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| **Council 2019 Geneva, 10-20 June 2019** |  |
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|  | **Document C19/114-E** |
| **14 June 2019** |
| **Original: English** |
| SUMMARY RECORD  OF THE  THIRD PLENARY MEETING | |
| Wednesday, 12 June 2019, from 0945 to 1230 hours | |
| **Acting Chairman:**  Mr F. BIGI (Italy) | |

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|  | Subjects discussed | Documents |
| 1 | Report by the Chairman of the Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet) | [C19/51](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0051/en), [C19/61 + Corr.1](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0061/en), [C19/62](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0062/en), [C19/66](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0066/en), [C19/71](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0071/en), [C19/84](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0084/en), [C19/92](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0092/en), [C19/97](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0097/en) |
| 2 | Preparations for the 2021 World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF-21) (continued) | [C19/DL/2](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-DL-0002/en) |
| 3 | Follow-up to Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018): Periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations (continued) | [C19/DL/3](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-DL-0003/en) |
| 4 | Report on the outcomes of the CWG-WSIS&SDG activities since Council 2018 | [C19/8](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0008/en), [C19/70](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0070/en), [C19/INF/13 (Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0013/en) |
| 5 | Statement by the councillor from Kuwait | - |

**1 Report by the Chairman of the Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet) (Documents** [**C19/51**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0051/en)**,** [**C19/61 and Corrigendum 1,**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0061/en)[**C19/62**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0062/en)**,** [**C19/66**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0066/en)**,** [**C19/71**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0071/en)**,** [**C19/84**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0084/en)**,** [**C19/92**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0092/en) **and** [**C19/97**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0097/en)**)**

1.1 The Chairman of CWG-Internet, participating via video link, introduced the report in Document C19/51 summarizing the main results of the twelfth meeting of CWG-Internet. Despite time constraints, the CWG had discussed a range of important issues; however, it had not proved possible to reach consensus on a topic for the next open consultation with all stakeholders to be organized pursuant to its terms of reference, as specified in Council Resolution 1336 (Mod. 2015). The CWG had therefore agreed to seek guidance on the matter from the Council.

1.2 The councillors from Romania, speaking on behalf of the Administration Member States of CEPT, the United States, Brazil, Algeria, Côte d’Ivoire and Saudi Arabia introduced Documents C19/61 and Corrigendum 1, C19/62, C19/66, C19/84, C19/92 and C19/97, respectively, proposing various topics for the open consultation.

1.3 A number of councillors expressed support for selecting the topic of international public policy related to capacity building for Internet governance in developing countries, recalling that consensus had almost been reached to that effect within the CWG; one councillor, while acknowledging its importance, suggested that other topics would be more fruitful. The various suggested topics involving artificial intelligence elicited diverse views. Some councillors suggested that priority should be given to topics such as the deployment of IPv6, the role of community networks in advancing connectivity to remote, unserved or underserved communities, or the costs of connectivity; in general, the issue of connecting the unconnected was recognized as being of great importance.

1.4 Various views were expressed on how many topics should be selected. Some councillors suggested that it might be possible to select topics for the next two consultations at the current session; some stressed that each consultation should be restricted to a single topic. Two councillors said that it was for the CWG, not the Council, to decide the topics. Another pointed out that having a topic selected by the Council would allow the CWG to spend its limited meeting time discussing the substance of the topic itself. One councillor highlighted the need to avoid any overlap with other ITU meetings in scheduling CWG-Internet sessions.

1.5 The Chairman of CWG-Internet, expressing appreciation for the contributions submitted and comments made, emphasized the importance of reaching agreement on a topic for the next open consultation during the current Council session so as to allow the CWG sufficient time to discuss the substance of the topic at its next meeting. He suggested that informal discussions be held, after which consideration could be given to establishing a working group to take the issue further. He also requested the Council to allocate more time for CWG-Internet meetings: one-day meetings provided insufficient opportunity for discussion.

