FINISHED FILE

ITU WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2017
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

16 OCTOBER, 2017
9:30 A.M. LOCAL TIME

PLENARY

                          ***
                          ***

     >> CHAIR: Good morning. Please take your seats so we can
start. Good morning, everyone. Could I kindly ask you to take
your seats so that we can begin this Plenary session this
morning?
     Good morning, interpreters. I'd just like to check if we
are ready.
     >> Yes, we are, Chair.
     >> CHAIR: Thank you. Good morning, everyone. Before
beginning I would like to thank all of you, those who have been
working over the weekend to work on the agenda of the Committees
and whether you have worked a lot or whether you worked very
little. So I want to thank you very much for the endeavor on
your commitment and participation over the weekend to move
forward the work of the Committees.
     I'd like to now put before you today's agenda. This can be
found in document ADM/8-E. If I can put this to your
consideration and for your approval. Are there any comments on
the agenda?
     Yes, you have the floor please.
     >> IVORY COAST: Thank you, Chair. Good morning. On the
agenda point 5, the report on -- so on agenda item 4, we need to
repeat the language on agenda item 5, report on Study Group
activities. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Ivory Coast, for those comments. I just had an audio problem. Excuse me for that. We will take note of your comments.

Are there any further comments on the agenda? Seeing no comments, the agenda is thereby approved. Thank you.

Moving on to the next agenda item which is agenda item 3, arrangements for the work of the Editorial Committee, I would now like to give the floor to the Chair of the Editorial Committee, Committee 5. You have the floor, please.

>> COMMITTEE 5: Thank you, Chair. Secretary-General, Chair of the conference, BDT director and the other elected officials, Ladies and Gentlemen, firstly as this is the first time I am taking the floor in the Plenary allow me to convey my gratitude to the Argentinean government for their work on the conference. I would like to say my sincere gratitude to the Arab Group to allow me to take this Chair of the Editorial Committee. I also have the -- I would like to present the work of the Editorial Committee. In this vain, in the aim of facilitating the work of the conference I would like to draw your attention to the points regarding the Editorial Committee as a term of reference. In accordance with the rules of procedures allow me to quote the terms of reference which are as follows: The texts prepared in the various committees, which shall be worded as far as possible in definitive form by these Committees, taking account of the views expressed, shall be submitted to an Editorial Committee charged with perfecting their form without altering the sense and, where appropriate, with combining them with those parts of former texts which have not been altered, and the texts shall be submitted by the Editorial Committee to the Plenary meeting, which shall approve them, or refer them back to the appropriate committee for further examination.

The structure of the Committee is as follows: The Chair, which is myself, Madam Hassina Laredj from Algeria; five Vice-Chairs, Sameera Belal Momen Mohammad from Kuwait; Guolei Cai from China; Madam Marie Humeau from the UK; Professor Vladimir Minkin from the Russian Federation and Mr. Hector Carrillo Morales from Mexico.

This is composed of the Secretariat, Fernando Peral, who is the secretary and Kirill Oparin who is the co-Secretariat.

Allow me to also remind you of -- under the rules of procedure of conferences, Assemblies and Meetings No. 78 of the Editorial Committee is composed as follows: In addition to any Delegates of Member States and representatives any entity or organization included in the relevant list referred to in No. 237 of the Convention, which includes Committees of various Assemblies from WTDC-17 as well as with the exception of the steering, budget control and Editorial Committees, and this may

be attended by observers in Article 25 of the Convention.

In order to facilitate the Committee's work and in view of the small size of the Committee's meeting room, those Delegations wishing to take part in the Editorial Committee should notify -- as soon as possible notify the Secretariat by completing the registration form in the annex to this document, DT/12-E Rev 2, and send it by e-mail to the address on the screen.

I'd also like to advise you that the meeting of the Committees will be held in Alerce on the fifth floor. And the first meeting will take place today at 3 o'clock. In the upcoming days the meetings will be communicated to you by e-mail. And this will be seen on the calendar and schedules on the screen throughout the conference.

So yeah, I take this opportunity to renew once again my gratitude to you for the work and the determination of the conference to undertake the work ahead. Thank you very much, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Madam. Are there any comments on this document? Seeing none, I will therefore move on to the next agenda item. I'd now like to invite the Chair of Study Group 1, Madam Roxanne McElvane, to present the activities of the Study Group for the sixth study period between WTDC-14 and WTDC-17. This can be found in document 12. Madam Roxanne McElvane, you have the floor.

>> ROXANNE MCELVANE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Sorry. And good morning to you and to all colleagues. It is my pleasure to present this report for the sixth study period covering 2014 to 2017.

In this study period Study Group 1 examined several issues through its eight questions in Resolution 9, and these encompassed broadband policy, technology and implementation strategy, cloud computing, tariff and cost models, transitions from analog to Digital Terrestrial Television, broadcasting and use of the digital dividend, rural communications, Consumer Protection, access to telecommunication and ICTs by Persons with Disabilities and specific needs and finally spectrum management.

I was fortunate enough to Chair this group and was actively assisted by 11 Vice-Chairmen representing the six regions of the world. They include Mrs. Regina Fleur Assoumou Bessou. Hello. Can you hear me? It is on? Okay. I can hear myself.

So as I said the -- I was fortunate to do this with the active assistant by 11 Vice-Chairmen including Mrs. Regina Fleur Assoumou Bessou from Cote D'Ivoire; Mr. Peter Ngwan Mbengie from Cameroon; Claymir Carozza Rodriguez from Venezuela; Mr. Victor Martinez from Paraguay; Mr. Wesam Al-Ramadeen from Jordan; Mr. Ahmed Abdel Aziz Gad from Egypt; Yasuhiko Kawasumi from

Japan; Mr. Nguyen Quy Quyen from Vietnam; Mr. Vadym Kaptur from the Ukraine; Mr. Almaz Tilenbaev from the Kyrgyz Republic and Blanca Gonzalez from Spain.

