory team.

>> Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We present our proposal on the draft as given below for consideration of Forum participants. Our general comments are as in the draft opinion addresses part are not clear enough to resolve some of the issues for better understanding. Turkey is of the view that in the draft opinions in the inviting parts, 11th part be addressed accordingly. Editorial check is required throughout the draft opinions, and paragraphs inviting relevant parties stakeholders should be numerated for better addressing the issues since in some of the draft opinion ballot is used while in some of them numbering is used. Proposal for each draft opinion are set forth below.

First, draft opinion 1 promoting Internet Exchange Points as a long term solution to advance connectivity, establishment of local, national and regional Internet Exchange Points is important for connectivity, especially for international Internet connectivity, Internet connect to network draw ISPs can be considered generally more effective and have economic efficiencies.

While it is important to promote and encourage the establishment of IXPs in a national level, Turkey is of the view that establishment of IXPs should rely on cooperation among relevant stakeholders. Therefore, we believe that for the emergence of strong and well-functioning IXPs, all the relevant stakeholders should come together and work in a cooperative manner. In that respect, Turkey welcomes affected here in this draft opinion in the next of the draft opinion our comments are as follows.

All those having IXPs is important for all countries, considering the needs of the development countries for affordable Internet connectivity, emergence of IXPs is more important for development countries. Therefore, Turkey proposes change in the text reflecting this idea. Also, Turkey considers that instead of permitting word, encouraging is more appropriate for the subsequent paragraph.

As a result, our process is following change accordingly. Member States and sector Member States to work in collaborate manner, two, dot, dot, dot. Enable the emergence of Internet Exchange Points especially in development countries, inter alia, the exchange of technical expertise and the fostering of supportive policy environments, throw open multi-stakeholder concentrations.

Promote public policies aimed at encouraging the local, regional and international Internet networks operator to interconnect through IXPs. In addition, Secretary General for their support in enabled emergence of IXPs. One, to include updates in the relative IT programmes for global knowledge sharing training and skill development on the emergence and development of IXPs. Second, to assist Member State and sector members in creating human capacity for effective management of operational and policy aspects of IXPs and, four, developing and enhanced local content.

Draft opinion 2, fostering and enabling.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: My apologies, Turkey. We will deal with opinion 2 after we finish opinion 1. So for the moment, thank you for your contribution relating to opinion 1.

>> TURKEY: Okay, thank you very much.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: So next RIPE NCC and the portion of contribution 8 that relates to opinion 1, ripe, you have the floor.

>> RIPE NCC: Thank you, Chairman, for the chance to expand a little on our submission regarding the promotion of Internet Exchange Points. The RIR strongly supports the opinion that Internet Exchange Points advance connectivity. While we do not advocate reopening the text of this opinion for further editing, we would like to highlight some key points, particularly in recognizing the important role that existing IXP community organizations play in fostering the development of IXPs via a bottom‑up multi-stakeholder process. This importance has been demonstrated in several independent, collaborative studies. For the information of delegates, I'd like to note some of the regional groups and organizations already playing an important role here, some of which include FIX, APIX, Euro IX and LACIX.

I would note that the language of our submission was developed with the active contribution and consultation of IXP operators, both individually and through these regional groups.

The function of IXPs is to function peering relationships between ISPs in an efficient manner at in a low cost. Regional and global peering Forums also exist which facilitate these interconnections, and we would also highlight the important work of bodies including the African Peering and Interconnection Forum, Apricot for Peering Forum in the Asian Pacific. Network Access Forums from Latin America. The NANOG Peering Track in North America and very recently the launch of the Middle East peering Forum. Thank you.

[Applause.]

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, RIPE. So, next would be the Internet Society with contribution No. 9 and again much, please, the portion of the document that relates to opinion No. 1. ISOC, you have the floor.

>> ISOC: Thank you, Chairman, ISOC is pleased to join in discussions with ITU members and other stakeholders here at the WTPF 2013 and welcome the opportunity to share our experiences that we have gained over the last 21 years with Internet Governance and Internet infrastructure development. The Internet Society supports the goals noted in opinion 1 related to promoting Internet Exchange Points as a long‑term solution to advanced connectivity and the role that bottom‑up multi-stakeholder collaboration has played in developing IXPs around the world. Like our colleague from RIPE NCC we would like to highlight others that have helped with the development of IXPs. For example, The African union, packet clearinghouse, the RIRs themselves, we work closely with them. Euro IX. Some of our local chapters at the Internet Society. We've seen firsthand the enormous benefits that bottom‑up multi-stakeholder collaboration facilitates, from technical training in El Salvador, to rejuvenating an IXP recently in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo. We'd also like to highlight, Chairman, that keeping local traffic local is one of the very important aspects of Internet exchange points as others have said, quality of service tends to go up. Content is developed as users become more reliant on the infrastructure that they can see but have more confidence in that infrastructure.