1.6 The Council **noted** the report of the twelfth meeting of CWG-Internet.

1.7 The Acting Chairman suggested that, as the Chairman of CWG-Internet could not be present in Geneva, the councillor from India and senior Vice-Chairman of CWG-Internet should be entrusted with the task of coordinating informal consultations on the topic and text of the questions for the next consultation. As there were different options, two topics for consultation could be considered: one for the period from now until the CWG-Internet meeting in September 2019, and another for the period from October until the CWG-Internet meeting in early 2020.

1.9 It was so **agreed**.

1.10 The councillor from the Russian Federation, speaking also on behalf of Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, presented a proposal, contained in Document C19/71, for the revision and merging of Council Resolutions 1336 and 1344, both of which pertained to CWG-Internet activities.

1.11 Councillors commented that the two resolutions, while related, differed in focus. Some felt that given those differences and the risk that merging could result in a loss of content, and since there was no pressing need to combine them, the two resolutions should remain separate. Others expressed support for the proposal, which would contribute to streamlining the management of CWG-Internet, thereby improving efficiency.

1.12 The Acting Chairman proposed that the councillor from the Russian Federation hold informal discussions on his country’s proposal with interested parties and report back to the Plenary.

1.13 It was so **agreed**.

**2 Preparations for the 2021 World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF-21) (continued) (Document** [**C19/DL/2**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-DL-0002/en)**)**

2.1 The councillor from the Bahamas, who had chaired the working group set up to prepare a draft decision on the duration, date, venue and themes of WTPF-21, informed the Council that the results of the group’s first meeting were reported in Document C19/DL/2. While a broad theme for WTPF-21 had been decided, further consultations would be required to select specific thematic elements.

**3 Follow-up to Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018): Periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations (continued) (Document** [**C19/DL/3**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-DL-0003/en)**)**

3.1 The councillor from Ghana, who had chaired a preliminary informal meeting to consider the terms of reference and working methods of the Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITR), drew attention to Document C19/DL/3, reflecting the results of the informal meeting.

**4 Report on the outcomes of the CWG-WSIS&SDG activities since Council 2018 (Documents** [**C19/8**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0008/en)**,** [**C19/70**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0070/en) **and** [**C19/INF/13 (Rev.1)**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0013/en)**)**

4.1 The Chairman of CWG-WSIS&SDG introduced the report on the outcomes of the CWG-WSIS&SDG activities since Council-18 (Document C19/8) and drew attention to the recommendations contained therein. He also introduced the compilation of the reports of the Council’s annual contributions to the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, in Document C19/INF/13 (Rev.1).

4.2 The Council welcomed the report and expressed support towards the WSIS multi-stakeholder approach. One councillor suggested that the contest of the WSIS Prizes should take into higher consideration the impacts of the projects submitted to the contest, rather than purely on the number of votes each project received. Another councillor sought clarification regarding the regional preparatory forums. The Chairman of CWG-WSIS&SDG responded that regional preparatory forums would be convened ahead of the annual WSIS Forum to consider the interests of each region in greater detail.

4.3 The Council **noted** Document C19/8 and **approved** the recommendations contained therein. It also **approved** the compilation of the reports of the Council’s annual contributions to the High-Level Political Forum in Document C19/INF/13 (Rev.1) and its submission to the Forum in September 2019.

4.4 The councillor from the Russian Federation introduced Document C19/70, containing proposals for the revision of Council Resolution 1332 (modified 2016), to bring it into line with Resolution 140 (Rev. Dubai, 2018).

4.5 The Acting Chairman suggested that the councillor from the Russian Federation hold informal consultations on his country’s proposal with interested parties and report back to the Plenary.

4.6 It was so **agreed**.

**5 Statement by the councillor from Kuwait**

5.1 The councillor from Kuwait, having welcomed the success of PP-18, said that his Government was fully aware of the importance of ICTs and was committed to developing the sector, with the aim of making Kuwait a centre for big data, a 5G pioneer, and a global and regional hub for ICT development. The Union had a vital role to play in harnessing ICTs for public good, including through its regional offices, which should be provided with all necessary human and financial resources.

5.2 The Secretary-General said that he had been honoured to accept an award from the Government of Kuwait in recognition of the Union’s achievements and welcomed the country’s continued commitment to ICT development.

The Secretary-General: The Acting Chairman:

H. ZHAO F. BIGI

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