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| **Council 2017Geneva, 15-25 May 2017** |  |
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|  | **Document C17/119-E** |
| **3 July 2017** |
| **Original: English** |
| SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRD PLENARY MEETING |
| Wednesday, 17 May 2017, from 0940 to 1230 hours |
| **Chairman**: Dr E. Spina (Italy) |

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|  | Subjects discussed: | Documents |
| 1 | Statement by the Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Saudi Arabia | - |
| 2 | Report by the Chairman of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection  | [C17/15](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0015/en) |
| 3 | World Telecommunication and Information Society Day | [C17/17](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0017/en) |
| 4 | Statement by the Secretary, Ministry of Information and Communication, Nepal | - |
| 5 | ITU Internet activities | [C17/33](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0033/en), [C17/86](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0086/en) |

**1 Statement by the Minister of Communications and Information Technology of
Saudi Arabia**

1.1 Mr Abdullah Amer Alsawaha, Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Saudi Arabia, made the statement reproduced at the following address:
<http://www.itu.int/en/council/2017/ties/Documents/Saudi-Arabia-e.pdf>

**2 Report by the Chairman of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (Document** [**C17/15**](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0015/en)**)**

2.1 The former Vice-Chairman of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection introduced Document C17/15.

2.2 Councillors thanked the working group for its hard work on what their governments considered a crucial issue. Some outlined the steps being taken in their countries to protect children from online sexual abuse and exploitation and to promote greater awareness of the problem. Two councillors said that the Youth Online Consultation should be conducted in the six official United Nations languages, in order to encourage a maximum number of responses. Councillors stressed the need to work with international organizations within and outside the United Nations system, in particular UNICEF and UNESCO, in order to benefit from their programmes and exchange experiences. They also stressed the need to engage a wide range of stakeholders in the search for solutions: service providers, schools, parents – who often lagged behind their children in terms of technical savvy – not to mention young children themselves, an impressive number of whom had provided interesting insights in response to the questionnaire. One councillor expressed appreciation for the four sets of guidelines issued by ITU on child online protection, for children, parents and educators, industry and policy makers. Another councillor urged ITU to continue developing best practice indicators, for dissemination to the Member States.

2.3 One councillor suggested that the working group’s terms of reference should be expanded to encompass criminal activities, in view of the number of transactions taking place online. Another suggested that they should also cover addiction-related issues.

2.4 An observer expressed appreciation for the work done by the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation with regard to child protection online. He encouraged all Council members to attend the WePROTECT Global Alliance session at the WSIS Forum in June 2017.

2.5 The Council **noted** Document C17/15 and **requested** the secretariat to take account of the comments made by councillors.

2.6 The Secretary-General, noting that the working group currently had no chairman or vice-chairman, informed the Council that consultations on replacements were being held.

**3 World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (Document** [**C17/17**](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0017/en)**)**

3.1 The Chief of Protocol introduced Document C17/17. She noted that the theme for WTISD-17 was "Big Data for Big Impact"; the theme proposed for WTISD-18 was "Enabling the positive use of Artificial Intelligence for all".

3.2 A number of councillors described the events being organized by their countries and administrations to mark WTISD-17 and WTISD-18, which they viewed as an important means of raising awareness. According to one councillor, ITU should provide the Member States with visual tools allowing them to highlight the role it played worldwide.

3.3 One councillor stressed the relevance of the ITU Big Data for Measuring the Information Society pilot studies launched in 2016, the results of which would serve as the basis for the information management platforms underpinning national SDG initiatives.

3.4 Another councillor, noting that advances in artificial intelligence entailed collateral socio-economic, security and ethics-related concerns that lay outside ITU's terms of reference, that ITU would be hosting the AI for Good Global Summit in June 2017, and that ITU-T Study Group 3 had decided to organize a workshop on artificial intelligence, suggested "SDGs 2BSG" (to bridge the standardization gap) as the theme for WTISD-18, building on that of WTDC-17, "ICT for Sustainable Development Goals", instead of duplicating the artificial intelligence theme.

3.5 Several councillors endorsed the theme proposed for WTISD-18. Artificial intelligence was an important topic that had to be discussed at the highest level, not just in the study groups. That being said, the wording could be simplified to "AI for all".

3.6 The Council **endorsed** the theme for WTISD-18 and **agreed** to set "SDGs 2BSG" as the theme for WTISD-19.

3.7 The Secretary-General said that ITU's Big Data for Measuring the Information Society project would help Member States turn imperfect, complex and often unstructured data into actionable information. He invited councillors to attend a panel discussion immediately after the meeting to address crucial questions about big data and its use to drive development, including among the most marginalized.