In 2012, Chairman, we published a report related to IXPs in Nigeria and Kenya. That report shows a causal nexus between Internet infrastructure development and IXPs and economic development. It underscores the fact that IXPs can be a fundamental element to enabling environment, but only if they emerge in a context of community support, competition, regulatory reform and multi-stakeholder action. Very simply, Chairman, IXPs are a critical part of the infrastructure but they are part of an ecosystem. We believe that the draft opinion 1 provides a basis for constructive dialogue. We support it. And we're committed to working with stakeholders here at the WTPF to progress work. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, ISOC. In sequence, well then go to contribution No. 11 from Australia. Again, please only the portion of the contribution document that relates to opinion 1. Australia, you have the floor.

>> AUSTRALIA: Thank you very much, Chair. And good afternoon to all colleagues. Australia recognizes the importance of promoting Internet Exchange Points, or IXPs, as a means of advancing connectivity. Significant progress was made in Australia in the past decade in terms of improving market conditions for our Internet service providers, or ISPs. A reduction in international Internet connectivity costs for Australian IXPs was due in part to an increase in the use of public peering points and IXPs by Australian operators.

Given our experience of the benefits that IXPs can create, Australia supports encouraging the enhancement of competition and investment in the market and creating the right conditions for IXPs to be created. With this in mind, Australia supports the draft opinion 1 by the WPTF. We would also like to associate with the comments of several previous speakers, including the U.S. A. and RIPE NCC in that we do not agree with reopening the text. Thank You, Chair.

[Applause.]

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Australia. So, as we see, of the five contributions, Turkey is the single one that is proposing changes to the text. And just to briefly go through, the changes proposed are in the "invites" section, bullets 2 and 3. So very briefly I'll read the proposed revised text.

Bullet 2 of the invites they propose enable the emergence of the Internet exchange points especially in developing countries through inter alia. And the rest of the text remains.

Then in bullet 3, promote, quote, public policy aimed at encouraging local, regional, international Internet interconnect through IXPs. They're proposing encouraging instead of permitting.

Let's go back. This is where they are proposing to modify existing text. And they propose additions. But let's look at this first set of proposed changes. Do you agree to these changes? I would open the floor for comments. Any requests for the floor? I see none. I will move on to the second portion. U.K.? U.K., then you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good afternoon to colleagues. The United Kingdom agrees with the views expressed by previous speakers that ideally it would be preferable not to reopen the general wording of this document. It has been discussed and considered in great detail by many experts and has achieved a high degree of consensus, the experts group achieved consensus within itself.

With that said, we note the intentions expressed by Turkey behind these proposed changes, and we sympathize with the intent that Turkey has been expressing.

So it does occur to us, however, that these changes may not be necessary in that they are already well acknowledged, the intentions behind them, within the existing text. I believe that the text throughout does note the importance for developing countries, and in particular in the "invites" regarding the second proposed changes, suggesting changing "permitting" to "encouraging" I draw attention to the fact that if first of the invites is expressed in very general terms, such as promoting the further development and expansion.

So, I would suggest to Turkey that maybe these changes might not be necessary to bring about the intentions that it has expressed it wants to achieve by them, so the existing language is okay.

That said, if it were really pressed and if colleagues thought that it was appropriate to open up the wording on just this one thing, we acknowledge and are sympathetic to the wish to have a very clear and explicit acknowledgment of the particular relevance of Internet Exchange Points in developing countries where Internet Exchange Points have so much to add. So while our preference would be to maintain the text unchanged, we could agree to adding the word "especially in developing countries" in the second invites.

Regarding the change to the word "permitting" to "encourages" we do believe that that would take away an important focus in that invite to focusing on the public policy aspects, namely, the regulatory environments which we have had reported to us and to our Expert Group in some cases inhibits the Internet Exchange Points by limiting participation therein. We believe that the generality of encouraging as suggest by Turkey is already fully covered by the first of the invites bullet points, and for that reason we would ask for Turkey to withdraw its second request and allow the word "permitting" to stand.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, United Kingdom. So next we have South Africa has requested the floor. South Africa, you have the floor.

>> SOUTH AFRICA: Thank You, Chairperson. We just simply wanted to say that we were supporting the improvements suggested by Turkey. I don't think I need to add to that.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, South Africa. Next, we have Iran. Iran, you have the floor.

>> IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. Good afternoon.

