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|  | **Document C25/112-E** |
| **9 September 2025** |
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| **SUMMARY RECORD****OF THE****SIXTH PLENARY MEETING** |
| Wednesday, 25 June 2025, from 1430 to 1800 hours**Chair**: Ms C. Flutur (Romania) |

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|  | **Subjects discussed** | **Documents** |
| 1 | ITU Internet activities: Resolutions 101, 102, 133, 180 and 206 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (*continued*) | [C25/33](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0033/en), [C25/DT/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-250617-TD-0004/en) |
| 2 | Report on the proposed venues for RA-27, WRC-27 and CPM31-1 (*continued*) | [C25/58+Add.1,2](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0058/en), [C25/101](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0101/en) |
| 3 | ITU's activities on the implementation of Council Resolution 1429 (C24), on environmental sustainability | [C25/45](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0045/en) |
| 4 | Activities supporting reconstruction of infrastructure in countries concerned | [C25/72](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0072/en) |
| 5 | Status report on assistance and support to Palestine | [C25/71](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0071/en) |
| 6 | Update on the implementation of Council Resolution 1408 (C22, last amended C23), on assistance and support to Ukraine for rebuilding their telecommunication sector | [C25/68](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0068/en) |

# 1 ITU Internet activities: Resolutions 101, 102, 133, 180 and 206 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (*continued*)(Documents [C25/33](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0033/en), [C25/DT/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-250617-TD-0004/en))

1.1 The Chair said that Document C25/DT/4 contained the package of documents concerning ITU Internet activities under Resolutions 101, 102, 133, 180 and 206 of the Plenipotentiary Conference to be transmitted to the United Nations Secretary-General. The package comprised the ITU Secretary-General's report to the 2025 session of the Council (Council-25) on the Union's activities under its Internet-related resolutions, contained in Document C25/33; the written views of Council Member States; and an extract from the official summary record of the second plenary meeting of Council-25 on that item.

1.2 The Council **noted** Document C25/DT/4 and **approved** the transmission of the package of documents to the United Nations Secretary-General.

# 2 Report on the proposed venues for RA‑27, WRC‑27 and CPM31‑1 (*continued*) (Documents [C25/58 and Addenda 1 and 2](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0058/en), [C25/101)](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0101/en)

2.1 The Chair observed that the matter under consideration was unprecedented for ITU and its Membership and stressed the importance of respectful, transparent and consensus-based deliberations in line with ITU traditions. She recalled the honour, privilege and responsibility associated with hosting a conference. She proposed that the United States present its invitation to host WRC-27 and clarify the status of its initial contribution (Document C25/101), followed by interventions from Member States. She emphasized the need to avoid rushed decisions, to use the discussion to strengthen ITU’s legacy through lessons learned, and to develop a clear process to guide similar matters in the future.

2.2 The councillor from the United States introduced Addendum 2 to Document C25/58, containing an offer from his government to host the 2027 world radiocommunication conference (WRC‑27) and associated events at a venue yet to be specified. Recalling his country's strong record of hosting major international events, he said that site visits could be promptly organized. His delegation had expected to support Rwanda's invitation to host WRC‑27 until the last-minute withdrawal of that invitation. While unable to support China's invitation, his delegation had engaged in good-faith negotiations with the Chinese delegation and made concrete proposals, which had been rejected. Holding the events in the United States offered a viable path to the consensus sought by all. If consensus on either invitation could not be reached, Geneva should remain the default back-up option to host the events.

2.3 The councillor from China said that her delegation had done its utmost to achieve consensus on hosting WRC‑27 and associated events in Shanghai and had engaged in six rounds of consultations with the United States delegation. However, under the pretext of waiting for instructions from its government, the United States delegation had avoided seeking a mutually satisfactory solution with her delegation, while submitting in parallel an incomplete invitation on the evening of 23 June to host the events, over which the Chinese delegation expressed its deep regret. The United States' practice of hegemony in the name of consensus, at the expense of the legitimate interests of all countries, was serving its own agenda and putting "America First" above international rules; a typical act of bullying, politicizing the work of ITU and undermining the Union’s rules and unity. Document C25/58 (Add.2) had been submitted after the seventh day of the meeting, in contravention of ITU’s rules regarding deadlines for the submission of documents, and it did not specify a host city; thus, it clearly did not constitute a valid bid to host WRC-27. China was the sole country to have submitted an invitation in full compliance with the Council's rules of procedure and the basic hosting requirements. Supported by the councillor from Cuba, she moved that discussions on the holding of WRC-27 in Shanghai, China, be closed under No. 107 of the General Rules of conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union and that the motion and subsequent motions for discussion of the matter be voted on by secret ballot. She requested that the secretariat clarify to the meeting what votes were required and the exact implications, to ensure that Member States fully understood.

