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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-18) Dubai, 29 October – 16 November 2018** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Document 35-E** |
| **29 June 2018** |
| **Original: English** |
| Report by the Council | |
| council views on international public policy on access to the Internet for persons with disabilities and specific needs | |

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| During the 2018 Session of the Council, the Chairman of CWG-Internet introduced [Document C18/54](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0054/en) and recalled the discussion of a draft resolution on access to the Internet for persons with disabilities and specific needs during Council-17 and Council-18.  At the request of Council, an extract of the Summary record of the third Plenary meeting of the 2018 Session of the Council, which contains the views expressed during discussions, is attached in Annex. |

Annex: 1

ANNEX

Extract of Document C18/106 - Summary record of the   
third Plenary meeting of the 2018 Session of the Council

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| **Council 2018 Geneva, 17-27 April 2018** |  |
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|  | **Document C18/106-E** |
| **17 May 2018** |
| **Original: English** |
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| Summary record  of the  Third Plenary meeting | |
| Thursday, 19 April 2018, from 0930 to 1225 hours | |
| **Chairman**: Mr R. ISMAILOV (Russian Federation) | |

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|  | Subjects discussed | Documents |
| 1 | Report on the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 (WTDC-17) | [C18/10](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0010/en) |
| 2 | Internet activities | [C18/33](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0033/en) |
| 3 | Report by the Chairman of the Council Working Group on International Internet-Related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet) | [C18/51](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0051/en), [C18/54](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0054/en), [C18/93](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0093/en), [C18/94](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0094/en) |
| 4 | ITU activities on strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of ICTs | [C18/18](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0018/en), [C18/76](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0076/en) |
| 5 | Reports by the Chairman of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP) | [C18/15](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0015/en), [C18/62](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0062/en) |
| 6 | Statements and announcements by councillors | - |

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**3 Report by the Chairman of the Council Working Group on International Internet-Related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet) (Documents** [**C18/51**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0051en)**,** [**C18/54**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0054/en)**,** [**C18/93**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0093/en) **and** [**C18/94**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CL-C-0094/en)**)**

3.1 The Chairman of CWG-Internet introduced Document C18/51, which contained his report on the group’s activities including the main results of the 10th and 11th meetings of CWG Internet. He informed the Council that CWG also conducted two rounds of online and physical public consultations: on public policy considerations for OTTs and on the topic of bridging the digital gender divide. Responses received from different regions covered a large number of actions and points of view and showed different views with regard to questions of the consultations.

3.2 Document C18/51 was **noted**.

3.3 The Chairman of CWG-Internet introduced Document C18/54 and recalled the discussion of a draft resolution on access to the Internet for persons with disabilities and specific needs, proposed by the Administration of Saudi Arabia. Diverging opinions had been expressed, and Council-17 had decided, owing to lack of time for discussion and to the scope of the proposal, to refer it back to Council-18. The Council might wish to transmit its views on the proposal to PP-18.

3.4 Several councillors expressed support for the draft resolution, which addressed a particularly important and broad issue. Two councillors, however, did not agree that a new Council resolution on the topic was necessary, since many aspects were already addressed through Resolution 175 (Rev. Busan, 2014). A revision to that resolution, through PP-18, would be more appropriate.

3.5 The Council **agreed** to note Document C18/54 and transmit the views expressed on it to PP-18.

3.6 The councillor from Brazil introduced Documents C18/93 and C18/94, each of which contained a contribution from his country. The first included a proposal to mandate the annual sessions of the Council to decide on the topics for CWG-Internet open consultations, which was prompted by the desire to use the time available at meetings of CWG-Internet more efficiently and to render the process of deciding on topics more informed and inclusive, given that the Council attracted much greater participation than CWG-Internet. The second contained a proposal to open participation in CWG-Internet to ITU Sector Members.

3.7 Diverging views were expressed on the proposal in Document C18/93. Several councillors felt that authority for decisions on topics should remain with CWG-Internet; others, recognizing the validity of the argument that participation in the Council was broader *de facto* than in CWG-Internet, disagreed. One councillor suggested that the Council could decide on topics from shortlists prepared by CWG-Internet.

3.8 While support was expressed for the proposal in Document C18/94, there were various suggestions as to how far Sector Member participation should extend. One councillor disagreed with the proposal altogether stating that sufficient opportunity was already provided for other stakeholders to participate in CWG-Internet meetings through Member State delegations, as well as in open online consultations. Another said that the issue fell outside the Council’s remit and should be discussed by the plenipotentiary conference.

3.9 The Chairman took it that the Council wished to note Documents C18/93 and C18/94 and invite Member States to take into consideration the issues raised in those contributions in their discussions on Resolution 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014) at PP-18.

3.10 It was so **agreed**.

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The Secretary-General: The Chairman:

H. ZHAO R. ISMAILOV

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