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| **Council 2017Geneva, 15-25 May 2017** |  |
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| **Agenda item: PL 2.5** | **Document C17/5-E** |
| **8 February 2017** |
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| Report by the Secretary-General |
| PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2018 PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE |

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| SummaryThe ITU Council, at its 2016 session, decided on the venue for the holding of the next Plenipotentiary Conference.The purpose of this document is to update the Council on the status of preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-18).Action requiredThe Council is invited **to note** the current status of the preparations for PP-18.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_References[CV 2](https://www.itu.int/pub/S-CONF-PLEN-2015); [Res. 77 (Rev. Busan, 2014)](https://www.itu.int/pub/S-CONF-PLEN-2015), [Doc. PP-14/178](https://www.itu.int/md/S14-PP-C-0178/en), [Doc. C16/110](https://www.itu.int/md/S16-CL-C-0110/en) |

# 1. Introduction

1.1 This document provides an update on the status of preparations for the 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-18).

1.2 At the last Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14) held in the Republic of Korea, the delegate of the United Arab Emirates proposed to host PP-18.

1.3 Pursuant to No. 2 of the Convention, in the event that the precise place and exact dates of a PP have not been set by the preceding PP, they shall be fixed by the Council with the concurrence of the majority of the Member States.

1.4 At its 2016 session, Council confirmed the city of Dubai as the venue for PP-18.

# 2. Consultation

2.1 On 12 October 2016, the ITU Secretary-General received an official invitation from the Government of the United Arab Emirates to host PP‐18 from Monday, 29 October to Friday, 16 November 2018 at the Dubai World Trade Center.

2.2 On 21 October 2016 ([DM-16/1012](https://www.itu.int/md/S16-DM-CIR-01012/en)), the Chairman of Council 2016 invited the Member States of the Council to confirm in writing their agreement as to the exact dates and precise place for PP‐18.

2.3 Following the approval by the Member States of the Council and in accordance with No. 2 of the Convention, on 13 December 2016, the Secretary-General launched a consultation ([CL-16/58](https://www.itu.int/md/S16-SG-CIR-0058/en)) with the Member States of ITU requesting their concurrence with the precise place and exact dates for PP-18.

2.4 On 13 February 2017, the Secretary-General announced that the consultation received the agreement of the required majority of the Member States in accordance with No. 2 of the Convention ([CL-17/6](http://www.itu.int/md/S17-SG-CIR-0006/en)).

# 3. Progress to date

3.1 Discussions are ongoing between ITU and the Government of the United Arab Emirates to progress on the provisions of the Host Country Agreement to be signed by both parties. The negotiations of the Host Country Agreement for PP-18 have been conducted on the basis of the model host country agreement approved by Council at its 2007 session and with reference to the agreement concluded for PP-14.

3.2 The ITU secretariat conducted a site visit from 16 to 20 January 2017 to meet with host country counterparts, examine the conference centre, infrastructure, and hotels, prepare the security and communication plans, address protocol issues, and commence the organization of logistics.

3.3 The host country has expressed its commitment to make this event as green as possible.

# 4. Key issues

In line with Article 8 of ITU Constitution, the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the basis of proposals by Member States and taking into account of reports by the Council, shall:

1. Determine general policies for fulfilling the purposes of the Union;
2. Consider reports by the Council on the activities of the Union since the previous plenipotentiary conference and on the policy and strategic planning of the Union;
3. Establish the strategic plan for the Union and the basis for the budget of the Union, and determines related financial limits;
4. Establish the total number of contributory units for period up to next PP;
5. Provide general directives dealing with the staffing of the Union;
6. Examine the accounts of the Union and finally approve them;
7. Elect the Member States which are to serve on the Council;
8. Elect the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors;
9. Elect the members of the Radio Regulations Board;
10. Consider and adopts modifications to the Constitution and Convention;
11. Conclude or revise if necessary agreements with other international organizations;
12. Adopt and amend the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union;
13. Deal with such other telecommunications questions as may be necessary.

# 5. Next steps

5.1 Internally, the Coordination Committee will establish the Dubai Preparatory Group (DPG) with representatives from all Bureaux and the General Secretariat.

5.2 The Host Country Agreement is due to be signed in the United Arab Emirates a year before the Plenipotentiary Conference, by the end of October 2017.

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