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| **Council 2017 Geneva, 15-25 May 2017** |  |
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|  | **Document C17/124-E** |
| **25 May 2017** |
| **Original: French** |
| SUMMARY RECORD  OF THE  SIXTH plenary meeting | |
| Monday, 22 May 2017, from 1435 to 1745 hours | |
| **Chairman**: Dr E. SPINA (Italy) | |

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|  | Subjects discussed | Documents |
| 1 | List of candidatures for Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of CWGs | [C17/55](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0055/en)(Rev.1) |
| 2 | Statement by the councillor from the Philippines |  |
| 3 | ITU activities on strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs | [C17/18](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0018/en), [C17/87](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0087/en) |
| 4 | Statement by the Ambassador of Lithuania |  |
| 5 | Follow-up report on possible improvements of the roll-out of the Plenipotentiary Conference | [C17/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0004/en)(Rev.1), [C17/76](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0076/en)(Rev.1), [C17/78](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0078/en)(Rev.1), [C17/96](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0096/en), [C17/INF/6](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-INF-0006/en) |

# 1 List of candidatures for Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of CWGs (Document [C17/55](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0055/en)(Rev.1))

1.1 The Secretary-General introduced Document C17/55/(Rev.1) containing the list of candidatures for chairmen and vice-chairmen of the Council working groups and the Expert Group on the ITRs, as established following consultations on the subject. Several councillors indicated modifications regarding certain candidates or the posts for which they were applying. One councillor said that candidatures should be by regional organization, rather than by region. The Secretary-General said that in any case further consultations would be needed and a second revision to the document would be submitted at a later sitting. He noted nevertheless that the CWG for Strategic and Financial Plans would have to convene the following morning and the Council therefore had to come to a decision regarding the candidature of Mr Mario Canazza (Brazil) for the post of chairman of that group.

1.2 Mr Mario Canazza (Brazil) was **elected** Chairman of the CWG for Strategic and Financial Plans for 2020-2023 by acclamation.

# 2 Statement by the councillor from the Philippines

2.1 The councillor from the Philippines made a general statement on the work of the Council. Referring to a procedural incident that had occurred the previous week, he noted that a literal application of the rule on consensus could make it impossible for the Council to take the necessary decisions. The consensus rule might be useful, but the Rules of Procedure governing meetings did not rule out the option of voting when it was necessary, and reservations or objections could be reflected in the summary record of the meeting or in a footnote, without obstructing the decision-making process.

# 3 ITU activities on strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs (Documents [C17/18](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0018/en) and [C17/87](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0087/en))

3.1 The Chief of the Strategic Planning and Membership Department (SPM) introduced Document C17/18. The activities ranged from cybersecurity and combating Spam to child online protection, and included many varied forms of capacity building.

3.2 Many councillors commended the secretariat for the many capacity-building activities it organized in the key area of cybersecurity, and requested further details of country tools and mechanisms, criteria for selecting countries for technical assessment to evaluate preparedness for the establishment of computer incident response teams (CIRTs) and for organizing cyber drills, legal measures implemented in collaboration with UNODC, and ITU’s response to the recent incidence of malware infection which had affected about 100 countries. Some councillors wanted the 2018 report to be even more detailed, and include, for example, information on planned activities.

3.3 Replying to questions put from the floor, the representative of BDT reviewed the technical assessments regarding the creation of CIRTs in 68 countries and the 16 Cyber Drills that had been organized involving around 100 countries. Another representative of BDT explained that the country selection criteria were applied as part of an open process based on lessons learned from past activities, awareness-raising work in countries, and the means available to the latter. Regarding the recent large-scale malware incident, the Chief of the IS Department said that ITU had experienced only four incidents and those had not had any serious consequences. Strategy for dealing with such threats was based on detection and prevention. Thanks to collaboration with the public and private sectors and with other international organizations, detection times were now counted in minutes, rather than in months or weeks.

3.4 Document C17/18 was **noted**.

3.5 The councillor from India, speaking on behalf of his country, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Uganda and Tunisia, introduced the proposal contained in Document C17/87, which highlighted the important issue of the misuse of International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) numbers. The proposal referred to the 3GPP technical specifications and to the GSM Association (GSMA) guidelines, and was intended to ensure that the integration of IMEI numbers in mobile telephones at the time of manufacture would be done in such a way as to render the mobile devices unusable if their IMEI were altered. He suggested that the Director of TSB should consider the issue and contact the GSMA to discuss the matter.

3.6 Councillors taking the floor agreed on the seriousness of the problem, in socio-economic terms and, above all, in terms of security. The problem needed to be tackled through a combination of country programmes and international cooperation initiatives, with the aim of at least ensuring that IMEI numbers were non-erasable and non-reprogrammable. One councillor considered that it was important to involve service providers, equipment manufacturers, national enforcement authorities and other interested parties in moves to resolve those issues. Councillors stressed the importance of specific measures to implement regulations. All councillors agreed that the question could be taken on by TSB, including as part of the work done by Study Group 11, and that there should be collaboration for that purpose with GSMA.

3.7 The Chairman proposed that Document C17/87 be noted and the Director of TSB be instructed to begin collaboration with the GSMA, including highlighting the matter in a letter to GSMA, in order to resolving the problem of IMEI numbers.