2.4 The councillors from Italy and Paraguay opposed closing of debate, stressing that the importance of the issue necessitated further discussion and consultation to achieve a consensus-based decision.

2.5 The councillor from Italy, supported by the councillor from the United States, then moved that debate be postponed under No. 106 of the General Rules, to avoid a divisive vote and allow time to reach consensus.

2.6 Responding to a point of order, the Legal Counsel advised that, under Nos. 98-104 of the General Rules, a motion for postponement of debate took precedence over a motion for closure of debate.

2.7 The councillor from China, supported by the councillor from Cuba, opposed the motion to postpone the debate. The councillor from China said that her delegation had done its utmost to facilitate consensus, while the United States had repeatedly delayed the process, showing no sincerity in resolving the problem, and had politically manipulated the process by insisting that WRC-27 could not be held in China as a precondition for consultations, thereby undermining the basis for reaching a consensus. China was of the view that, under those circumstances, there was no viable basis for consensus and that any further debate or delay was futile. The debate should be closed.

2.8 At the request of the Chair, the Legal Counsel explained that the Council had before it a motion for postponement of debate under No. 106 of the General Rules. If the motion for postponement was sustained, the Council would move forward with its discussion of other agenda items and return to its debate of that item, including the vote on the motion to close debate, at its next session.

2.9 On behalf of the Chair, the Legal Counsel, having confirmed that there was a quorum, announced that a vote would be conducted by show of hands on the motion to postpone the debate and declared the beginning of the vote.

2.10 The Chair announced the results of the vote:

Number of delegations present and voting: 29

Required majority: 15

In favour of the motion: 16

Against the motion: 13

Abstentions: 9

2.11 The motion to postpone the debate was **sustained** by 16 votes to 13, with 9 abstentions.

2.12 The Legal Counsel said that the Council would therefore resume its discussion of the item at its next meeting.

# 3 ITU's activities on the implementation of Council Resolution 1429 (C24), on environmental sustainability (Document [C25/45)](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0045/en)

3.1 A representative of the General Secretariat introduced Document C25/45, summarizing progress in implementing Council Resolution 1429 (C24), on environmental sustainability. The report complemented climate action and sustainable digital transformation activities described in the report on the implementation of the strategic plan and activities of the Union for 2024-2025 (Document [C25/35](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0035/en)).

3.2 Two councillors welcomed the efforts to enhance ITU's environmental sustainability; however, one voiced concern over the lack of reduction in CO2 emissions and called for strategic, concrete actions aligned with sustainability guidelines and, in particular, aimed at reducing the number of ITU-paid flights.

3.3 The representative of the General Secretariat replied that the environmental management system working group had been strengthened and had proposed various measures currently under review by the Coordination Committee. The Union needed to demonstrate leadership in environmental sustainability and in improving the environmental efficiency of the sector.

3.4 The Council **noted** the report contained in Document C25/45.

# 4 Activities supporting reconstruction of infrastructure in countries concerned (Document [C25/72)](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0072/en)

4.1 The Deputy to the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) introduced Document C25/72, offering a detailed overview of ITU's activities supporting Member States in reconstructing information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure. The report was in response to a request made during the 2024 session of the Council.

4.2 One councillor welcomed the report, observing that none of the countries receiving support under Resolution 34 (Rev. Dubai, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference (PP) or country-specific PP and Council resolutions were Council Member States; vigilance and oversight was thus imperative. He called for greater equitability, in reporting and action, for assistance provided to such countries, urging that all countries' needs be addressed. He added that platforms developed for recently affected countries could be adapted to support others.

4.3 The observer for the Russian Federation voiced concern over the lack of progress in restoring telecommunication infrastructure in Palestine and over the Secretary-General's lack of response following direct attacks by Israel on telecommunication infrastructure in the Islamic Republic of Iran. The observer for Israel refuted that accusation, stating that her government had targeted legitimate military objectives, unlike the Islamic Republic of Iran, which had attacked civilians and civilian infrastructure.

4.4 The Deputy to the Director of BDT said that infrastructure reconstruction activities had been integrated into BDT's operational plan to optimize resource use and avoid duplication. Reports and dashboards were submitted to the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group to facilitate Member States' oversight.

4.5 The Director of BDT said that, after the adoption of PP Resolution 34 in Kyoto, 1994, ITU began efforts in 2001 to support infrastructure reconstruction for countries emerging from conflict, largely thanks to donor contributions. Although no dedicated budget existed for infrastructure reconstruction, ITU had achieved meaningful results. Given the varying development levels of countries requiring support, the secretariat conducted gap analyses and assessed destruction levels before appealing to donors. He called on Member States to support those efforts. He explained that intervention in countries experiencing ongoing conflict was limited to essential humanitarian services under United Nations policy but emphasized the secretariat's commitment to assisting countries emerging from conflict and natural disasters.