3.8 The councillor from the United Arab Emirates, which would offer councillors lunch after the panel discussion, said that big data was an important subject for his country, which had taken a number of measures related to mega data.

**4 Statement by the Secretary, Ministry of Information and Communication, Nepal**

4.1 Mr Mahendra Man Gurung, Secretary, Ministry of Information and Communication of Nepal, made the statement reproduced at the following address:
<http://www.itu.int/en/council/2017/Documents/SR/Nepal.docx>

**5 ITU Internet activities (Documents** [**C17/33**](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0033/en) **and** [**C17/86**](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0086/en)**)**

5.1 The Chief of the Strategic Planning and Membership Department (SPM) introduced Document C17/33, which reported on ITU Internet activities related to Plenipotentiary Resolutions 101 (Rev. Busan, 2014), 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014), 133 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and 180 (Rev. Busan, 2014) since Council-16; and in particular topics concerning IP networks, the development of NGNs and future Internet; IPv6; Internet-related public policy issues; ENUM; international Internet connectivity and IXPs; and ITU's participation in the eleventh meeting of the Internet Governance Forum (Mexico, 2016).

5.2 A discussion ensued in which diverging views were expressed as to whether, the Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet) should prepare recommendations for consideration by the Council. There was also a discussion and divergent views on inclusion of aspects such as Net Neutrality, Authentication and Privacy within the mandate of CWG-Internet. The Chairman noted that the comments made related to the report of CWG-Internet, which was the subject of a separate agenda item and would be taken up at a subsequent meeting.

5.3 Regarding Document C17/33, one councillor highlighted the importance of cooperation and of further efforts to protect IGO domain names.

5.4 In reply to questions from one councillor, the Director of TSB said that one of the results of ITU’s continued cooperation with the Corporation for National Research Initiatives and the DONA Foundation on enhanced information management systems can be seen in the new search engine available on ITU-T’s Website. ITU was continuing to help Member States enhance their understanding of DONA Foundation activities. The use of the Handle System was outside the scope of the MoU with the DONA Foundation. ITU-T Study Group 2 was still awaiting contributions concerning possible perceived mapping of the ITU-T E.164 numbering plan into the DNS, with regard to the provision of all-numeric domain names.

5.5 Responding to a question, the Legal Adviser said that ITU played an important role in the IGO coalition that negotiated with ICANN to protect IGO names and acronyms. Good progress had been made in protecting IGO names:  the ICANN Board had decided to implement protection for full names at the second level by transforming the temporary “reserved list” into a permanent list; and agreement had been reached on two measures regarding IGO acronym protection at the second level in the event of abuse. With regard to the protection of IGO acronyms, an important point concerning dispute settlement had yet to be resolved.

5.6 In response to further questions from councillors, the Chief of SPM said that the eleventh Internet Governance Forum had been open to all United Nations Member States and all stakeholders, like the WSIS Forum. ITU was participating in the CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation and would continue to improve its reporting to include information requested.

5.7 The Council **noted** Document C17/33.

5.8 The Chairman invited councillors to submit their views on the activities described in Document C17/33 to the secretariat, in writing and by e-mail, by Friday, 19 May at noon, for compilation in a document that would not be edited. The Chairman reiterated that the Report, along with a compilation of views of Council Member States and the relevant summary record, will be transmitted as a package, with an appropriate cover letter, to the United Nations Secretary-General.

5.9 The councillor from Switzerland called on councillors to participate in the next Internet Governance Forum, to be held in December 2017, in Geneva.

5.10 The councillor from India introduced the joint contribution (India, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Tunisia, Uganda), Document C17/86, which contained proposals to enhance the report in Document C17/33 by including the information on development of NGNs and future networks, roles and activities of other relevant international organizations, describing their involvement in IP-based network issues, degree of cooperation between ITU and these organizations as provided for in Resolution 101 (Rev. Busan, 2014). The contribution further proposed that as mandated in the resolution, the ITU report should include concrete proposals on improving ITU activities and such cooperation.

5.11 Several councillors endorsed the proposals in the contribution and it was agreed that the Secretary-General’s report should be improved by including such information and proposals.

5.12 The Chairman proposed that the secretariat should endeavour to include further details in the report on ITU Internet activities on the items listed in the contribution, with due regard to the page limit.

5.13 It was so **agreed**.

5.14 Document C17/86 was **noted**.

The Secretary-General: The Chairman:

H. ZHAO E. SPINA

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