Chairman, first of all we are in WPTF. We do not prepare any treaty nor any recommendation nor any report. Simply we provide opinion. No doubt every of the six official languages of ITU are very rich. They are linguistics, stylistics and sometimes many other ways to improve the text.

What you have to do, these texts have been prepared within three working time of the meeting with participation of all parties. Unless there is a clear mistake or inconsistency or deficiency, perhaps, we have to retain the text; however, first of all, I would like to refer to the last statement by the United Kingdom, if I'm correct, he said that Turkey withdraw. I don't think that we could ask any contributor to withdraw its positions. We could agree or we could not agree. But the contribution is not withdrawn. Contribution is there and fully respected by Turkey. So we do not take the same path.

However, there is a difference between permitting and encouraging. So we have to examine the issue whether here we are talking of permitting or we are talking of encouraging. Within the context of this paragraph, the word "permitting" is more relevant than "encouraging." And we are going far beyond encouraging. We want to say permit is local, regional and international Internet network operators to interconnect. We want to permit them but not encourage them only.

However, if the whole house is in favor of this change, no problem. But I think if you open the debate on this, you may not get out of it because there are many, many ways to improve the text. We want to see the concept, the trust of the opinion is there. If the trust is there, perhaps we should retain the existing. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Iran, for that contribution.

Next, the United States. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you very much, Chairman. And we would like to thank Turkey for their contribution and for stimulating just this discussion.

I think that we have a number of experts here in the room who can help us all understand how IXPs are being developed in developing countries today, because that's where the need is most critical. And I think that would ‑‑ if we can hear some of those experiences, we may better be able to assess whether this change is indeed necessary.

As to the second change, I think I would support the comments from the UK and also Iran that fit, a change in the language just is not necessary. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, United States. Next, ASIET, you have the floor. Someone press the button in the position for ASIET. Is the floor still requested? Okay. Thank you. Thank you to all the contributions to the discussion.

I would refer back to Turkey and ask if given the considerations that have been presented here whether you would insist on the modifications you have proposed in these portions of the existing text or would you be willing to maintain the text that was previously approved at the informal experts group. Turkey, you have the floor.

>> Turkey: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Actually, as Turkey, this is ITU, there's a compromise tradition. And we will never offend that tradition. And if we have already essentially submitted our contribution and openly to discussion, and as far as I see, there is some criticism on our contribution, and many states are not in favor to accept that contribution in the text except UK accepted some modifications. The rest are not happy with the other modifications. So, at that point, I will, for if sake of compromise, we will not be insisting on our proposal. Thank you very much.

[Applause.]

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you very much, sir.

ISOC has requested the floor. ISOC, you have the floor.

>> ISOC: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We were going to ‑‑ I would like to thank the opportunity to thank Turkey for their consideration. We were going to express our opinion for especially in developing countries because we've seen that indeed even countries that are developed equally do need Internet Exchange Points, and some have actually been putting them in for the first time in the recent past. And with respect to the word "encouraging," we thought that "permitting" was more relevant in this particular case.

In view of the fact that these issues relating to policy with respect to the work that we're doing in Africa and other regions, we've seen that there's a role to be played with permitting the issue of interconnection of networks across borders and within the same country. So we thought it was more relevant than the word "encouraging." Thank you very much.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, ISOC. I would refer back to Turkey and just seek clarification. And we greatly appreciate your spirit of compromise and would just ask you whether what you have just mentioned refers to this portion or to the entire contribution to opinion 1? Please, if you could clarify.

>> Turkey: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Now, as far as I see, especially in our addition, especially in developing countries, it has been accepted by some Member States, but at the moment, ISOC says it's besides developing countries, the developed countries will also need such IXPs, so at the moment, if even if developed countries are going to need such IXP points and enabling the emergence of IXPs, then we will also ‑‑ we will not be also insisting on this point. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you very much.

[Applause.]

So I would ask the floor: Do we agree on approving opinion 1 within this Working Group with the current text?

[Applause.]

I'm very happy to announce that we have approved within Working Group and we're referring directly to the Chairman and to the plenary of WTPF our first opinion.

[Gavel.]

[Applause.]

Now, we move on to opinion 2. Opinion 2 is on the issue of broadband infrastructure development. This opinion focuses on encouraging the adoption of policies to promote competition and to stimulate investment in IP‑based networks.

The following delegations have contributions on opinion 2. They are the United States, contribution document No. 6, Turkey contribution document No. 7, RIPE NCC contribution number 8, ISOC contribution document No. 9, Australia, contribution document No. 11, Avanti Communications, contribution document No. 12, and the global Vsat Forum GVF contribution document No. 13.