3.8 It was so **agreed**.

3.9 The Director of TSB said that he would include the question in the collaboration he had already begun with GSMA and 3GPP. He would also see to it that the question was examined by ITU-T Study Group 11.

3.10 Following consultations, the councillor from India said that, while ITU-T Study Group 11 could come up with the technical means of preventing an IMEI number from being changed or tampered with, it would still need to be made obligatory for manufacturers at the country, regional or international level to do so. It would be helpful if the Council adopted a resolution along those lines to ensure that the process was properly implemented.

# 4 Statement by the Ambassador of Lithuania

4.1 Mr Andrius Krivas, Ambassador of Lithuania, made a statement, available at <http://www.itu.int/en/council/2017/Documents/SR/Lithuania.pdf>. On behalf of his government, he announced that his country was a candidate for membership of the Council for the period 2018‑2022 and would submit the candidature of Dr Mindaugas Žilinskas for the post of Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau.

# 5 Follow-up report on possible improvements of the roll-out of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Documents [C17/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0004/en)(Rev.1), [C17/76](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0076/en)(Rev.1), [C17/78](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0078/en)(Rev.1), [C17/96](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0096/en) and [C17/INF/6](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-INF-0006/en))

5.1 The representative of the secretariat recalled that, following an initial consultation with Member States, a broader consultation had been carried out at the request of the 2016 session of the Council. Document C17/INF/6 contained a compilation of the proposals received in response to the two consultations. Document C17/4(Rev.1), which was based on those replies, puts forward proposals in five main areas for action.

5.2 The councillor from Lithuania introduced Document C17/76(Rev.1), a contribution submitted by his country, Bulgaria, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Czech Republic and Romania, proposing the introduction of hearings for candidates to elected official posts. The annex to the document contained guidelines which the Secretary-General could follow in order to submit a proposal regarding hearings for candidates at the ordinary 2018 session of the Council.

5.3 The councillor from the Russian Federation introduced Document C17/78(Rev.1), submitted by his country, Armenia and Belarus, which set out specific measures for each of the major areas for action defined by the secretariat. Among other things it was proposed that the definitive upper limit of the amount of the contributory unit should be defined on the first day of PP-18, the third day of the conference should be fixed as the day on which the ITU Member States announce their definitive choice of class of contribution, and the classes of contribution definitively chosen by the ITU Member States should be published before the start of elections. The issue of the possible elimination of interpreting services for conference Committees 2 and 3 would require further discussion.

5.4 The councillor from Brazil, noting that he endorsed the principles set out in Document C17/76(Rev.1), introduced Document C17/96 on the establishment of hearings for candidates to elected official posts. It was proposed that the Council study the guidelines proposed in the document in the light of their possible implications for the Union’s budget and the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules (according to which an appointed staff member standing for election to one of the elected official posts was automatically placed on special leave).

5.5 Among the many councillors taking the floor, several supported the idea of hearings for candidates to elected official posts as a way of selecting the best possible leaders for the Union, while others considered that hearings could be deceptive and favour style and eloquence over competence. For some, it was for the plenipotentiary conference, not for the Council, to conduct such hearings, while others considered that the hearings could be conducted in the Council or alongside it and made accessible remotely for all Member States. Several councillors said that there were other ways of getting to know candidates and assessing their competence. A number of questions were raised regarding the specific practical aspects of any future hearings. All councillors approved the establishment of a web space for candidates, including RRB candidates, which would include all relevant information on the candidates and could be used for an interactive dialogue with Member States. For a number of councillors, remote participation arrangements presented a problem as a number of developing countries did not have adequate technical infrastructure; it would be better to offer fellowships for delegates from those countries and involve the regional offices, the important point being that candidates had to be treated on an equal basis. Asking countries putting forward a candidate to reimburse logistical costs would be detrimental to equality of opportunity.

5.6 In the view of some councillors, it was essential for Member States to announce their class of contribution as early as possible, as that was crucial to the stability of the budget and the availability of the means needed to implement the strategic plan. Certain councillors were in favour of totally eliminating the use of paper, while others considered that it was for each administration to choose the medium for its communications, on the understanding that it was for the administration to pay the costs involved. Several requests for clarification were made regarding ITU staff members applying for elected official posts and possible changes to the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules. With regard to general policy statements, some councillors were in favour of a three-minute limit while others took the view that a maximum limit of five minutes was acceptable, as the plenipotentiary conference was also the place where general policy was formulated. With regard to the issue of retaining or eliminating interpretation services in conference Committees 2 and 3, opinions differed. A range of suggestions were made regarding interregional and regional meetings organized for purposes of coordination. One councillor wished to know if the implementation of the measures proposed by the secretariat would result in a reduction in the length of the plenipotentiary conference. Some councillors considered that reducing the length of the plenipotentiary conference would mean that a number of meetings of committees or working groups would be held in parallel, which would penalize smaller delegations.

5.7 The Chairman proposed establishing an ad hoc Council group to be chaired by Mr Ismailov, Vice-Chairman of the Council, with the task of summarizing the comments that had been made and agree on the measures to be decided by Council to improve the roll out of the plenipotentiary conference.

5.8 It was so **agreed**.

The Secretary-General: The Chairman:  
H. ZHAO E. SPINA

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