I would invite you if you would look at annex 1 on page 19 of the English version because this includes all the personnel who were leading the questions, 17 in total as well as the BDT focal points that provided us with valuable information in so so so many ways.

So what happened during the three years that we have been working since the WTDC? In total we had about 600 Delegates that participated in Study Group 1 meetings. The highest number came from Africa followed by Asia and Pacifics and Americas, Europe and Arab States and finally the CIS. The average meeting there were about 160 participants. That's the average from 57 nations. Highest was 200 from 67 nations. If you are interested in seeing the specifics of that you can turn to the first graph, graph 1 in the report and that will show you the breakdown.

As I said we had eight questions in Resolution 9 and every question received substantial contributions. The highest number was about 143 contributions and the lowest number that we received were 60. And in that case it was a brand-new issue and there were very few countries that had experience, but 60 contributions is significant. Who had the highest number? Asia and Pacific contributed the highest number followed by Africa and then Americas and Europe and CIS and then the Arab States. If you would like to see information about who contributed to what question broken down by region even you can have a look at graphs 3, 4 and tables 1 and 2 in the report. In addition there were three expert group meetings that took place during this cycle. One was in Budapest, Hungary and one in China and one in Benin. And we also had a seminar on international mobile roaming. That was health in conjunction with ITU-T.

During the course of the meetings we had live technology demonstration from companies that hail from the United Kingdom, Germany and UK and the United States and live presentations from BDT itself. As always the participants in the Study Groups participated from significant contributions from the BDT. I think there was a written contribution interest like focal point at each Study Group meeting and each Rapporteur meeting giving us the benefit of their experience and market reports and trends and statistics that they have been collecting in a normal course of the work that they do here.

Now the reports from all of the questions in Resolution 9 can be found in section 4 of the report. There you will see some 80 guidelines that the group has put together for consideration of the membership and also countless case studies. Those are the most important things in ITU-D, the experiences of our

membership that are shared. And for the first time the reports
are being made in an accessible format for people. So that means
that if you want to hear the report from any of the questions
you can literally hear it audibly. So, you know, you can do that
even if you are not visually impaired. They also for the first
time are available in e-book format. So we appreciate the fact
that ITU-D is sort of walking the walk and not just talking the
talk. That the products are available in an accessible format.
As you know it is a very important topic to the Study Group at
large.

     I think that the reports, the thing that I want to mention
about the reports is related to an overall context that we
operated in during this study period and that was the
abbreviated period that we had. I think that it is very, very
important for everybody to recognize that because we all agreed
as a union to normalize the calendar of the ITU as a whole we
moved up this WTDC which would normally be taking place next
year. And so all of the work that was originally contemplated to
be done in four years had to be done in three years' time. And I
think that that's important because we met for the first time
after that decision in April of 2015 which basically gave us
only a little over two years to complete all of the work when we
normally would have had four years. And so I say that to
congratulate all of those people that you see in annex 1 on page
19 of the English version, because this team had to really,
really pull together and half of the people on the team had
never even had any experience in ITU before. And so with a team
of -- a majority of people who were completely new to the
sector, and this is true for the Study Group 2 as well, we had
to bring these results to WTDC in about two years' time.

     Finally on that note I wanted to say that there are a lot
of intangibles that there are -- there are many, many more
deliverables that occur at the Study Group meetings than you
will find that are reflected in the groups. These face-to-face
opportunities to listen to the experiences, the challenges, the
lessons learned, that as I said more than 57 countries come and
bring at each meeting, the opportunity to consult with experts
from the BDT who are doing work in the field and doing research,
the opportunity to build professional relationships and even
friendships I think is something that you won't see in the
reports but is as -- is as tangible and as important as the
reports themselves.

     So you will find those, the reports in section 4. And in
addition I would like to direct everyone's attention to section
5 of the report where you will find a lot of the views of the
membership. One of the things that we have done I think that was
started with the BDT and the directors' innovation culture is

that we regularly find out how our members are feeling and what they -- what they are thinking about the procedures and the work that we are doing. If you turn to section 5, you will see reflected there the results of surveys that were conducted, that were required by Resolution 1 and others. And you will also in section 6 get a sense of what people think about where we should go in the future. And I know that we have done a lot of work already in the conference, but if you want to take a look, those are very short sections and perhaps they may provide some information that could be helpful to the deliberations that we are having at the meeting. I think normally we present these reports a little bit earlier in the agenda.

Finally section 7 of the report just has some recommendations that I am leaving with the group as stepping down as Chair of Study Group 1 for your consideration. And I just leave that to the next group with wishes for all the best.

The last thing that I wanted to do is just acknowledge a number of people again because it is my last opportunity to do so. The first person that I would like to just mention and I won't be able to have everyone is Mr. Kalinde. This is when I started for Study Group 1 and we were literally building things almost from the ground up. And we probably had conversations every single day for three months straight. And I think that we were able to build on that going toward in this last -- in this last Study Group period. And I hope that we are giving something very solid to the next group that's coming, that's coming along.

And secondly Christine Sund, who I know a lot of people in here know. But she has been my right hand. And I think she has helped take on the mantel of that second period and has been her constant assistance and advice has been invaluable to me. Certainly Dr. Kim among that same line. She -- we had a really fabulous team that worked together so cooperatively that it has been really unusual frankly. Everyone sort of pulling in the same direction. And I just wish that for everyone in this room that when you are charged with a task that you could have a group of people that are that supportive and cooperative and everyone moving in the same direction.