Now, Avanti and GVS contribution appear to be very, very similar. So perhaps with your kind indulgence, we can treat them together. As a question, would Avanti present them both jointly? Avanti, could you comment, please?

>> AVANTI: Chairman, yes, we are happy to do so.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you very much. So we will now call on the delegations to briefly present their contributions. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And with respect to Opinion 2, like Opinion 1, the language is not perfect, but we accept the language that emerged from the informal experts' group. We applaud the efforts by Member States to foster an enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity. Expanding broadband facilities, innovation enhances healthcare delivery, improves education and public safety and lays a foundation for long‑term economic development in communities throughout the world.

We've heard a great deal about broadband development at the strategic dialogue. And I am looking forward to having a conversation today about how this opinion can help those efforts. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, United States.

Next is Turkey. Turkey, you have the floor.

>> TURKEY: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. For the draft Opinion 2, there is a broader range of services and applications. Broadband connectivity at affordable price is vital for all in reaching the Information Society. Therefore, in nation international programmes, we give priority to this issue. Within the national broadband development plans and strategy for the rural areas and for the areas in difficulties to reach, Turkey uses a mechanism of universal response for broadband connectivity. In that respect, Turkey welcomes this opinion and we have some comments on minor nature. So we're going to propose following changes in the draft opinion. So now I'm going to read it once more. We have only added one small word, the word "relevant" but let me read from the beginning.

Sector members and all interested stakeholders to continue to work as appropriate in the activities of ITU and in all relevant international, regional and international forums considering, blah, blah, blah. Thank you very much.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Turkey. It appears that the next would be ISOC rather than RIPE. I would seek clarification. RIPE, you do not have a specific contribution on Opinion 2, is that correct? RIPE? You have the floor.

>> RIPE: Thank You, Chair. We actually don't have any comment on this opinion.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you very much. So we will move on to ISOC. Contribution document No. 9, ISOC, you have the floor.

>> ISOC: Thank you, Chairman. And we will be brief. As in our contribution, the Internet has grown around the world due to certain legislative and regulatory mechanisms that emerge from multi-stakeholder engagement and that are supported in a productive and driving innovation and participation by the private sector, the technical community and civil society. Experience shows that governments who engage their stakeholders and draw upon a basis of community expertise are most effective in creating the environment in which Internet access flourishes. In this respect, ISOC is broadly supportive of the views expressed in draft opinion 2. We believe that the emphasis on competition, investment and regulatory transparency are extremely useful steps forward in this global dialogue that we're engaging in and how to enable the greater connectivity worldwide. We, like others, would suggest that the discussions at the IEG were robust and at oftentimes difficult and we would suggest that we can support this opinion as it is. Thank you, Chairman.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, ISOC.

So, next, Australia, contribution document No. 11. Australia, you have the floor.

>> >>Australia: Thank You, Chair. Australia supports enabling a legal and regulatory environment that fosters broadband connectivity including competition, private sector investment and technology neutrality. We also acknowledge that depending upon the situation, the broadband connectivity goals may best be pursued by government intervention in circumstances where the competition and the private sector do not produce the results that we all seek. For a number of reasons, including our geography, population spread, and the telecommunication incumbent dominant position, the Australian government embarked on the biggest telecommunication reform, the construction of the National Broadband Network. The NBN will give all Australians homes and businesses access to high-speed, affordable broadband through a mixture of three technology: fiber, fixed wireless, and wireless. It will create a fair infrastructure and greater retail competition and ensure that all Australians have access at broadband at competitive pricing with uniform wholesale pricing all across Australia. So we have a commitment to competition and clear legislative frameworks that will maximize the benefits of the digital economy for all Australians and consistent with this broad position, Chair, we support opinion 2 in its current form and once again would not advocate reopening the text. Thank You, Chair.

[Applause.]

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Australia. So next we have Avanti Communications on behalf of Avanti and GBF. Avanti, you have the floor.

>> AVANTI: Thank you for your indulgence. In this morning's statement, we provided some context for this this document, which is Document 12 and Document 13. Our plea was that in the interests of reflecting inter-draft opinion 2 which we all support, the notion of technology neutrality and the role of different terrestrial, fixed terrestrial, mobile and satellite systems can be appropriately reflected.

So with that in mind, and recognizing that I'm sure you'd like to progress quickly, I take you to the recognizing part of this draft opinion. There is a current recognizing 4, which reads "to establish universal service programme to support telecommunications infrastructure investment" we proposed to insert the words "technology neutral" before telecommunications infrastructure investment.

In the following recognizing, which starts with “encourage efficient and innovative,” et cetera, it, depending upon how you read, it sort of suggests that those practices are only available to the mobile broadband sector, and we would suggest to the Forum that those practices are available to different technologies, including fixed networks and satellite networks.

