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| **Council 2019 Geneva, 10-20 June 2019** |  |
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|  | **Document C19/113-E** |
| **13 June 2019** |
| **Original: English** |
| SUMMARY RECORD  OF THE  SECOND PLENARY MEETING | |
| Tuesday, 11 June 2019, from 1430 to 1730 hours | |
| **Acting Chairman:**  Mr F. BIGI (Italy) | |

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|  | Subjects discussed | Documents |
| 1 | World Telecommunication and Information Society Day | [C19/17](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0017/en) |
| 2 | Preparations for the 2021 World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF‑21) | [C19/5](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0005/en), [C19/78](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0078/en), [C19/83](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0083/en), [C19/85](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0085/en), [C19/88](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0088/en), [C19/93](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0093/en), [C19/94](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0094/en), [C19/99](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0099/en) |
| 3 | Follow-up to Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018): Periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations | [C19/26](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0026/en), [C19/65](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0065/en), [C19/69](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0069/en), [C19/74](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0074/en), [C19/79](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0079/en), [C19/81](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0081/en), [C19/86](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0086/en), [C19/89](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0089/en), [C19/100](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0100/en) |
| 4 | ITU Internet activities | [C19/33](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0033/en), [C19/82](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0082/en), [C19/102](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0102/en) |

**1 World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (Document** [**C19/17**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0017/en)**)**

1.1 A representative of the secretariat introduced the report by the Secretary-General on World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD), in Document C19/17.

1.2 Councillors welcomed the annual celebration of WTISD and expressed support for the theme chosen for WTISD-20. Several councillors highlighted events held in their countries to mark WTISD-19 with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders. It was emphasized that the themes of such days should be clear and some councillors suggested that the designation “World Telecommunication and Information Society Day” might be shortened to make easier for the general public to understand.

1.3 The Council **noted** the celebration of WTISD-19 on the theme "Bridging the standardization gap", and **approved** the choice of the theme "Connect 2030: ICTs for the SDGs" for WTISD-20.

**2 Preparations for the 2021 World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF‑21) (Documents** [**C19/5**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0005/en)**,** [**C19/78**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0078/en)**,** [**C19/83**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0083/en)**,** [**C19/85**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0085/en)**,** [**C19/88**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0088/en)**,** [**C19/93**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0093/en)**,** [**C19/94**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0094/en) **and** [**C19/99**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0099/en)**)**

2.1 A representative of the secretariat introduced Document C19/5, which provided general information on WTPF and suggested a timeline for the preparation of WTPF-21. The Council was invited to decide on the duration, date, venue, agenda and themes of WTPF-21 and to adopt a procedure for preparation of the report by the Secretary-General to WTPF-21 as required under Resolution 2 (Rev. Dubai, 2018).

2.2 The councillors from Côte d’Ivoire, Romania on behalf of the Administration Member States of CEPT, and Algeria introduced Documents C19/93, C19/88 and C19/83, respectively, proposing themes for the next WTPF. The councillor from Côte d’Ivoire also introduced Document C19/94 endorsing the provisional schedule for the preparatory process proposed by the secretariat.

2.3 The councillors from Mexico, Saudi Arabia and Brazil introduced, respectively, Document C19/85, Document C19/99 containing a contribution submitted by Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates, and Document C19/78 containing a contribution submitted by Argentina, the Bahamas, Brazil, Canada and the United States. Each contribution set out a draft new decision covering, *inter alia*, themes, venue, duration and arrangements for WTPF-21.

2.4 Councillors said that WTPF provided a unique platform for the discussion of emerging issues relating to telecommunications/ICTs and highlighted the importance of the opinions it produced. Support was expressed for holding WTPF-21 in Geneva for a duration of three days back to back with the WSIS Forum so as to avoid any overlap with that high-level event. The preparatory process for WTPF-21, including with respect to preparation of the Secretary-General’s report, should be similar to that followed previously, and one councillor expressed particular support for holding public consultations. Various councillors stated that the themes to be discussed should not be too general and should reflect new and emerging issues and challenges relating to telecommunications/ICTs, such as OTTs, the digital economy and cybersecurity.