4.6 The Council **noted** the report contained in Document C25/72.

# 5 Status report on assistance and support to Palestine (Document [C25/71](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0071/en))

5.1 The Regional Director of the Regional Office for the Arab States introduced Document C25/71, which detailed the implementation of Council Resolution 1424 (C24) by the different bureaux of the Union (including the General Secretariat, the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Development Bureau) and provided a status report on assistance and support to Palestine. He highlighted the extensive damage to ICT infrastructure and the estimated recovery costs and outlined actions undertaken over the previous year. Those included establishment of an Inter-Sectoral Task Force on implementation of the resolution, collaboration with the United Nations Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC), delivery of satellite phones to Gaza, contribution to interim damage assessments along with other international partners and the holding of meetings with the Palestinian stakeholders including the Ministry of Telecommunications and Digital Economy, the telecommunication operators and other stakeholders. Additionally, the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau continued to engage with Israeli and Palestinian authorities to facilitate implementation of Resolution 12 (Rev. WRC‑23) of the World Radiocommunication Conference, in particular access to radio-frequency spectrum and 4G and 5G telecommunication networks.

5.2 The observer for the State of Palestine delivered the following statement:
[council.itu.int/2025/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/07/Statement\_Palestine-250625e.pdf](http://council.itu.int/2025/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/07/Statement_Palestine-250625e.pdf).

5.3 While some Councillors and observers acknowledged ITU's efforts under Resolution 1424 (C24), many Councillors and observers noted with deep concern that the report showed little tangible progress in implementing the resolution or improving the humanitarian situation. Some councillors criticized the report's reliance on open-source third-party data rather than ITU-led assessment of the situation on the ground. In their view, support to Palestine appeared insufficient compared to assistance provided to other countries in special need, with Palestine's basic needs not being met. Several councillors welcomed the call to recognize telecommunication services as a basic human need, requiring protection and maintenance during conflict. It was requested that future reports clarify challenges and achievements and the steps to be taken by ITU to support Palestinians. Several councillors supported the call for six-monthly reporting on the implementation of Resolution 1424 (C24), while one councillor requested that a full report be presented at the 2026 plenipotentiary conference.

5.4 Many councillors and observers expressed support for the statement by the observer for Palestine, noting that the proposals made could facilitate progress in implementation of Resolution 1424 (C24). They emphasized the need for a comprehensive plan of action with clear objectives, timelines and defined stakeholders, a high-level stakeholder and donor conference and a dedicated fund for rebuilding Palestine's telecommunication infrastructure, all before WTDC‑25. The secretariat was urged to continue coordination with all stakeholders to ensure access to 4G and 5G telecommunication technology and implementation of Resolution 12 (Rev. WRC‑23), also prior to WTDC‑25, and to ensure access to necessary technology and fuel for the full operation of telecommunication networks. Several councillors called for measures to ensure the safety of personnel working to restore telecommunication services.

5.5 One councillor called for timely dissemination of damage assessment findings to support evidence-based planning and resource mobilization. Another requested further details on financial resources allocated by ITU to implementation of Resolution 1424 (C24) and proposed establishment of a website to monitor activities.

5.6 Councillors welcomed ITU's collaboration with other organizations and the creation of the Inter-Sectoral Task Force. One councillor urged continued focus on practical and technical measures, cautioning against actions that might hinder important bilateral discussions to enhance connectivity for the Palestinian people. An observer underlined that ITU's activities under Resolution 1424 (C24) must remain within its mandate.

5.7 Expressing solidarity with the Palestinian people, many councillors and observers called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of hostages and unimpeded access to humanitarian assistance, equipment and fuel. The extensive damage to telecommunication infrastructure in Palestine, compounded by restrictions on fuel and equipment, was of serious concern and affected delivery of humanitarian assistance. Urgent action was needed to uphold Palestinians' rights to connectivity and access to information, as enshrined in the United Nations Charter.

5.8 The observer for Israel, refuting the comments of the observer for Palestine, said that Israel continued to engage directly with the Palestinian authorities to address telecommunication needs under bilateral agreements, making progress towards introducing advanced telecommunication services. Israel had found solutions to many of the issues presented; however, there were sometimes delays in responses from the Palestinian authorities. Any discussion on reconstruction of telecommunication infrastructure in Gaza should acknowledge the responsibility of Hamas, a terrorist organization, for the situation and should only take place when all hostages had been released and control of Hamas over Gaza had ended.