So it is with that intention in mind we've made the proposals which are in that particular recognizing 5.

We have made a further suggestion in a new recognizing 6, but I think in the interest of minimizing proposed changes and recognizing the comments made by earlier speakers and administrations in particular, we'd withdraw the proposal to add a new recognizing 6. I hope with that, this is sufficiently clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[Applause.]

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Avanti. So, we have heard that the USA, ISOC and Australia supported opinion 2 in the current form. Turkey proposes a very minor change in the invites Member States, sector members and all interested stakeholders to continue to work in appropriate activity of ITU and in all "relevant" international region and national Forums, et cetera, et cetera.

So I would ask the floor: Do you agree to this minor change? I would open the floor to comments. I have requests for the floor starting with ASIET, have you requested the floor? ASIET, you have the floor.

>> I will begin in Spanish, Mr. Chairman.

ASIET agrees with what is stated in this draft opinion. In other words, that we should have regulatory framework to facilitate competition. We think this is important to ensure broadband connectivity.

In Latin America, we think it's possible to bridge the digital divide if we work very hard and coordinate between the private and public sector. We have to continue along this path. And we have to remember the importance of public/private cooperation.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Iran has requested the floor. Iran, you have the floor.

>> IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. We limit ourself first to the modification proposed by Turkey. I think this modification is consistent with the text. Usually sector member, state member, stakeholder, all of them, they participate in relevant meetings. They do not participate in irrelevant meetings. It is embedded in the text. Nevertheless, It is a harmless addition and we would like to support that. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you very much, Iran.

Next, Senegal. Senegal, you have the floor. Senegal, you requested the floor? Yes, you have the floor.

>> SENEGAL: Chairman, on behalf of the delegation of Senegal, I should like to thank you for giving me the floor. Senegal is very honored that the ITU Secretary General has made it possible for us to participate in this important Forum on policies to accelerate improvements of ICTs worldwide. We congratulate the Secretary General on the efforts he has made in preparing for the Forum and organizing it. We also congratulate all those who made direct or indirect contributions to the preparation of this document.

In 2009 and 2011, ITU BDT organized two major symposia for regulators and very useful results were obtained in creating an enabling environment for broadband. These are consonant with the topics for this Forum.

This text before us doesn't emphasize the work done during these global symposia for regulators, so we would like to make a proposal to refer to the symposia for regulators organized by BDT and to recognize the important work organized by the regulators. Our proposal would be to add and noting, promoting an enabling environment for broadband connectivity, opinion 2, these two paragraphs: C) the guidelines of GSR11 on best practices on regulatory approaches to promote broadband development, encourage innovation and bring digital resources within the reach of all adopted the GSR 2011. And then subparagraph D) the guidelines of GSR2009 on best practices for innovative regulatory practices in a converging world in order to strengthen the basis of world Information Society adopted by the regulators at GSR 2009.

I would like to explain that the main purpose of this proposal is to refer to the important work done by regulators to promote an enabling environment for broadband through the GSR organized every year by BDT.

It should also be explained this proposal does not change the basic spirit of the opinion. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Senegal. What I will propose is we will briefly interrupt the discussion regarding the text proposed by Turkey, and so in sequence, I will grant the floor to others who have requested. But we will also try to seek agreement on the text that Senegal has proposed. But to avoid duplication, maybe we could close the issue on Turkey first. If you all agree, then we will move on to proposal from Senegal.

So, United States you have requested the floor. U.S., you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My request was actually with reference to the contribution from Avanti. Would you still like to deal with that one at this point?

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Well deal with that one separately, if you could just wait a second. So I would ask to all: Are there any further comments on the proposed text addition from the contribution of Turkey? If not, we will try to decide on that addition. Any of the current requests I have, I have U. K., Sweden and Ghana. Do they relate to the text proposed by Ghana? If not ‑‑ by Turkey, I'm sorry. UK, does your ‑‑ if it relates to the text proposed by Turkey, please go ahead. No? Sweden, does it relate to the text proposed by Turkey? Yes; if so, go ahead.

>> Sweden: Thank you, Chairman. We have listened with interest to the interventions. And we also heard statements that administrations, sector members and all stakeholders participate in the relevant meetings; they don't participate in irrelevant meetings. And taking that into account, we believe that it's not necessary to add the word "relevant" to this draft opinion. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you. UK? Next ‑‑ Sweden, I am sorry.

Next we have Ghana. Do your comments relate to text proposed by Turkey? If so, please go ahead. Ghana, you have the floor.