2.5 Two councillors pointed out that the theme proposed in the contribution from the Administration Member States of CEPT (Document C19/88), namely “ICTs for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, would cover a number of the topics suggested and highlighted that it was supported by at least six Council Member States.

2.6 The Acting Chairman, noting that various proposals had been made, suggested that a Working Group be established under the chairmanship of the councillor from the Bahamas to formulate a draft decision on the duration, date, venue and themes of WTPF-21 and the procedure for preparation of the Secretary-General’s report.

2.7 It was so **agreed**.

**3 Follow-up to Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018): Periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations (Documents** [**C19/26**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0026/en)**,** [**C19/65**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0065/en)**,** [**C19/69**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0069/en)**,** [**C19/74**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0074/en)**,** [**C19/79**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0079/en)**,** [**C19/81**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0081/en)**,** [**C19/86**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0086/en)**,** [**C19/89**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0089/en) **and** [**C19/100**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0100/en)**)**

3.1 A representative of the secretariat introduced Document C19/26, which contained information on the status of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs), and recalled that Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) instructed the Secretary-General to reconvene an expert group on the ITRs (EG-ITR) and Council-19 to review and revise its terms of reference.

3.2 The councillor from China introduced Document C19/65, which contained a proposal to modify the terms of reference for EG-ITR set out in Annex 1 to Council Resolution 1379 (2016).

3.3 The councillor from Côte d'Ivoire introduced Document C19/89, which contained the terms of reference for EG-ITR proposed by the African Group.

3.4 The councillor from Romania introduced Document C19/86, which contained the terms of reference for EG-ITR proposed by the Administration Member States of CEPT.

3.5 The councillors from Algeria and Zimbabwe introduced Documents C19/81 and C19/69, respectively, which contained proposed terms of reference for EG-ITR.

3.6 The councillor from Egypt introduced Document C19/100, which contained a common proposal by the Arab Council Member States for a draft new Council resolution on EG-ITR and its terms of reference.

3.7 The councillor from the Russian Federation introduced Document C19/74, which contained a proposal for a draft new Council resolution on EG-ITR and its terms of reference.

3.8 The councillor from Canada introduced Document C19/79, which contained a joint proposal by Argentina, the Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Mexico and the United States for a draft new Council resolution on EG-ITR and its terms of reference. He drew attention to the critical distinction between "review" and "revision", and asked whether the same distinction was made in the Union's other five official languages.

3.9 One councillor asked whether all six regions would be represented on EG-ITR and suggested, on behalf of the Executive Committee of CITEL, that the African Group might see fit to nominate Mr Lwando Bbuku (Zambia) to chair EG-ITR. It was expected that any consultations on the chairmanship would be made public to all Council Member States.

3.10 The Acting Chairman pointed out that the discussion on chairmanship and vice-chairmanship of various groups would be conducted towards the end of the current Council session.

3.11 One councillor endorsed the terms of reference proposed by the Russian Federation. Another councillor, supporting the proposals in Documents C19/79 and C19/86, said that the Council should follow the clear instructions issued to it in Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) that it review and revise the terms of reference of EG-ITR, not the ITRs themselves. A third councillor expressed confidence that the Council would be able to reach a consensus on the various proposals made, with a view to reviewing and revising the ITRs.

3.12 The Acting Chairman proposed that a working group be established under the chairmanship of the councillor from Ghana to draw up a draft resolution on EG-ITR, along with terms of reference, based on the proposals made. He further proposed that the chairman of the working group and contributors convene informally immediately after the present meeting to put together a consolidated initial document, containing various options, for discussion. The working group itself would meet formally on Wednesday, 12 June 2019, in the evening.

3.13 It was so **agreed**.

**4 Internet activities (Documents** [**C19/33**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0033/en)**,** [**C19/82**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0082/en) **and** [**C19/102**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0102/en)**)**

4.1 A representative of the secretariat introduced Document C19/33, on ITU Internet activities under Resolutions 101 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), 102 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), 133 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), 180 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) and 206 (Dubai, 2018).