Of course, the BDT director has been 2000% supportive of the Study Groups. And you cannot move things forward if you don't have the leadership at the BDT pulling with you. It is just not possible. And so I know that we all appreciate him and all of his staff and the BDT staff.

So finally, Mr. Chairman, I just as I said wish all of you the best going forward. It has been a real pleasure and an honor to work with everyone. And I just hope that the spirit of cooperation and camaraderie goes forward. Thank you.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Madam Chair of Study Group 1 for a very detailed report. I'd like to know if there are any comments or questions from the floor on this report? Ivory Coast, you have the floor.

>> IVORY COAST: Thank you very much, Chair. In turn I would like to thank Madam Roxanne because during her tenureship I worked on accessibility. And we saw a great spirit of work. And we worked even though last year was a first time when I arrived and I did not feel at all lost and I think this is -- because this is the end of her mandate I would like to thank her very warmly and everything we have achieved has been marvelous and grateful to her for that in my country. I'd also like to thank Mr. Su, Mr. -- and all of those who have worked so hard for the accessibility for Persons with Disabilities can be supported. Thank you all very much for your remarkable work.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Ivory Coast, for those comments. Burkina Faso you have the floor.

>> BURKINA FASO: Thank you, Chair. As this is the first time in Plenary following the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the ITU-D my Delegation and myself would like to take this opportunity to thank the director of the BDT and his team for the marvelous organization of this celebration. I'd also like to thank Mr. Brahima Sanou who during this celebration contributed $2000 as a symbolic contribution to the implementation of regional initiatives. These are something that we hold very clearly and we adopt during this conference. And this should be mentioned, Chair, because this is the first time it has happened in ITU-D history.

In terms of the report before you today our Delegation would like to congratulate Madam Roxanne for the result of the report and the outcomes achieved by Study Group 1 during the study period and all the recommendations that have been drawn up. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Madam Delegate. Paraguay, you have the floor, please.

>> PARAGUAY: Thank you very much, Chair. On behalf of Paraguay I would like to recognize the excellent work undertaken by Madam Roxanne McElvane and for giving us such a detailed report. And I would like to wish her every success in her feature endeavors. Thank you very much, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Delegate. Now I would like to give the floor to Mali.

>> MALI: Thank you. I would like to thank Roxanne for the remarkable job she has done and the outcomes achieved during this study period. Because even online and outside the meetings we -- she encouraged us and gave us clear guidance. I would very much like to thank her, congratulations to the BDT for the work

undertaken since 2014. The ITU has also done an excellent job and I'm not going to forget this. And unfortunately there are people who aren't here and I would like to thank them as well. But thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Delegate, for those comments. United States of America, you have the floor.

>> ROXANNE MCELVANE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I am terribly sorry to take the floor again but I think it is also appropriate for me to -- I had it here in my notes and I skipped over it and as I was concluding it I had forgotten someone who is unforgettable and that's Professor Vladimir Minkin, the TDAG Chair, who was a stalwart supporter and mentor and guide to all of us and stayed very close to the Study Groups along with the rest of the team with the BDT and all of us. So I just wanted to say to him such a warm thank you. I intended to do it when he gave his remarks last week, but I think that people should know that he was in all cases fair and measured and came to our assistance more times than we can probably tell you this morning. But I just want to say a very warm thank you to Dr. Minkin, TDAG Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Madam Roxanne McElvane.

>> Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We also would like to thank Roxanne and her Vice-Chairs for the excellent job done. Also I would like to make a short statement on a different subject. We would like to express our condolences to the people of Somalia and in the short intervention we strongly condemn the act of terror that happened on Saturday. We are deeply saddened by this action with so many lives lost. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Delegate. Now, India, you have the floor.

>> INDIA: Thank you, Chair. Good morning to all the Distinguished Delegates here. The Indian administration takes this opportunity to thank Madam Roxanne and the Distinguished Vice-Chairs of Study Group 1 who helped produce concrete outcomes as well as best practices for the Developing Countries.

As the drafting group Chairman of Committee 3 I am seeing the response and active participation from the Member States and recalling their experiences and contributions for the Study Group 1. Thank you, Madam Roxanne. We thank you for your support and facilitation that you have done during the last two cycles. We continue to support you during all ITU activities. Thanks once again.

>> CHAIR: Thank you Delegate from India. Spain has the floor followed by Tanzania and then the United States. And I would like to try and wrap up. So Spain, you have the floor first.

>> SPAIN: Thank you very much, Chair. Very briefly we

would like to align ourselves with the previous speakers. We would like to sincerely thank Madam Roxanne McElvane for her excellent work and outcomes that have come out of this Study Group.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. Tanzania, you have the floor.

>> TANZANIA: We would like to associate ourselves with all other Delegates. We have congratulated Mrs. Roxanne for her very good work in leading Study Group 1 and also to thank all the Vice-Chairs and Rapporteurs for the good work done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I'd now like to give the floor to Zimbabwe followed by the United States and then we will close the list.

>> ZIMBABWE: Thank you very much for giving us the floor. We would like to thank Roxanne for the work that she did with Study Group 1, particularly for her Sterling leadership and for the creation of the case study library for Study Group 1. Her encouragement made us rise to the occasion to contribute to provide contributions to the work of Study Group 1 and the case studies, rich library for information relating to development in almost all Member States which is a very good library that can assist future generations in knowing what has been happening. I really thank you. And Zimbabwe is really grateful for the work that was done in Study Group 1. I thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Zimbabwe. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you, Mr. Chair. On behalf of the United States Delegation I would just like to quickly congratulate Roxanne for her excellent leadership and her strong commitment to this work. In addition let me also express appreciation to all of those who supported and helped her throughout this process. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Delegate. Now I'd like to align myself with -- by extending my congratulations to the Chair of Study Group 1 and I would like to ask the Plenary to take note of this document. We take note of this. Therefore we move to the next agenda item which is the report of the document 13, and I would like to ask the Chair of Study Group 2, Dr. Sharafat to present this report. Dr. Sharafat, you have the floor.

