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| **Council 2020 Geneva, 9-19 June 2020** |  |
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| **Agenda item: PL 2.6** | **Document C20/2-E** |
| **15 May 2020** |
| **Original: English** |
| Report by the Secretary-General | |
| PROPOSED DATES AND DURATION OF THE 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 sessions OF the council  along with the PROPOSEd DATEs of CLUSTERS OF COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS AND EXPERT GROUPS for 2020, 2021, AND 2022 | |

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| Summary  As per Resolution 77 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), and taking into consideration Decision 612 (C19), the Council is invited to “schedule its next three ordinary sessions in June-July and to review the Council schedule on a rolling basis”.  Decision 619 on the Headquarters Premises adopted at the additional 2019 session of the Council further requested the Secretary-General to address the need for temporary conference and meeting facilities during the demolition and early construction phase of the project by producing a list of the needs, including dates of conferences and meetings during this period. In that view, it was considered important to agree on the dates of the Council during the phase from 2023 until 2026.  Finally, with the aim to improve the “schedule of future conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union” and reduce the risk of overlap of events, it is proposed that the Council agree on the dates of the clusters of Council Working Groups and Expert Groups (CWGs & EGs) for 2020, 2021, and 2022.  Action required  The Council is invited to **confirm** the dates for its 2021 and 2022 sessions, as well as to **consider** and **approve** the dates for its 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 sessions, altogether with the dates of the clusters of CWGs & EGs for 2020, 2021, and 2022 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. Dubai, 2018)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-077-E.pdf)*,* [*Resolution 111 (Rev. Busan, 2014)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-111-E.pdf)*;* [*Council Documents C19/2*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0002/en)*,* [*C19/118*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0118/en)*,* [*C19/37*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0037/en)*;* [*C20/37*](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-C-0037/en)*;* [*Council Decision 612*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0129/en)*;* [*Decision 619*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CLADD-C-0005/en)*.* |

**Background**

Resolution 77 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) related to the ***scheduling and duration of conferences, forums, assemblies and Council sessions of the Union (2019-2023)***, *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”.

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”.

Council Decision 619 on **Headquarters Premises** adopted at the additional 2019 session of the Council, *instructs the Secretary-General* to address the need for temporary conference and meeting facilities during the demolition and early construction phase of the project by producing a list of the needs, including dates of conferences and meetings during this period..”. In that view, it was considered important to agree on the dates of the Council during that phase – from 2023 until 2026 – and pursued the negotiations with Foundation for buildings for international organisations (FIPOI), and coordinating with its International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG).

1. **Dates of the 2021 and 2022 sessions of the Council (see** [**Decision 612**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0129/en)**)**

At its 2019 session, the Council approved **Decision 612** confirming the dates for its 2020, 2021, and 2022 sessions, for a period of nine working days each. For 2021 and 2022, the retained periods are as follows:

* Council-21: from **Tuesday, 8 June to Friday, 18 June 2021**
* Council-22: from **Tuesday 22 March to Friday, 1 April 2022**

1. **Dates proposed for the 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 sessions of the Council**

Bearing in mind Council Decision 619, the secretariat has started collaborating very closely with FIPOI and coordinating with CICG in order to find the most adequate rooms and available periods to organize the ITU Council sessions from 2023 to 2026. Based on the availability of the CICG, the following dates are proposed:

* Council-23: from **Tuesday, 11 July to Friday, 21 July 2023.**
* Council-24: from **Tuesday, 9 July to Friday, 19 July 2024**
* Council-25: from **Tuesday, 1 July to Friday, 11 July 2025**
* Council-26: from **Monday, 4 May to Thursday, 14 May 2026**

1. **Council Working Groups and Expert Groups Clusters in 2020, 2021, and 2022**

3.1 Clusters of Council Working Groups and Expert Groups (CWGs & EGs) are usually organized in the first and third quarter of a year, with an exception made for a Plenipotentiary Conference (PP) year, when it is planned once, at the beginning of the year.

3.2 In order to prevent, whenever possible, overlap with other meetings of the Union, and while recognizing that it might sometimes be inevitable, it is proposed that the Council agree on the dates of the Clusters of CWGs & EGs for 2020, 2021, and 2022.

In 2020:

* Second cluster of CWGs & EGs: **from** **Monday, 14 September to Friday, 18 September 2020**

In 2021:

* First cluster of CWGs & EGs: **from** **Monday, 25 January to Friday, 5 February 2021**
* Second cluster of CWGs & EGs: **from** **Monday, 20 September to Friday, 1 October 2021**

In 2022:

* Sole cluster of CWGs & EGs:**from Monday, 10 January to Friday, 21 January 2022**

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

Annex

DRAFT DECISION [ ... ]

Dates and duration of the 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 sessions of the Council, along with the clusters of Council Working Groups and Expert Groups   
for 2020, 2021, and 2022

The ITU Council,

bearing in mind

1. Resolution 77 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) 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”;
3. Decision 619 on Headquarters Premises adopted at the additional 2019 session of the Council,

recalling

Council Decision 612 confirming the dates for the 2021 and 2022 sessions of the Council,

considering

the need to schedule ordinary sessions of the Council as much as possible around the same time frame each year in order to facilitate the arrangement of other ITU events,

considering further

the need to organize the ordinary session of the Council within a Plenipotentiary Conference (PP) year early enough so to allow Council reports to be further considered at PP to be published in a reasonable time frame,

emphasizing

that scheduling the clusters of Council Working Groups and Expert Groups (CWGs & EGs), over the next three years, would not only improve the overall planning of ITU events, but also reduce the risk of overlapping,

*acknowledging*

the need to address the need for temporary conference and meeting facilities during the demolition and early construction phase of the project by producing a list of the needs, including dates of conferences and meetings during this period,

decides

1 that in 2020, the second cluster of CWGs & EGs will be held from Monday, 14 September to Friday, 25 September 2020;

2 that the 2021 session of the Council will open in Geneva for a period of nine working days and will hold its clusters of CWGs & EGs as follows:

* First cluster of CWGs & EGs: from Monday, 25 January to Friday, 5 February 2021
* **Council-21: from** **Tuesday, 8 June to Friday, 18 June 2021**
* Second cluster of CWGs & EGs: from Monday, 20 September to Friday, 1 October 2021;

3 that the 2022 ordinary session of the Council will open in Geneva for a period of nine working days, and will hold its cluster of CWGs & EGs as follows:

* Cluster of CWGs & EGs: from Monday, 10 January to Friday, 21 January 2022
* **Council-22: from** **Tuesday, 22 March to Friday, 1 April 2022**,andshall have its final meeting on the Saturday before the start of the 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference;

4 that the 2023 session of the Council will open in Geneva for a period of nine working days, as follows:

* **Council-23: from** **Tuesday, 11 July to Friday, 21 July 2023**;

5 that the 2024 session of the Council will open in Geneva for a period of nine working days, as follows:

* **Council-24: from Tuesday, 9 July to Friday, 19 July 2024**;

6 that the 2025 session of the Council will open in Geneva for a period of nine working days, as follows:

* **Council-25: from Tuesday, 1 July to Friday, 11 July 2025**;

7 that the 2026 session of the Council will open in Geneva for a period of nine working days, as follows:

* **Council-26: from Monday 4 May to Thursday, 14 May 2026.**

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