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| **Council 2018Geneva, 17-27 April 2018** |  |
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| **Agenda item: PL 2.3** | **Document C18/2-E** |
| **11 January 2018** |
| **Original: English** |
| Report by the Secretary-General |
| PROPOSED DATES AND DURATION OF THE 2019, 2020, AND 2021 SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL |

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| SummaryAs per Resolution 77 (Rev. Busan, 2014), and taking into consideration the decisions taken at its last 2017 session, the Council is invited to “schedule its next three ordinary sessions in June-July and to review the Council schedule on a rolling basis”.Action requiredThe Council is invited to **reconsider** and **approve** the dates for the 2019 and 2020 sessions, as well as **consider** and **approve** the dates for the 2021 session, and to **adopt** the draft Decision contained in Annex to this document.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_References[Rule 1, Council Rules of Procedure](http://www.itu.int/council/pd/rop-e.pdf); [Resolution 77 (Rev. Busan, 2014)](http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/opb/conf/S-CONF-ACTF-2014-PDF-E.pdf), [Resolution 111 (Rev. Busan, 2014)](http://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/opb/conf/S-CONF-ACTF-2014-PDF-E.pdf); documents [C15/123](http://www.itu.int/md/S15-CL-C-0123/en), [C15/125](http://www.itu.int/md/S15-CL-C-0125/en), [C16/120](http://web.itu.int/md/S16-CL-C-0120/en), [C16/121](http://web.itu.int/md/S16-CL-C-0121/en), [C17/130 (Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0130/en) , and [Council Decision 599](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0129/en) |

**Background**

1. Resolution 77 (Rev. Busan, 2014) related to the ***scheduling and duration of conferences, forums, assemblies and Council sessions of the Union***, *resolves* that“the Council shall, in principle, hold its ordinary session within or around June-July of the calendar year”, and *further instructs* the Council “at each ordinary session, to schedule its next three ordinary sessions in June-July and to review the Council’s schedule on a rolling basis”.
2. Resolution 111 (Rev. Busan, 2014), on ***considering major religious periods in the scheduling of ITU conferences, assemblies and Council sessions*** resolves that “the Union and its Member States of the Council should make every effort, as far as practicable, in order that the planned period of any Council session not be scheduled during a period which is considered a major religious period by a Member State of the Council”.
3. At its 2017 session, the Council approved Decision 599 confirming the dates for the 2018, 2019, and 2020 sessions and extending the 2018 and 2020 sessions to nine working days. In Decision 599, the approved dates were as follows: Monday, 10 June to Thursday, 20 June 2019; and Tuesday, 26 May to Friday, 5 June 2020.
4. However, in order to allow a better planning of all ITU meetings by the departments and Bureaux, while ensuring that the External Auditor’s reports on the Union’s finances are available for the Council session, as well as taking into account Resolution 77, it is proposed to hold the Council session during the same approximate period each year.

5. In light of the above, it is suggested that:

* the dates of the 2020 session of the Council be modified to be held for a duration of nine working days from **Tuesday, 9 June to Friday, 19 June 2020.**
* the 2021 session of the Council be held for a duration of nine working days form **Tuesday, 8 June to Friday, 18 June 2021**.

***Annex:******1***

Annex

DRAFT DECISION [ ... ]

Dates and duration of the 2019, 2020, and 2021 sessions of the Council

The Council,

recalling

1. Resolution 77 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which instructs the Council “at each ordinary session, to schedule its next three ordinary sessions in June-July and to review the Council’s schedule on a rolling basis”,
2. Resolution 111 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which resolves “that the Union and the Member States of the Council should make every effort, as far as practicable, in order that the planned period of any Council session not be scheduled during a period which is considered a major religious period by a Member State of the Council”,

noting

Council Decision 599 confirming the dates for the 2019 and 2020 sessions of the Council, and extending the 2020 session to nine working days,

considering

The need to schedule ordinary sessions of the Council as much as possible around the same timeframe each year in order to facilitate the planning of other ITU events,

considering further

the need to allow time for the External Auditor to prepare his reports on the Union’s finances to Council

decides

that the 2019 session of the Council will open in Geneva for a period of nine working days from **Monday, 10 June to Thursday, 20 June 2019**;

that the 2020 session of the Council will open in Geneva for a period of nine working days from **Tuesday, 9 June to Friday, 19 June 2020**

that the 2021 session of the Council will open in Geneva for a period of nine working days from **Tuesday, 8 June to Friday,18 June 2021.**

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