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| **Council 2020 Consultation by correspondence (21 December 2020)** |  |
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| **22 December 2020** |
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DECISION 611 (C19, last amended C20)

(modified by correspondence)

Sixth World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology Policy Forum

The ITU Council,

recognizing

Resolution 2 (Rev. Dubai 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Dubai, 2018) on the world telecommunication/information and communication technology policy forum (WTPF),

considering

that the purpose of WTPF is to provide a venue for exchanging views and information and thereby creating a shared vision among policy-makers worldwide on the issues arising from the emergence of new telecommunication/ICT services and technologies, and to consider any other policy issue in telecommunications/ICTs which would benefit from a global exchange of views, in addition to the adoption of opinions reflecting common viewpoints,

decides

1 to convene the sixth WTPF in Geneva, Switzerland, for a duration of three days, from 16 to 18 December 2021 (WTPF-21);

2 that the theme for WTPF-21 is as follows:

“*Policies for mobilizing new and emerging telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development*:

The WTPF-21 would discuss how new and emerging digital technologies and trends are enablers of the global transition to the digital economy. Themes for consideration include AI, IoT, 5G, Big Data, OTTs etc. In this regard, the WTPF-21 will focus on opportunities, challenges and policies to foster sustainable development”;

3 that the preparatory process for WTPF-21 shall be in accordance with Resolution 2 (Rev. Dubai, 2018);

4 that the Agenda for WTPF-21 shall be based on the draft agenda contained in Annex 1 to this Decision;

5 that WTPF-21 shall not produce prescriptive regulatory outcomes; however, it shall prepare reports and adopt opinions by consensus for consideration by Member States, Sector Members and relevant ITU meetings;

6 that the report of the Secretary-General shall be developed in the following manner:

1. the Secretary-General shall convene a balanced, informal group of experts, each of whom is active in preparing for WTPF-21 in his/her own country, to assist in this process;
2. preparation of the WTPF-21 report by the Secretary-General shall be in accordance with Annex 2 to this Decision;
3. WTPF-21 meetings should be conducted in line with the Rules of Procedure used at the previous two Fora;
4. the final report of the Secretary-General shall be circulated at least six weeks before the opening of WTPF-21.

7 that participation in WTPF-21 shall be open to all Member States and Sector Members;

8 that arrangements for WTPF-21 shall be in accordance with applicable Plenipotentiary Conference and Council decisions for such fora,

instructs the Secretary-General

to encourage ITU Member States, Sector Members and other interested parties, to make voluntary contributions to help defray the costs of the WTPF-21 and facilitate attendance of the LDCs.

***Annexes:*** *2*

ANNEX 1

Draft Agenda  
Sixth World Telecommunication/Information and  
Communication Technology Policy Forum

1. Inauguration of the sixth World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum

2. Election of the chairman

3. Opening remarks and presentations

4. Organization of the work of the WTPF

5. Presentation of the Secretary-General’s report

6. Presentation of comments by the membership on the report

7. Discussion

8. Consideration of draft opinions

9. Adoption of the chairman’s report and opinions

10. Other business

ANNEX 2

Procedure and Schedule for Preparation of the WTPF-21 Report by the Secretary‑General

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| **1 August, 2019** | A First Draft outline of the report by the Secretary-General shall be posted online for comments |
| **21 August, 2019** | Deadline for receipt of comments on the First Draft  Deadline for nominations for a balanced group of experts to advise the Secretary-General on further elaboration of the report and of draft opinions associated with it |
| **1st IEG Meeting (September 2019 during the CWG cluster)** | First meeting of the group of experts to discuss the First Draft of the report by the Secretary-General and the comments received |
| **1 November, 2019** | The Second Draft of the report by the Secretary-General will be posted online, incorporating discussions from the 1st IEG meeting  This draft will also be made available online for open public consultations |
| **23 December, 2019** | Deadline for receipt of comments on the Second Draft, and for contribution on broad outlines for possible draft opinions  Deadline for inputs from the open public consultations |
| **2nd IEG Meeting (January/February 2020 during the CWG cluster)** | Second meeting of the group of experts to discuss the Second Draft of the report by the Secretary-General and the comments received, including from the open public consultation |
| **1 April, 2020** | The Third Draft of the report by the Secretary-General will be posted online, incorporating discussions from the 2nd IEG meeting and including outlines of draft Opinions  This draft will also be made available online for open public consultations |
| **June 15, 2020** | Deadline for receipt of comments on the Third Draft, and for contribution on possible draft Opinions  Deadline for inputs from the open public consultations |
| **3rd IEG Meeting (September 2020 during the CWG cluster)** | Third meeting of the group of experts to discuss the Third Draft of the report by the Secretary-General and the comments received, including from the open public consultation |
| **1 November, 2020** | The Fourth Draft of the report by the Secretary-General will be posted online, including the possible draft Opinions, and incorporating discussions from the 3rd IEG meeting |
| **23 December, 2020** | Deadline for receipt of comments on the Fourth Draft |
| **4th IEG Virtual Meeting (January-February 2021 during the CWG cluster)** | Fourth meeting of the group of experts to discuss the Fourth Draft of the report by the Secretary-General, including the possible draft Opinions, and the comments received |
| **15 March, 2021** | The Fifth Draft of the report by the Secretary-General will be posted online, incorporating discussions from the 4th IEG meeting, and including the text of the possible draft Opinions as an Annex  This draft will also be made available online for open public consultations. |
| **1 May, 2021** | Deadline for receipt of comments on the Fifth Draft, including the possible draft Opinions  Deadline for receipt of comments from the open public consultation |
| **5th IEG Virtual Meeting (Mid-May, 2021 close to the WSIS Forum 2021 duration)** | Fifth meeting of the group of experts to discuss the Fifth Draft of the report by the Secretary-General, as well as the draft Opinions and the comments received, including from the open public consultation |
| **1 July, 2021** | The Sixth Draft of the report by the Secretary-General will be posted online incorporating discussions from the 5th IEG meeting and including the draft Opinions as an Annex |
| **15 August, 2021** | Deadline for receipt of comments on the Sixth Draft, including the text of the draft Opinions |
| **6th IEG Meeting (September 2021 during the CWG Cluster)** | Sixth meeting of the group of experts to finalize the Draft Report by the Secretary-General, including the final text of the draft Opinions to be submitted to the sixth WTPF |
| **4 November, 2021** | The final report of the Secretary-General to WTPF will be posted online, including the draft Opinions |
| **16-18 December, 2021** | Sixth World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology Policy Forum |