>> GHANA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the delegation of Ghana knows that a lot of effort has gone into the preparation of this text. Nonetheless, we wish to draw attention to a portion under the "recognizing," under C, summarizing a recommendation of the report back commission for digital development.

Mr. Chairman, the summary as provided is skewed toward the supply side. Indeed, we are therefore not ‑‑ the demand site of broadband policy is of much importance. So if you note in this, C Roman Numeral iii, where demand has been used, it was even used for the supply side. Mr. Chairman, we wish to propose for consideration that under IV, where we have stated establish investor service programme, if it will be appropriate, we insert "to spare up the month" and also support telecommunication infrastructure investment. We need to balance supply and demand aspects of broadband policy. Particularly in developing countries where the infrastructure could be there and the usage might not be in line or catch up as you said development. So even as we are encouraging investment, we must hammer on the demand side, thus this proposition.

So if I should state again, under IV, establish investor service programme to stir up demand and also support communication infrastructure investment.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Ghana. As you can see, there have been additional contributions. So what I will propose: We will first deal with the contribution from Turkey. I believe all have wished to express their views have done so. I will propose a way forward.

Then in sequence, we will analyze the contribution from Avanti, and then from Senegal and now from Ghana.

So on the issue of the contribution from Turkey, could I propose as a way forward that instead of modifying the existing text, we would include in the chairman's report of Working Group 1 a reference to the fact that "relevant" international, regional and national Forums would be the point of our focus in this opinion. Would that be acceptable?

So instead of inserting changes in the text, we would refer this clarification to the report of the Chairman of Working Group 1. Can we agree to this? Turkey, I would ask you first to comment on this, please.

>> TURKEY: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Actually, the change that we have proposed in that text was very minor one. We just wanted to add the word "relevant." And as far as I see from the floor, there is some support for that addition but there is other resistance to adding, to make any change to the existing text. So at the moment, if ‑‑ we wanted to add "relevant" to this text just to emphasize not all international, regional and national but relevant ones. Because I think in all international or national or regional forms not all are discussed but on the relevant ones they are discussed. So we just wanted to emphasize that issue.

So as I told you before, our change is really a minor one. So as you propose, if it is going to take place in the chairman's report, we will agree that. We will accept that. But I want to say something more. If even we had that change, nothing ‑‑ Sweden said it is unnecessary. But actually we wanted that issue to be emphasized. So I think emphasizing that in the chairman's report is going to satisfy us. Thank you very much.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you very, very much for that, Turkey.

Iran, you had requested the floor. Iran, you have the floor.

>> IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. I think there is no point that you just mentioned this single word "relevant" in your report. You may ask the assembly whether there is major objection to the proposal of Turkey; if not, accept it. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Suggestion accepted. We will try that. Is there any major objection to the inclusion of the word "relevant" in the existing text? If not, we could perhaps include it. But I would ask for us to just focus on this point. Can we agree to insert the word "relevant" in the existing text? If you agree, just remain as you are. If there is any objection, please request the floor. Any major objection to the introduction of this word? Thank you very much. I see no objection. And we will then add this word "relevant" to the first line of "invite Member States, sector members and all interested stakeholders." It will now read "to continue to work as appropriate in the activities of ITU and in all relevant international, regional and national Forums" et cetera, et cetera. So, thank you. And we will move on to the next point that has been raised by Avanti. They have proposed modifications to recognizing C items 4 and 5. In item 4, I will read the proposed new text. It says "establish universal service programme to support technology‑neutral telecommunication infrastructure investment." And in No. 5, it would read "encourage efficient and innovative delivery of terrestrial, fixed terrestrial and satellite broadband services for customers and consumers." And they have withdrawn what originally would be item No. 6.

So modifications to item No. 4 and 5 in recognizing C. So I would ask the floor: Do you have any comments, any views on these proposed additions? I see the Netherlands, Netherlands, you have the floor.

>> Netherlands: Thank You, Chair. We are discussing the part that starts with "recognizing." And in C, it makes a reference to the policy recommendations in the report of the broadband commission. So my question is: Are there wordings added to the text by Avanti, are those quotations from the report or not? If it is a quotation, then I think there is for us no ‑‑ we don't have a problem with accepting those words. If it's not a quotation, then probably it's not relevant to put them into the text. Thank you, Chairman.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Netherlands. What we can do as it appears that we will go on into our session of tomorrow morning, we will make sure that if these are eventually approved from an editorial point of view, they will reflect actual text from the report of the broadband commission.

At this point, I would like to ask the interpreters if they would give us 10 additional minutes in this afternoon's session?

