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|  | **Document CWG-FHR-21/18** |
| **27 August 2025** |
| **English only** |
| Contribution by South Africa (Republic of) |
| UPDATE ON THE UNION'S HEADQUARTERS PREMISES PROJECT |
| **Purpose**This contribution aims to facilitate comprehensive monitoring of the risk management strategies and mitigation measures in place regarding the Union’s headquarters premises project, ensuring that ITU proactively address any potential issues that may arise as the project progresses. **Action required**The Council Working Group on financial and human resources is invited to **consider** this document.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References** [*CWG-FHR-21/5*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGFHR21-C-0005/en)*.* |

1. **Background**

1.1 We would like to express our gratitude for the update provided by the Secretary-General regarding the Union’s headquarters premises, as outlined in document [CWG-FHR-21/5](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGFHR21-C-0005/en). Overall, we have taken note that the report indicates the project costs are still within the approved budget. It also offers insights into the ongoing engagement with sponsors, the loan arrangements with the host country, interactions with MSAG, and the progress with respect to the work being carried out by the Planning and Design firms together with the project team.

1.2 We've also observed in the report provided by the Secretary-General that the risk register was updated in June 2025 to reflect the project's current stage, funding, and mitigation strategies. Additionally, we have noted that risk owners are actively reviewing the registers, and the outcomes of these risk assessments are regularly shared with MSAG and FIPOI.

1. **Proposal**
	1. We acknowledge and appreciate the ongoing efforts related to the review of the risk register of the Union’s headquarters premises. However, given the significant risks tied to this project and the challenges encountered in past phases of the building project, we firmly believe it is essential to enhance oversight. Therefore, it would be prudent for the updated risk register to be additionally presented to the CWG-FHR. This will facilitate comprehensive monitoring of the risk management strategies and mitigation measures in place, ensuring that we are proactively addressing any potential issues that may arise as the project progresses.

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