>> AHMAD REZA SHARAFAT: Thank you very much. And good morning to all colleagues. My report as I mentioned is contained in document 13E. And fortunately some of the points that I wanted to cover in my report have already been mentioned by my colleague, Ms. Roxanne McElvane. So I would be -- I will try to be as brief as possible.

Mr. Chairman, Study Group 2 was established in accordance with Resolution 2 in Dubai, WTDC-2014, to study questions and issues relating to Study Group 7 applications supported by telecommunications, ICTs, cybersecurity, emergency telecommunications and climate change adaptation.

We had eight substantive topics including telecommunications, ICT services and applications, building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, conformance and interoperability testing, the safe disposal of electronic waste, the use of telecommunications/ ICTs in mitigating the impacts of climate change and Developing Countries and for natural disasters preparedness mitigation and relief and human exposure to electromagnetic fields.

Study Group 2 also considers implementation of telecommunications/ICTs in to taking in to account the work by ITU-T and ITU-R and the priorities for the Developing Countries.

Mr. Chairman, I was fortunate to begin my work helped by ten very able Vice-Chairs, Ms. Aminata Kaba-Camara from the Republic of Guinea; Mr. Christopher Kemei, from the Republic of Kenya; Ms. Celina Delgado from Nicaragua, Mr. Nasser Al Marzouqi from the United Arab Emirates; Nadir Ahmed Gaylani from the Republic of the Sudan; Ke Wang from the People's Republic of China; Ms. Ananda Ray Khanal Republic of Nepal; Mr. Evgeny Bondarenko from the Russian Federation; Jenadz Asipovich from the Republic of Belarus and Petko Kantchev from the Republic of Bulgaria.

The task and the mandate of Study Group 2 was divided in to two different areas. First questions related to ICT applications and cybersecurity among which we have question 1/2 creating the smart society, social and economic development through ICT applications. Question 2/2, information and telecommunications/ICTs for e-Health. Question 3/2, securing information and communication networks, best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity. Question 4/2, assistance to Developing Countries for implementing conformance and interoperability programs. Then the other topic was on questions related to climate change, environment and emergency telecommunications, among which we have question 5/2, utilization of telecommunications/ICTs for disaster preparedness, mitigation and response. Question 6/2, ICT and climate change. Question 7/2, strategies and policies concerning human exposure to electromagnetic fields. Question 8/2, strategies and policies for the proper disposal or reuse of telecommunication/ICT-based material.

Outside of these topical groups is question 9/2, identification of study topics in the ITU-T and ITU-R Study Groups which are of particular interest to Developing Countries.

And question 9 is of relevance to both ITU-D Study Group 1 and
Study Group 2. The titles of the questions together with the
names of the Rapporteurs, the Vice Rapporteurs and BDT focal
points can be found in annex 1 of the my report, statement of
problem and description of expected output and initial work plan
with the required timing for the output, et cetera, is available
in this -- is available on the Study Group 2 website in document
2/2.

    Mr. Chairman, during the first meeting of Study Group 2 in
September 2014 there was a decision to establish a Working
Party. And the Working Party was focusing on the questions
relating to climate change, environment and emergency
telecommunications. The main purpose of the Working Party is to
facilitate the work of the ITU-D Study Group and the questions
assigned to it by identifying potential work, identifying
potential work items that may be progressed as joint activities
to benefit the deliverables of more than one of the concerned
questions.

    Coordinating the progress of those specific topics that are
relevant to more than one of the concerned questions and
encouraging collaboration between the concerned questions and
regional initiatives and relevant activities in other sectors
and externally and developing meaningful proposals concerning
the questions in line with the ITU-D sector strategy. And
finally the -- finally developing proposals for the questions
and Study Group for the next study period.

    The study groups elected one of the Vice-Chairs of the
Study Group, Mr. Petko Kantchev from Bulgaria. We had 461
Delegates that participated in at least one Study Group 2
meeting. And Distinguished Colleagues are referred to graph 1 in
document 13E which is my report. And a total of 1835 Delegates
to date hosted and accommodated this number of Delegates. A
total of 604 documents of which 271 were contributions we
considered. And graphs 1 and 2 and 3 together with tables 1 and
2 and graph 4 provide further information as to the breakdown of
different participants in different years from different
regions.

    Mr. Chairman, Study Group 2 Chair and Vice-Chair met in
Dubai during WTDC for the first time. In addition to this
initial meeting four Study Group 2 management team meetings with
Vice-Chairs, Rapporteurs, Vice Rapporteurs and BDT focal points
were held on the eve of the Study Group meeting and reviewed the
progress of each question in their study and discussed, planned
ongoing activities and come up with proposals for further
improvements to the functioning of the Study Groups.

    We met four times. The first meeting was held in Geneva
from 22nd to 26th of September 2014. The second meeting again in

Geneva from 7th to 11th of September 2015. Third meeting from
26th to 30th September 2016. And the fourth and final meeting
held from the 3rd to 7th of September all in Geneva.

A summary of the key results achieved are contained in
section 3 of my report. And I refer all colleagues to this
section of the report. I would not go in to the details.
Discussion of the reports are available on the Web and I just
would like to mention that in addition to the reports that are
available, we are concerned about the fact that these are
lengthy reports and may not be very attractive to various
stakeholders to read and benefit from them. So I took the
initiative of asking the Rapporteurs to insert an executive
summary to each report so that people could have a glance
through that executive summary and then hopefully that would
generate more interest in to reading the reports.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, to the Study Group meetings we
had also Rapporteur group meetings, details of which are in my
report. And in addition we also held and organized workshops on
cybersecurity and in addition to the ICT for disaster
preparedness mitigation and response. And it was -- the
workshops were attended by many, many Delegates. And we were
very much encouraged by their presence and active participation
in the workshops on both cybersecurity and on disaster
preparedness, ICTs for disaster preparedness, mitigation and
response. And we will continue to organize workshops for the
next study period.

Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, Study Group 2 has successfully
carried out its mandate because of the hard work, dedication,
flexibility and expertise of all the parties concerned. I want
to put on record that I am immensely grateful to all those who
contributed to the success of Study Group 2 of the ITU-D by
submitting contributions, participating in the discussions,
organizing workshops and other things.

For me it has been exceptionally rewarding and a true
pleasure that I have had the pleasure and I was fortunate to
work with Director Brahima Sanou and the ITU-D family among whom
I should mention Dr. Andrew Kim and her team, Ms. Christine Sund
and many others, including the experts, and focal points and
staff and interpreters, the translation team and my colleagues
and the management team of ITU-D Study Group 2 including the
work -- including the Vice-Chairs, the Rapporteurs,
co-Rapporteurs and Vice Rapporteurs. My colleagues in TDAG and I
want to particularly name Professor Vladimir Minkin for his
support, wisdom, guidance, and his confidence in me, Dr. Kim
Sanchez and his team for their enthusiastic and active support
on streamlining Resolutions and all participants in our many
meetings of Study Group 2 for their interest, contributions and

patience with me.

Other colleagues in ITU-D Study Group 1 and I want to particularly name Ms. Roxanne McElvane for her support and wise advice. Colleagues in ITU-T and ITU-R that helped contribute to the extra success. As you can see the list is too long to name each and every person that was involved but I'm thankful to all of them. And I look forward to working with all of them and the ITU family in the next study period. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report but I stand ready to provide any clarification or answer any questions that my Distinguished Colleagues may have on the outcome of Study Group 2. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Dr. Sharafat, for your report. Are there any comments or questions on this report for the floor. Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Just very briefly to express our appreciation and congratulations both to Ms. Roxanne McElvane and to Dr. Sharafat for the extraordinarily good job they have done chairing the Study Groups. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Distinguished Delegate. Now the Ivory Coast, you have the floor.

>> IVORY COAST: Thank you, Chair. Before I begin I would like to thank Dr. Sharafat for the result of work undertaken. The issue of disability and accessibility is key. But also a cross-cutting part of -- they need to support participation of Persons with Disabilities. When we talk about natural disasters this issue should be covered also. Thank you very much. And in Cote D'Ivoire we are going to use these documents widely.

I would like to thank you the BDT, Mr. Brahima Sanou because during the panel he said that he has a disability and without his glasses he can't read. So I would like to encourage his enthusiasm and his efforts in addressing the challenges before him. And let's not forget the situations that other people face as well. There are many challenges still to address. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Distinguished Delegate. India, you have the floor.

>> INDIA: Thank you, Chairman. In line with the comments from previous speakers the Indian administration would like to thank Dr. Sharafat and all his able Vice-Chairs for their extraordinary contributions in Study Group 2. As we see a lot of expectations are there from Study Group outcomes. And we appreciate the opportunity still for bringing excellence in the quality of the Study Group reports. And Study Group 2 contains very important topics like ICTs in climate change and smart societies, e-Health and cybersecurity. And we appreciate all the team and especially the leadership for providing excellent and

quality reports and taking us forward to address those
challenges.

I'd also take this opportunity to acknowledge the
leadership provided by BDT and support from the ITU Secretariat
to provide us such quality outcomes as part of the Study Group
endeavors. We thank you very much and request you to continue
the efforts. And we are there to support you for all your
endeavors. Thanks once again.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Distinguished Delegate. The Russian
Federation, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Chair. On
behalf of the Russian administration, I would like to thank the
Chair of Study Group 2 -- Study Group 1, Roxanne McElvane and
Dr. Sharafat and also the Vice-Chairs for the immense and
complicated work they have undertaken over the study period from
2014 to 2017.

Again thank you very much to all of those who worked within
those Study Groups and the Chairs once again. Thank you very
much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Distinguished Delegate. Kenya, you
have the floor.

>> KENYA: Mr. Chairman, colleagues, good morning. As we
are taking the floor for the first time, I arrived slightly
late, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the
Argentinean administration for the excellent environment in this
conference. We would like to thank the ITU as a whole for
organizing this particular conference and the BDT in particular
for their excellent facilities that are before us.

Mr. Chairman, thirdly we would like to thank the Chairman
of Study Group 2, Dr. Sharafat for an excellent report which has
very useful outputs. I would assure colleagues that I have
worked with Dr. Sharafat as a Vice-Chair. And he does really
provide the excellent leadership. And he is an innovative, very
good gentleman. And we thank him as we can see the results
today.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity as well
to thank Madam Roxanne for a very good output from Study Group
1. And we all wish them well as we proceed with our work going
forward. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Distinguished Delegate. Burkina Faso,
you have the floor.

>> BURKINA FASO: Thank you very much, Chair. Chair, like
previous Delegations Burkina Faso would like to thank
Dr. Sharafat for the quality of the report before us. Indeed,
Chair, the remarkable outcomes achieved by SG2 during the study
period deserve a welcome. Burkina Faso would like to note that
these will serve as best practices for the majority of

Developing Countries. We wish every success to Dr. Sharafat for the mandate and participate for the fullest extent to the next study cycle. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Distinguished Delegate. Senegal, you have the floor.

