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| **Council 2017Geneva, 15-25 May 2017** |  |
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| **Agenda item: PL 2.7** | **Document C17/96-E** |
| **1 May 2017** |
| **Original: English** |
| Note by the Secretary-General |
| contribution from the federative republic of brazil |
| ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERACTIVE HEARINGS FOR THE CANDIDATES TO ELECTED OFFICIALS POSTS |

I have the honour to transmit to the Member States of the Council a contribution submitted by **the Federative Republic of Brazil**.

 Houlin ZHAO
 Secretary-General

Brazil (Federative Republic of)

ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERACTIVE HEARINGS FOR THE CANDIDATES TO
ELECTED OFFICIALS POSTS

**Introduction and guidelines**

Brazil presented at PP-14 (B/75/1) a draft resolution on *Procedures for the election of Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General, and Directors of the Bureaux*. It was discussed at a drafting group of Committee 5, which decided to instruct the ITU Council to study the issue and recommend options to improve the electoral process of elected officials. The draft new Resolution produced by COM 5’s drafting group is contained in [PP-14 document DT/66](https://www.itu.int/md/S14-PP-141020-TD-0066/en).

Brazil is aware of the contribution from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, and Switzerland presented to this 2017 session of the Council (Doc. [C17/76](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0076/en)). We fully support the principles therein presented, but we propose additionally the following guidelines:

* The interactive panels should be held one day before the ordinary session of the Council in the same year of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference. In this case, on **17 April, 2018**. This allows Member States more time to assess each candidacy and decide on their votes.
* Each candidate should have a time slot for the presentation of his candidacy, with an equal amount of time (e.g., 15/15 min; 30/30 min) designated for a Q&A with Member States present during the panel.
* The press could be allowed to observe the panel and interact with candidates offline.
* The chair of Council should moderate the interactive panel and read questions asked remotely through the webcast.
* Interactive panels should be openly accessible and transmitted live on the ITU website, without the need of a TIES-protected account.
* ITU should update as soon as possible the PP-18 elections website to allow for posting and electronic access to campaign material produced by each candidate (i.e., videos, brochures). Each candidate could have an online forum in which questions from the general public, moderated by the candidate, are asked and responded.

**Proposal**

Taking into account the potential impacts of this initiative in staff regulations and in the budget of the Union, Brazil proposes the following:

* that Council-17 discuss the feasibility and make a decision on holding the first interactive panel for candidates for ITU elected official posts on 17 April, 2018, one day before the 2018 session of the Council;
* that Council-17 debate the impacts on staff regulations of allowing ITU staff candidates to announce their candidacy to elected official posts and/or participate in the hearings without taking the mandatory leave of absence;
* that Council-17 debate the financial implications of establishing the hearings, and decide who should bear the costs of holding the hearings;
* that Council-17 discuss approving a resolution/decision on the issue, taking into account the draft new Resolution contained in [PP-14 document DT/66](https://www.itu.int/md/S14-PP-141020-TD-0066/en).

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