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| **Council 2021Virtual consultation of councillors, 8-18 June 2021** |  |
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| **Agenda item: PL 2.6** | **Document C21/2-E** |
| **7 April 2021** |
| **Original: English** |
| Report by the Secretary-General |
| PROPOSED DATES AND DURATION OF THE 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 sessions OF the councilalong with the PROPOSEd DATEs of CLUSTERS OF COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS AND EXPERT GROUPS for 2022, 2023, and 2024 |

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| SummaryAs 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”. Following Decision 620 on “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”, it is proposed that the Council confirm the dates of the next Council sessions from 2022 to 2026, and in addition, also confirm the dates of the clusters of Council Working Groups and Expert Groups (CWGs & EGs) for 2022, 2023, and 2024.Action requiredThe Council is invited to **reconfirm** the dates for its 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 sessions, altogether with the dates of the clusters of CWGs & EGs for 2022, 2023, and 2024, 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)*;* [*C20/2*](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-C-0002/en)*,* [*C20/37*](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-C-0037/en)*,* [*C21/37*](https://www.itu.int/md/S21-CL-C-0037/en)*; Council* [*Decision 619*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CLADD-C-0005/en)*,* [*Decision 620*](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-C-0071/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).

After the second Virtual consultation of councillors (VCC-2) held on 16-20 November 2020, the Council approved by correspondence [Decision 620](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-C-0071/en), including the dates of the ITU Council sessions for the period between 2021 and 2026, taking into consideration the availability of the CICG, as well as the proposed dates for the Council Working Groups and Expert Groups for 2021 and 2022.

1. **Dates proposed for the 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 sessions of the ITU Council**

It is proposed to reconfirm dates for the next Councils as per Decision 620:

* Council-22:from **Tuesday, 22 March to Friday, 1 April 2022** (with its final meeting on **Saturday, 24 September**, before the start of the 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference)
* 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 2022, 2023, and 2024**

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, it is proposed that the Council already agree on the dates of the Clusters of CWGs & EGs for 2022, 2023, and 2024.

3.2 As from 2023, keeping in mind Council Decision 619 related to the demolition and early construction phase of the new Headquarters project, adequate rooms have been pre-booked at the CICG for 2023, and 2024.

The following dates are proposed:

In 2022 (normally at the ITU headquarters):

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

In 2023 (in CICG):

* First cluster of CWGs & EGs: **from Monday, 6 February to Friday, 17 February 2023**
* Second cluster of CWGs & EGs: **from Monday, 18 September to Friday, 29 September 2023**

In 2024 (in CICG):

* First cluster of CWGs & EGs: **from Monday, 19 February to Friday, 1 March 2024**
* Second cluster of CWGs & EGs: **from Monday, 30 September to Friday, 11 October 2024**

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

Annex

DRAFT DECISION [ ... ]

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

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 620 confirming the dates and duration for the 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 sessions of the Council, along with the cluster of Council Working Groups and Expert Groups for 2022,

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 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 **Saturday, 24 September 2022** before the start of the 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference;

2 that the 2023 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:

* First Cluster of CWGs & EGs: from Monday, 6 February to Friday, 17 February 2023
* **Council-23: from** **Tuesday, 11 July to Friday, 21 July 2023**
* Second Cluster of CWGs & EGs: from Monday, 18 September to Friday, 29 September 2023;

3 that the 2024 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:

* First cluster of CWGs & EGs: from Monday, 19 February to Friday, 1 March 2024
* **Council-24: from Tuesday, 9 July to Friday, 19 July 2024**
* Second cluster of CWGs & EG: from Monday, 30 September to Friday, 11 October 2024;

4 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**;

5 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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