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Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

10 December 2018

ITU Headquarters, Geneva

*Welcome Remarks*

Chaesub Lee

Director, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau  
International Telecommunication Union

Chairman of TSAG, Bruce Gracie

Distinguished colleagues and friends,

Good morning. It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to this meeting of TSAG.

I would like to begin by thanking you for the support that you have offered me as Director of TSB.

We have accomplished much of over the last four years. And I look forward to the next four years of our work together.

PP-18 reminded us of the enduring importance of open, inclusive collaboration in supporting the continued development of the Information Society.

Our members recognize that half of the world’s people are still not using the Internet. And for those connected, more must be done to ensure that connected life is safe and trustworthy.

These objectives – connecting the unconnected and building trust in ICT – are two of ITU’s highest priorities.

Achieving these objectives will call for ITU standards to address the needs of an expanding array of ICT applications.

We see this reflected in the growth and evolution of ITU-T membership.

Our membership has taken a sharp upward trajectory. ITU-T has welcomed 44 new members in 2018, including MVNOs and MVNEs, manufacturers of unmanned aerial vehicles, telematics and automotive companies, OTT service providers, energy utilities, and companies specializing in quantum cryptography and quantum communications.

And we should continue to ask: How can we ensure that the ITU standardization platform meets the needs of these new communities? How can we support these communities in developing ITU standards for new and emerging ICT applications?

These questions are highly relevant to the work of TSAG.

The ultimate aim of ITU-T is to develop high-quality international standards; using an efficient standardization process; supporting ICT growth and innovation across a wide range of industry sectors.

Standards, due process, and community – these are the three key pillars of ITU-T. I look forward to our continued collaboration to strengthen these pillars.

I would like to conclude by thanking ITU-T members for their dedicated contribution to ITU standardization.

We have approved around 290 new and revised ITU-T standards since the last meeting of TSAG.

We continue to achieve key results in fields characterized by ITU leadership. And we continue to take proactive steps towards ensuring that ITU remains well positioned to serve emerging standardization demands.

Speaking for TSB, we are always in search of new opportunities to help members maximize the value of their participation in ITU-T.

We continue to innovate to provide ITU-T members with state-of-the-art electronic working facilities. And we continue to investigate new opportunities to strengthen our BSG programme.

TSB management takes every possible opportunity to meet with members to discuss their priorities – this helps us to deliver valuable TSB services. I look forward to our discussions of what more TSB can do to ensure that our services meet your needs.

Thank you. I wish you a most successful meeting of TSAG.

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