>> SENEGAL: Thank you, Chair. The Senegalese Delegation would like to align itself with the previous speakers to thank the two Chairs of the Study Groups, Madam Roxanne McElvane and Dr. Sharafat for the work undertaken on important issues on development and the Vice-Chairs. And the whole team would like to thank them as well as contributors and participants, BDT staff and Mr. Brahima Sanou. And we would like to thank him particularly for the accompaniment for the companies, management during the meetings of the study period as well as workshops held and the discussions with experts based on contributions made by Senegal. We will undertake the necessary efforts to make sure that the next study period is as successful as this one. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Distinguished Delegate. In order to try and move forward on our agenda I'd now like to close the list of speakers. We have eight requests for the floor. The last one is El Salvador. Now Japan, you have the floor.

>> JAPAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So on behalf of Japan taking this opportunity we would like to express our congratulations to Madam Roxanne and Professor Sharafat to organize the excellent reports. And also we would like to appreciate all Vice-Chairs and all participants as well as the BDT Secretariat to support our activities. Also continue to support Study Group activities including organizing workshops in the next study period. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. The speakers remaining on my list are Lithuania, United States, China, United Arab Emirates, Zimbabwe, Russian Federation and El Salvador. And I would like to close the list there.

>> LITHUANIA: On behalf of the European colleagues we would like to thank Dr. Sharafat, Vice-Chairs and supporting personnel of Study Group 2. We will continue to support in the Working Groups. And we are sure that they will continue with the good work in progress. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Distinguished Delegate. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I get to put on two hats for this very brief intervention. One I have been authorized to express the thanks of the USA to Dr. Sharafat for the work he has done to lead Study Group 2. Always patient. His distinguished character and he has just been a real joy to work with. I'm sort of leading over in to Study Group 1 Chair

now. But it was really such a pleasure to work with him and the cooperation I think that we both had with each other for all of the overlapping issues that we have with 1 and 2. But just to be on the management team he was a joy to work with. And I wish him every good thing going forward. And I'm so glad that he is going to be staying on and continuing with the Study Groups and with the ITU-D in particular.

And finally I get a chance since I have the mic to thank my administration for supporting me for these seven years. They have done so at considerable expense. And I want to thank the FCC as well for allowing me to have the time to work with everyone. And, of course, Doreen McGur has been my stalwart during that whole thing. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Madam Roxanne McElvane. China, you have the floor.

>> CHINA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On behalf of the Chinese Delegation I would like to thank the Chair of the D sector for the successful outcomes of the current study period. And with regard to all the studies I would particularly thank Madam Roxanne McElvane and Dr. Sharafat as well as the ITU for the excellent work as well as the work made by the BDT.

In my view the SG's work for ITU and in particular for the D sector is particularly important. And the next study period will continue to participate actively in ITU's areas of work and provide appropriate support for all the studies. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Distinguished Delegate. United Arab Emirates.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you very much, Chair. Good morning, one and all. Chair, in turn we would like to extend our thanks to the Chair of SG1, Madam Roxanne McElvane and also to Dr. Sharafat, Chair of Study Group 2. We would like to thank them both for all the efforts undertaken and would like to congratulate them, also the whole teams, Rapporteurs, Vice Rapporteurs for the results and the quality of the reports before us. We would like to thank them all and wish them every success for the next study period.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Distinguished Delegate. Zimbabwe, you have the floor.

>> ZIMBABWE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Republic of Zimbabwe would like to thank the Chair of Study Group 2, Dr. Sharafat and his management team for the very useful report the group has produced. The results are what they are because of his able leadership. We wish him well in his future work interest that Study Group 2 will get a leadership that is able to carry on with the work which is crucial for the development of our collective Member States. Zimbabwe will continue to

participate actively in the work of the Study Group. I thank you.

     >> CHAIR: Thank you, Madam Delegate. Russian Federation, you have the floor.

     >> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Chair. I'm speaking as Chair of TDAG. And I would like to express my sincere huge gratitude to the Chairs of Study Group 1, Madam Roxanne McElvane. Also to the Chair of SG2, Dr. Sharafat for the excellent role played, both as Chairs of their particular Study Groups and the outcomes of that work. And we unanimously adopted and approved here at the Plenary but also I would like to thank them for the work that they carried out at the Bureau of TDAG providing me as the Chair with a huge amount of assistance. We solved a lot of issues together and their expertise and knowledge should be required further in our sector. And I wish them every success in their future endeavors for the benefit of our sector in ITU as a whole. I'm speaking the last time here as TDAG Chair and I would like to express my thanks to my administration and my Institute in the IIR that supported me over the last 12 years of work. I wish every success to all of you in to the future. Thank you very much, Chairman.

     >> CHAIR: Thank you, Professor Vladimir Minkin.

     >> EL SALVADOR: Thank you very much, Chair. On behalf of the Government of El Salvador from the President we would like to convey our gratitude to the organization for this conference and also to the Argentinean Republic to hold this WTDC here and convey our gratitude to the Secretariat-General of the ITU, Houlin Zhao and all the other elected officials of the ITU. To Mr. Francois Rancy, the director of the Radiocommunication Bureau; Mr. Brahima Sanou from the development sector. And also to all of our dear friends. We would like to give a very warm welcome to all our brothers and sisters in the Latin American region and to our Mexican friends following the dreadful earthquake which took place a few weeks ago. We would like to share with you our condolences following this event. And we would also like to extend our solidarity to our friends from the Latin American region.

     We will renew our commitment and endeavors to work on climate change. We have to work together as nations and we will commit ourselves to curb climate change, to improve the quality of lives for people and particularly for those most vulnerable countries affected by natural disasters and other types of issues.

     Moreover we would like to sincerely thank you for being here and for having us here. And we hope this week ahead will be a productive one. We stand ready to work with all of you. On behalf of the Delegation of El Salvador and from the Government

we would like to wish you a full success throughout this conference. Thank you once again.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Distinguished Delegate. We have now closed the list of speakers. Gambia has asked for the floor. Would you like to take the floor on this matter or do you have another question?