>> INTERPRETER: Yes, sir. 10 additional minutes.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you very much for that. So our session, instead of finalizing at 5:30:00 p.m., we'll go on until 5:40 p.m.

Okay. Next we have the United Kingdom has requested the floor. UK, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chairman. Well, for reasons which have been explained by other delegations, the UK's preference is to keep the opinions as they are. However, we have reopened this text. We also have other proposals other than Avanti's to change the text.

Looking at the changes that Avanti have proposed, we fully support it. It does appear that the current wording does not recognize the contribution that satellites can make, and that is important.

Just one other item while we have the floor, just going right to the end of the document, we've got a request the Secretary General. I'm not sure that an opinion should request the Secretary General. I've looked at previous WTPF opinions, and they are all "invites the Secretary General." If we're going to change this text, the document as a whole, then we might just check that the correct wording, the correct protocol is to "invite the Secretary General" rather than "request him." Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, UK. Thank you for this contribution.

Next we have request for the floor from USA, United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to thank our colleague from Avanti for bringing this very important issue to our attention. We certainly understand the importance of satellites to broadband development. However, we'd like to associate with the comments from our colleague from the Netherlands. We read "recognizing C" as being quotes from the broadband commission report. So if this language on satellites comes from that report, then we don't have a problem with it; but if it does not, then we think that the opinion as written is intended to be technology‑neutral. And as we reviewed the draft again in preparation for this meeting, we think that the existing language is, in fact, technology‑neutral. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you very much, United States. Next we have a request for the floor from Germany. Germany, you have the floor.

>> Germany: Yes, thank you, Chairman. I think we go in the same direction as the Netherlands and the U.S. We would really request that the text from the broadband commission is cited correctly. And we tried to find this text and, frankly, we had problems to find the text in the broadband commission's recommendations. And the way it stands is a very general recommendation to have such kind of universal service programmes. Whether we doubt this is really an instrument that can be used for all countries, for all Member States, with considering the different situations they are in; and therefore without that language as it stands in the text, it really adequate for this citing of the broadband commission's report. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Germany. We have a request from Moldova for the floor. Moldova, you have the floor no? So we'll move on to Sweden. You had requested the floor? Sweden, you have the floor.

>> Sweden: Thank you, Chairman. Well we would just like to support the views expressed by the Netherlands and Germany. We believe that this text should be clearly identifiable in the broadband commission report, and we should not try to add additional text to the document.

We believe that the conclusions in the draft opinion was the compromise reached that the informal Expert Group and we should try also to use the text and lost as far as possible. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Sweden. So I have no requests for the floor at the moment.

Again, I would propose as a way forward ‑‑ and I would ask Avanti if they would agree ‑‑ that instead of modifications to the text, we would make a reference in the chairman's report to the actually quite interesting comments on the different platforms for the expansion of broadband. So instead of text in the opinion, we would just reflect these considerations in the chairman's report. And given especially these last few comments from the floor, if that would be an acceptable way forward?

Before going to Avanti, Iran has a request for the floor and then I would ask Avanti their opinion. Iran, you have the floor.

>> IRAN: This time we agree with you that it could be properly covered in the report as along the lines of the following. In discussing this item, it was understood that the broadband ‑‑ mobile broadband includes terrestrial and satellite and so on, so forth. So that is a very pertinent remark that you make in your report, and not changing the text of the opinion. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Iran.

So, Avanti, would that be an acceptable way forward?

>> AVANTI: We'd like to thank the other administrations that spoke. I think the way you proposed is an acceptable way forward. It's an appropriate way forward and I think we should try and finish the meeting as early as possible so we can enjoy the sunshine outside. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[Applause.]

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you for that, Avanti.

So we have two existing modifications to the text, one from Senegal and one from Ghana. And of course UK had pointed to the question of the invites, whether "request the Secretary General" would be better or rather the invite.

So may I suggest that we adjourn the meeting? And maybe we could continue tomorrow morning? Or shall we attempt these last 10 minutes? Okay. We will try it.

So Senegal has proposed additional text. I'm not sure whether all have captured the exact wording. Maybe Senegal could very briefly, very, very briefly just point to the additional text they are proposing. And then, in sequence, we'll try to see what our views on these additions and, finally, Ghana and the very minor issue of requests, whether invite the Secretary General. So, Senegal, please, would you mention briefly what are your proposed amendments to the text?

>> SENEGAL: Okay. Small c, under "noting," so we have "noting, small a, noting, small b. And we would add a small c and a small d. The small c would be on the GSR11 guidelines on good practices for a regulatory approach to promote the deployment of broadband, encourage innovation and technologies available to all which was adopted by the regulators during the symposium in 2011.