4.2 Several councillors proposed that Document C19/33 should be supplemented with additional information on, for example, ITU focus groups on IP and next-generation networks, ITU contributions to the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation, and IDNs. Several other councillors stressed the importance of including the most up-to-date information in the report, in particular with regard to OTTs.

4.3 The representative of the secretariat pointed out that Council documents were subject to a page limit, whereas those prepared for Council working groups, which were not translated, were more exhaustive and therefore contained more complete information on subjects such as the focus groups and IGF preparations. Regarding the IGF specifically, the most recent meeting had coincided with PP-18 and ITU's participation had therefore been limited.

4.4 Another representative of the secretariat, pointing out that ITU currently had eight active focus groups, suggested that a link to the focus group webpage, which always displayed current information, be added to the document.

4.5 The Acting Chairman invited the Council to note the report. He further invited Council Member States to submit their views on it to the secretariat, by e-mail and as succinctly as possible, by 1400 hours on Monday, 17 June. The report, the official summary record of the Council's discussion thereof and a document containing the compilation of Council Member States' views would be submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General as a package, along with a covering letter clearly stating that: (a) the report had been noted by ITU Council Member States; (b) the report, the accompanying compilation and the summary record should be considered as a package; and (c) the inclusion of hyperlinks did not imply implicit approval of the content of the hyperlink's target, as per Decision 14 (Busan, 2014). The covering letter and the compilation of Council Member States' views would be published as a temporary document with limited distribution by close of business on Tuesday, 18 June 2019, for review by Council Member States. The summary record would be reviewed as part of the normal Council procedure. Lastly, he stressed that in noting the report in Document C19/33, the Council was not endorsing it.

4.6 The Council **noted** Document C19/33 and **agreed** to proceed as proposed by the Acting Chairman.

4.7 The councillor from the United Arab Emirates introduced Document C19/102, which contained a proposal by his country and Saudi Arabia for OTT activities to be undertaken during the 2019–2022 study period.

4.8 Several councillors endorsed the proposal, which according to them, followed logically on from discussions at PP-18 and addressed the socio-economic impact of OTTs and capacity building in developing countries. One councillor said that the new activities proposed would enable study group results to be applied in developing countries.

4.9 Other councillors observed that a number of the proposals made in Document C19/102, in particular with regard to capacity building, related to questions already being examined by ITU-D and ITU-T study groups under Resolution 206 (Dubai, 2018), that CWG-Internet had engaged in public consultations on OTT services, and that the subject had been addressed by the Global Symposium for Regulators. They asked what new activities were being proposed and what the financial implications would be. One councillor suggested that TSB and BDT should be asked what elements in the proposal were not already being tackled by their services and that the annual report to be drawn up by the Secretary-General under Resolution 206 (Dubai, 2018) should highlight the many OTT activities the Union was already carrying out.

4.10 One councillor, observing that Resolution 206 (Dubai, 2018) was intended to serve as an umbrella resolution on OTTs, suggested that the annual report by the Secretary-General would be the appropriate vehicle for providing an overview of all OTT activities.

4.11 The councillor from the United Arab Emirates, addressing the financial concerns raised, said that, as the proposal was based on Resolution 206 (Dubai, 2018), any financial obligations arising from the capacity-building activities proposed would be met in the course of their implementation by ITU-D. Moreover, the Secretary-General's efforts to foster opportunities for collaboration among stakeholders were not likely to have any financial implications, and the Secretary-General's annual report would be based on Sector reports on OTT activities in general. The workshops proposed were intended to close gaps between stakeholders.

4.12 The Acting Chairman invited the Council to note Document C19/102 and to ask the secretariat to take the proposals it contained into consideration in its work to implement Resolution 206 (Dubai, 2018), taking into account the views expressed at the current session of the Council.

4.13 It was so **agreed**.

4.14 The councillor from Algeria introduced Document C19/82, which contained a proposal to list OTTs in the table of international Internet public policy issues contained in Annex 1 to Council Resolution 1305.

4.15 Several councillors endorsed the proposal.

4.16 The Council **agreed** to amend Council Resolution 1305 (2009) as proposed.

The Secretary-General: The Acting Chairman:

H. ZHAO F. BIGI

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