>> GAMBIA: We would like to align ourselves with all the previous speakers and thank you, Roxanne and Dr. Sharafat for a fantastic job and all the other Vice-Chairs. And thank you the director of BDT for the excellent work he has been doing. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Distinguished Delegate. Also Guinea has asked for the floor. Do you still need the floor?

>> GUINEA: Yes, Chair. Thank you very much. We would like to align ourselves with other Delegations in its thanks to Study Group 1 and Study Group 2 for the work they carried out in the study period. We would like to thank the Government and people of Argentina for facilitating our work to ensure we have had a very agreeable stay here in Buenos Aires. Thank you very much, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Delegate. Given the time and that we still have to address on our agenda I'd now like to close this agenda item.

I would ask all of us to applaud both of the Chairs of Study Groups 1 and 2 for their endeavors.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. And thank you to the Delegates for your understanding. The next agenda item is ITU-D's contribution to the implementation of the World Summit of the Information Society, WSIS outcomes and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development. I'd now like to give the floor to Jaroslaw Ponder to present document 3. Mr. Ponder, you have the floor.

>> JAROSLAW PONDER: Mr. Chairman, dear Delegates, on behalf of the director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau it is my great pleasure to present document 3. The ITU-D has been playing a strategic role in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes. All detailed activities carried out by the ITU-D and BDT team has been reflected in the annual reports presented to the Council, TDAG and other meetings called ITU's contribution to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes. All the reports for the years 2014, '15 and '16 are available on the ITU WSIS portal.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, as you know 2015 was very important here with the overall review of the WSIS. And with the decision on the setting up the 2030 Agenda for the sustainable development goals. It was agreed that the WSIS process beyond

2015 should continue. And also at the level of the ITU it has been agreed that the framework of the WSIS should serve as the framework for the implementation and contribution to the achievement of the SDGs.

In order to facilitate our work the BDT has carried out the mapping exercise, mapping the objectives and outcomes towards the SDGs and the WSIS and this mapping has been presented in the documents to facilitate our discussions and contribution of the Strategic Plan for the years 2020 to '23. We are encouraging also Delegates to take a look at this table as the reference while developing an action plan. As you know the BDT has been tasked with several activities. And it is playing the leading role in facilitating Action Lines C2, C6. It is also significantly carrying out activities in the field of the WSIS Action Lines C5 on cybersecurity. The BDT is also facilitating -- cofacilitating with other UN agencies, C1, C3, C4, C7 and C11 and playing an important role for partner for C8 and C9.

On an annual basis is contributing to the organization of the WSIS Forum held on an annual basis and attracting more than 1800 stakeholders every year. Also this year the BDT has been the source of innovation carrying out several WSIS Action Lines facilitation meetings, in particular on C2, C5 and C6 and C4. And contributing to the organization of several action line meetings. The BDT on a annual basis holding the meeting of the partnership measuring the ICTs for development at the WSIS Forum and carries out the activities related to this.

The BDT has also contributed to the annual meetings of the regional commissions, strengthening our collaboration with the sister organizations and strengthening the implementation of the regional level. Since two years BDT is contributing to the running of the innovation track at the WSIS Forum as well as organizing the hackathons. And the first was held this year on health issues organized with the WHO. And the following year we are planning to hold the similar activity together with the FAO and IEEE.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, in the meantime we would like to draw your attention to the special efforts carried out in the run up to the next year and coordination with the different Economic Commissions, in particular ESCAP, ECLAC and ECE and strengthening our efforts of regional achievements as a mechanism to contribute to the WSIS Action Lines and SDGs. This is also part of the activities of aligning the WSIS and SDG process as requested by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015. The BDT is also leading the work of the partnership on measuring the ICTs for development. On the annual basis the report, Flagship Report of the BDT measuring the Information

Society report is serving as the key reference point for the
progress achieved in the implementation of the WSIS. Also the
unique, the world telecommunication ICT indicators symposium
serves as a global platform. And the next one will be held in
Tunisia, in one month's time.
      In closing I would like to also draw your attention that
the Flagship Reports, the final WSIS targets review was the key
report of the partnership on measuring ICTs for development used
for the overall review proposals and providing the guidance for
the future.
      Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, concluding we would like to
encourage all Member States and its membership to use this
document as the food for thought by reviewing the action plan
and developing the action plan, in particular establishing the
relevant links and to the WSIS Action Lines and concluding on
the role of the ITU-D contributing to the SDGs.
      Also we would like to take this opportunity to encourage
all membership to actively engage in the preparatory process
leading to the WSIS Forum held in March 2018 as well as all WSIS
implementation activities that were related to the process but
also related to the implementation of the plan of action. Thank
you.
      >> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Mr. Ponder. I would now
like to ask the Plenary to take note of this document. And we
will then therefore move on to the next agenda item, agenda item
7, which is addressing Resolution 30 given that some of these
documents refer to the World Summit on the Information Society.
Having said this, I would now like to give the floor to the
representative from the Arab States to present the document
21A11/1. You have the floor the representative from the Arab
States.
      >> ARAB STATES: Thank you very much, Chair. Firstly,
before presenting this proposal on behalf of the Arab States on
Resolution 30 I would like to convey my gratitude to ITU for all
of its activities which have been undertaken to implement the
WSIS outcomes. This Summit was launched by ITU. ITU leads a
number of activities in this area through this sector and this
really deserves our appreciation. With regards to the changes
from the Arab States, this is the update of everything that was
adopted, in particular the General Assembly and the SDDs. This
is just an overview of the comments from the Arab States. Thank
you.
      >> CHAIR: Thank you to the Chair from the Arab -- not the
Chair, the representative from the Arab States. And I'd now like
to ask for the following documents to be presented with regards
to Resolution 30 so that we can address each of these proposals
as they appear on the agenda. I'd now like to give the floor to

the representative from the Asia-Pacific Region to present document ACP/22 Addendum 9. You have the floor.

>> MALAYSIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As this is the first time taking the floor in Plenary we would like to convey our thanks and congratulations to the administration of Argentina to the convening of this conference and as the Chair of WTDC-17. Malaysia is pleased to present document ACP22A9/1. We are also of the opinion that the SDGs should be included in Resolution 30. In addition to that the context of Resolution 30 and given the role that ICT plays in the development of the Digital Economy my colleagues and I are proposing to include the Digital Economy in Resolution 30. We have drawn motivation from the final acts of the PP as well as the WSIS+10 statement on the implementation of the WSIS outcomes.

Chairman, the only caveat we would enter into a broad area of Digital Economy is that similar to all work that the ITU undertakes the scope of ITU's work in relation to the Digital Economy must be within the mandate of the ITU. We are of the opinion that this is a given and this is what we envisage on the Digital Economy. Towards this we are very encouraged by the developments of the work of many drafting groups where appropriate in other WTDC documents. In this spirit of cooperation the APT is happy to work with all colleagues in progressing Resolution 30. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much for your presentation. And I'd now like to invite a representative from RCC to present the document RCC/23 Addendum 15. You have the floor.

>> AZERBAIJAN: Thank you, Chair. Dear colleagues, Azerbaijan on behalf of the Regional Commonwealth Communications are submitting for your consideration a draft revision to WTDC Resolution 30. This document contains a draft revision to Resolution on the role of the ITU in the -- including the outcome of WSIS and the UN General Assembly. The proposed modifications are based on 71225 as well as 140, Resolutions 30 and 32 from the Council in 2016 and also material from WSIS Forums. Largely they reflect fulfilling the WSIS decisions and using WSIS format as a Foundation that on which the ITU can provide assistance to meeting the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development.

Under the ITU mandate we take in to account WSIS and drawing up UN agency. We believe it appropriate to look at Resolution 30 and update it in line with these documents and the outcomes of international and regional meetings, to look at the implementation of -- its own implementation or more of a text, tasks the BDT director to look at standardization alongside this and within the mandate of ITU standardization and also looking at reviewing Resolution 30 and the annex here. So thank you very

much.
    >> CHAIR: Thank you to the representative of the RCC. Now
I would like to invite the representative from CEPT to present
the document 24 Addendum 5. You have the floor.
    >> CEPT: Thank you, Chair. And good morning. First we
would like to thank Mr. Ponder for his presentation which set
out some of the very good work that the ITU is doing in support
of the WSIS Action Lines in collaboration with other UN agencies
and other stakeholders.
    CEPT believes that this Resolution is critically important
to the work of ITU-D. WSIS is the key framework through which
ITU contributes to the 2030 sustainable Development Agenda. Our
proposals in this document refer to the WSIS+10 review. There
are updates to take in to account the Sustainable Development
Agenda. And also to bring the language in some places in line
with the WTSA Resolution where that is appropriate. We have
reviewed the other contributions and would like to thank the
other groups who have made contributions on this Resolution.
There is much that we can support and much that we have in
common. There are some areas where further clarification and
discussion would be helpful. And we know that Professor Vladimir
Minkin from the Russian Federation has already held some
informal consultations which have been very helpful. And we look
forward to working with colleagues in the days ahead. Thank you.
    >> CHAIR: Thank you very much to the representative from
CEPT. Before continuing as we have reached the end of our time
for the Plenary. I would like to ask the interpreters if we can
have five further minutes.
    >> Yes, Chair, you may.
    >> CHAIR: Thank you very much. Now I would like to call
your attention to document DL/18. This document contains a
compilation of proposals submitted by the membership on
Resolution 30. So with your permission I would like to ask
Professor Minkin as Chair of the Working Group at the -- of
WSIS, the Council, if you might be able to coordinate a
consensual document which would integrate all the compiled
proposals which have been put forward this morning. I would like
to seek your agreement with regards to this proposal. The
Russian Federation, you have the floor.
    >> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chair. It would be an
honor for me to work with colleagues to review Resolution 30. I
would invite all those who are interested to let me know. And
then we will need an hour and a half or so to harmonize a text
and then submit it to you as a DT document. Thank you very much,
Chair. And I count on the support of the Secretariat for this.
    >> CHAIR: Thank you, Professor Minkin.
    So if we are in agreement then we will leave the

coordination and further drafting of this central document in the hands of Professor Minkin. Can I ask Professor Minkin that this first meeting could be held tomorrow morning, Tuesday from 8 o'clock to 9:30? Could this be a possibility?

Okay. Thank you very much. So with this we come to the end of this agenda item 7. So I'd now like to give the floor to the secretary to make some announcements.

>> SECRETARIAT: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Two brief announcements, that we have a side event from 12:35 to 1330. One on cybersecurity in the room Pacara in the fifth floor. Also we have a side event, it is an enlightening session on UNESCO harnessing ICTs toward knowledge societies from 5:35 to 6 p.m. in Pacifico, in this room. And also just to try to give it information, that DT15 and the revisions has all Ad Hoc group meetings, so you can see in the DT15 that we have some Ad Hoc Groups during the day. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Secretary. Therefore we have now reached the end of our agenda for this session. I would like to thank all of you, and I would like to remind you that in this so room we will now have the Working Group of the Plenary. Good luck to all and thank you.

(Session concluded at 11:05 a.m. ART)

***

This is being provided in rough-draft format. Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) is provided in order to facilitate communication accessibility and may not be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings.
***