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| **Council 2021 Virtual consultation of councillors, 8-18 June 2021** |  |
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| **Agenda item: PL 2.11** | **Document C21/73-E** |
| **22 April 2021** |
| **Original: English** |
| Report by the Secretary-General | |
| PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2022 PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE | |

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| Summary  The ITU Council, at its 2019 session, decided on the venue and dates for the holding of the next Plenipotentiary Conference.  The purpose of this document is to update the Council on the status of preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22).  Action required  The Council is invited **to note** the current status of the preparations for PP-22 and **to endorse** the proposed schedule of inter-regional meetings.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  References  [CV 2](https://www.itu.int/pub/S-CONF-PLEN-2019), [C19/55(Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0055/en), [C19/127](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0127/en), [CL-19/33](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-SG-CIR-0033/en), [CL-19/45](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-SG-CIR-0045/en) |

# 1. Introduction

1.1 This document provides an update on the status of preparations for the 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22).

1.2 Pursuant to No. 2 of the Convention, in the event that the precise place and exact dates of a PP have not been set by the preceding PP, they shall be fixed by the Council with the concurrence of the majority of the Member States.

# 2. Decision and consultation

2.1 On 8 April 2019, the ITU Secretary-General received an official invitation from the Government of Romania to host PP‐22 in Bucharest, which proposed three different possible dates. This proposal was submitted to the 2019 session of the Council in document [C19/55(Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0055/en).

2.2 After discussion at the 2019 session of the Council, councillors agreed with the proposed location of PP-22 with the dates of 26 September to 14 October 2022, resulting in the approval of Decision 610 ([C19/127](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0127/en)).

2.3 Following this approval by the Member States of the Council and in accordance with No. 2 of the Convention, on 22 July 2019 the Secretary-General launched a consultation ([CL-19/33](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-SG-CIR-0033/en)) with the Member States of ITU requesting their concurrence with the precise place and exact dates for PP-22.

2.4 On 3 October 2019, the Secretary-General announced that the consultation received the agreement of the required majority of the Member States in accordance with No. 2 of the Convention ([CL-19/45](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-SG-CIR-0045/en)).

# 3. Progress to date

3.1 Discussions are ongoing between ITU and the Government of Romania to progress on the provisions of the Host Country Agreement to be signed by both parties. The negotiations of the Host Country Agreement for PP-22 have been conducted on the basis of the model host country agreement approved by Council at its 2007 session and with reference to the agreement concluded for PP-18.

3.2 Although the ITU secretariat has not yet been able to conduct a site visit due to the sanitary situation, it is having regular meetings with the host country counterparts to discuss the conference centre infrastructure and overall logistics, and hotels for delegates and ITU staff, to prepare the security, health and safety, protocol, and communications plans, as well as to address registration issues.

3.3 The host country has expressed its commitment to make this event as green as possible. It also showed its interest to take further steps to ensure a full, gender-responsive conference taking into account the work already undertaken by ITU. Finally, the host country would be interested to pursue a better implication of youth in the conference.

# 4. Key issues

In line with Article 8 of ITU Constitution, the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the basis of proposals by Member States and taking into account of reports by the Council, shall:

1. Determine general policies for fulfilling the purposes of the Union;
2. Consider reports by the Council on the activities of the Union since the previous plenipotentiary conference and on the policy and strategic planning of the Union;
3. Establish the strategic plan for the Union and the basis for the budget of the Union, and determines related financial limits;
4. Establish the total number of contributory units for period up to next PP;
5. Provide general directives dealing with the staffing of the Union;
6. Examine the accounts of the Union and finally approve them;
7. Elect the Member States which are to serve on the Council;
8. Elect the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors;
9. Elect the members of the Radio Regulations Board;
10. Consider and adopts modifications to the Constitution and Convention;
11. Conclude or revise if necessary agreements with other international organizations;
12. Adopt and amend the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union;
13. Deal with such other telecommunications questions as may be necessary.

# 5. Next steps

5.1 Internally, the Coordination Committee will establish the Bucharest Preparatory Group (BPG) with representatives from all Bureaux and the General Secretariat.

5.2 The Host Country Agreement is due to be signed by the end of September 2021.

5.3 Building on the successful experience of PP-18 during which three informal inter-regional meetings were organized with the support of the secretariat, it is proposed to improve the scheduling of the preparatory meetings, both regional and inter-regional, for PP-22.

5.4 RTOs are strongly invited to send to the secretariat as soon as possible the dates for their regional preparatory meetings if they have not yet done so. The secretariat will create and regularly update a dedicated page on the PP-22 website on regional preparations for the PP. RTOs are also invited to send to the secretariat the names of their focal point(s) for PP to liaise with the secretariat.

5.5 As for PP-18, it is proposed to organize inter-regional meetings to facilitate discussions and pathways to consensus in the run-up to PP-22. It is proposed to hold three meetings as follows:

* 1st meeting in conjunction with C22 (22 March – 1 April 2022);
* 2nd meeting after the deadline for Member States contributions (at least 4 months before, as per GR 40: 26 May 2022) during the second half of June 2022;
* 3rd meeting after the deadline for submission of candidatures (no later than 23.59 on the 28th day prior to the conference, as per GR 170: 23.59 on 29 August 2022) during the first week of September 2022; and
* a last meeting could be held virtually before the conference to advance some issues if necessary.

5.6 The meetings will be held informally following the principles laid out in document [C21/13](https://www.itu.int/md/S21-CL-C-0013/en).

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