And then small d, the guidelines of the GSR9 on best practices for innovative approaches to regulation in a world faced with convergencies for a global Information Society adopted by the regulators during the world regulator symposium in 2009.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: These are basically additions to the notings, and they refer to guidelines from GSR11 and GSR09 regarding best practices.

Let me just get a sense of the floor. Who would like to comment on these suggested amendments? Any requests for the floor? Iran, you have the floor.

>> IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. You have two options to treat this suggestion. One option, to go to the detail of the proposal and discuss it and if people agree, include them. The other would be that in your report, you mention that in dealing with this opinion, under noting, the reference was made to the outcome of the best the practices of the GSR 9 and GSR11. Therefore account should be taken of these guidelines.

There are two ways to proceed that.

The second one is a little bit more practical and simple but doesn't lose the sight of the good proposal of Senegal, which is really appreciated by all of us, that the GSR made a lot of effort and they have guidelines and these guidelines need to be taken into account.

But in order not to go to the drafting of the opinion from the very beginning that may take longer time, perhaps if our distinguished colleague from Senegal could agree, you made reference to this in your report and the text could be prepared along the line of what I have suggested, no doubt in consultation with Distinguished Delegate of Senegal. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Iran, for the wisdom of your suggestion. And I would refer back to Senegal. Indeed, we would be willing to include in the report of the Chairman a specific reference to your concerns regarding best practices as recommended at the GSR. And we could further interact with you to adequately reflect the contribution you would like to make; but instead of bringing it into the existing text, we would just refer to it in the chairman's report. Senegal, could you agree to this suggestion?

>> SENEGAL: Senegal agrees with this proposal. So to mention in the report that this proposal was made.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you, Senegal.

[Applause.]

And then we have Ghana had, as well, suggested contribution of additional text. Could I ask you to just very briefly mention where exactly you are suggesting changes to the distinct text and then what would be this new text and then we can again refer to the floor on comments on this suggestion. Ghana, you have the floor.

>> GHANA: Mr. Chairman, thank you. Just as had been proposed by our Distinguished Delegate from Iran, the proposal be made by Ghana is to draw attention to the fact that we need to balance demand and supply initiatives in handling broadband deployments and usage. For that matter, it could be put in the chairman's report right with regard to noting c‑‑ sorry. With regard to "recognizing c IV" intervention was made that in establishing necessary programmes, we should be of demand initiative to stir up broadband usage and also to support telecommunication infrastructure investments. This is to encourage the development of policies which are now being taken in many developing countries to be mindful that demand initiatives, which will even take ability and other R & D initiatives should be taken care of even as we emphasize on investment, as we emphasize on infrastructure development. So I will go by the suggestion that this observation is put in the notes of the Chairman. Thank you very much.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you very much, Ghana. Thank you for that. And we will indeed include your considerations in the chairman's report.

On a last note, a question raised by the UK whether "request the Secretary General" would be appropriate text, the Secretariat has actually determined in opinion 4 of the very first WTPF this indeed has been the language used "request the Secretary General." So my suggestion would be that given all our considerations here, we approve opinion 2 with the single modification that was approved, which is that inclusion of the word "relevant" suggested by Turkey. And if all are in agreement, we could close and finalize the session of Working Group 1 with a second opinion approved. If you're in agreement, please remain as you are. Thank you. Iran, you have requested the floor.

>> IRAN: I thank you, Chairman. I support the Chair that there is no specific rules whether request or invite, however the legal adviser to the Secretary General could take care of that and merely approve the opinion as it is. If there is any need to align that with the practice of ITU, he will do that. And he is very knowledge and wisdom to take care of this sort of a thing. This is some legal issue. We leave it to him and I don't think there would be any problem. So you finish the work on time. Thank you.

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: Thank you very much, Iran. And, finally, Canada, if you could be very, very brief, we are really running out of time, especially with our special request to the interpreters. Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Yes, thank you, Chairman. And first much all congratulations on your designation and on the efficiency and effectiveness as a Chair.

So if we understand correctly, there would be no more time for participants to make any comments on the subject matter of opinion 2, and we have then concluded our work for Working Group number 1, is this correct?

>> DANIEL CAVALCANTI: That is correct, Canada. And we all agree to this? Canada, do you still care to comment? Is that okay?

So thank you very much. We have now reached agreement on opinion 2.

[Applause.]

With this, we will refer in our report to the Chairman of the plenary that we have approved two opinions. And just on a note in terms of schedule, so tomorrow morning, as of 9:30, we will have the first session of Working Group 2. I thank you all for your collaboration. This has been a very productive session. And Working Group 1 has achieved its objectives. Thank you very much. And good evening.

[Applause.]

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