5.9 The Secretary-General said that ITU coordinated closely with operators and ETC, as well as with other bodies across the United Nations system, on the implementation of Resolution 1424 (C24); however, circumstances on the ground were highly challenging. She thanked Member States for their vital support, noting the donation of satellite phones by the United Arab Emirates, and encouraged them to make voluntary contributions directly to ITU or through the Partner2Connect Digital Coalition (P2C). The secretariat would provide a clear plan of action and timeline for ITU activities to support the ICT sector in Palestine through the Inter-Sectoral Task Force.

5.10 The Councillor of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia reiterated the need for implementation of the proposals made by the observer for Palestine, noting councillors’ and observers’ broad support for those proposals and the absence of any objections.

5.11 The Chair took it that the Council wished to notethe report contained in Document C25/71 and instruct the Secretary-General to develop a concrete plan of action and timeline for implementation of Resolution 1424 (C24) and report on it to the 2026 session of the Council.

5.12 It was so **agreed**.

# 6 Update on the implementation of Council Resolution 1408 (C22, last amended C23), on assistance and support to Ukraine for rebuilding their telecommunication sector (Document [C25/68](http://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0068/en))

6.1 The Head of the ITU Office for Europe introduced Document C25/68, which outlined the activities and developments since Council-24 on assistance and support to Ukraine for rebuilding their telecommunication sector, in response to Resolution 1408 (C22, last amended C23). He drew attention to the findings of the Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment Report and the recent Digital Development Country Profile as well as provided an overview of stakeholder engagement, the coordination mechanisms for the implementation of Resolution 1408 (C22, last amended C23), technical assistance, capacity-building activities and resource mobilization. He looked forward to the Ukraine Recovery Conference to be held in July 2025 and expressed his thanks to the Government of Ukraine for its proactive approach and to the countries and institutions that had provided financial means and support in kind.

6.2 The observer for Ukraine, speaking on behalf of 42 countries, delivered the following statement: [council.itu.int/2025/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/07/Statement-joint-Ukraine-co-countries-250625-e.pdf](http://council.itu.int/2025/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/07/Statement-joint-Ukraine-co-countries-250625-e.pdf).

6.3 The councillor from Poland, speaking on behalf of 26 of the European Union countries, delivered the following statement: [council.itu.int/2025/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/07/Statement-joint-Poland-multicountries-250625.pdf](http://council.itu.int/2025/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/07/Statement-joint-Poland-multicountries-250625.pdf).

6.4 The councillor from Sweden, speaking on behalf of the eight Nordic-Baltic countries, condemned the unprovoked aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation in the strongest possible terms. The commendable efforts of ITU to implement Resolution 1408 (C22, last amended C23) should be continued. The Nordic-Baltic countries would stand resolutely with Ukraine as long as necessary and were unwavering in their support for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine, based on international law.

6.5 The councillor from Canada delivered the following statement: [council.itu.int/2025/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/07/Statement\_Canada-250625-e.pdf](http://council.itu.int/2025/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/07/Statement_Canada-250625-e.pdf).

6.6 Welcoming the steps taken to operationalize Resolution 1408 (C22, last amended C23), a number of councillors called for an immediate halt to hostilities in Ukraine, which violated international law, the Charter of the United Nations and resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly. Concern was expressed about the scale of damage and loss caused by attacks on telecommunication infrastructure, which was critical to national resilience.

6.7 Reiterating their unwavering solidarity with Ukraine, councillors encouraged ITU to continue to provide technical assistance to Ukraine and to leverage further financial resources, including through other international institutions and Member State contributions. A resilient digital ecosystem was essential to the recovery and long-term development of Ukraine.

6.8 One councillor said that the Union's provision of ICT-related assistance to Member States affected by conflict or disaster must be impartial, inclusive and proportional. It was encouraged to apply a needs-based approach that reflected realities on the ground and responded to the requirements of all Member States.

6.9 The observer for the Russian Federation delivered the following statement: [council.itu.int/2025/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/07/Statement\_1408\_Russia\_250625-e-1.pdf](http://council.itu.int/2025/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/07/Statement_1408_Russia_250625-e-1.pdf).

6.10 The Secretary-General said that the secretariat would continue to implement Resolution 1408 (C22, last amended C23) through the Special Task Force on Resolution 1408. In order to facilitate technical assistance to Ukraine, Member States and partners were encouraged to make voluntary contributions directly to ITU or through P2C; she expressed her appreciation for contributions that had already been received.

6.11 The Council **noted** the report contained in Document C25/68.

The Secretary-General: The Chair:

D. BOGDAN-MARTIN C. FLUTUR

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