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Meeting of Heads of Delegation

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>> Good morning. Good morning, everybody. We will now
begin the meeting of the heads of delegation. Thanks to all of
you for being here. I'd like to begin by introducing the agenda
for your approval. The agenda is contained in document DL/82-E.
Any comments? The agenda is adopted therefore.

I will now give the floor to the Director of the BDT to
introduce the proposals for the telecommunications development
advisory group, and those of the Study Groups. Director, you
have the floor.

>> Thank you very much, Chairman. Good morning, everybody.
We are three days before the end of our conference. We have
been working very hard, and also that we are getting consensus
around the document in discussion. I would like to take this
opportunity to thank all of you, the head of delegation, for
effort to make this conference successful and finish on time.

Mr. Chairman, this morning it is my great pleasure to
present to you the list of the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of
TDAG and the ITU-D Study Groups for the period 2018, 2021. As
you can see in document as introduced in document DL83, before I

go to the name I would like to say that we received a lot of very qualified candidates, which is great for the development sector.

I would like also to express my deepest gratitude to the telecommunication organisations, ATU, APT, CEPT CITELE and RCC and the Arab States and the group in preparation of WTDC. They really helped me to coordinate at this level. We got so many candidates, and they did it based on the criteria that is spelled out in resolution 61. So I would like to thank them very sincerely because they were very active in the process. With that Mr. Chairman, I'm suggesting to do the following. Chairman of TDAG, from United States. Vice-Chairman of TDAG, Mr. Christopher from Kenya, from Nigeria, Mr. Igor from Argentina, from Jordan, from Saudi Arabia, Mr. Babu from India, from Vietnam, from Kazakhstan, Mr. Russian Federation, from Netherland and Miss Gonzalez from Spain.

For Study Group 1, Miss Regina from Cote d'Ivoire, Vice Chairman Study Group 1, Mr. Peter from Cameroon, from Togo, from Brazil, Mr. Victor Antonio Sanchez from Paraguay, Mr. Hamid from Egypt, Mr. Mohammed from Kuwait, from Japan, sorry if I don't pronounce your name properly but you get me, you can read it. From Korea, Republic of Korea, from Kazakhstan, from Ukraine, from Bosnia, and Mr. Christian for Hungary. For Study Group 2, Chairman, Mr. Ahmad from Iran, Vice-Chairman, from Ghana, from Nigeria, Miss Delgado from Nicaragua, from Sudan, from United Arab Emirate, from China, from Nepal, from Russian Federation, from Uzbekistan, from Portugal, and Mr. Dominique from France. This is what I'm suggesting to the head of delegations here this morning. I thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Director. Are there any comments or questions? If not, then we shall approve these new positions. Adopted then.

(applause).

This brings us to the end of our agenda for this morning.

We have a request for the floor but we are not able to identify where it's come from. It's just from a number. Please go ahead.

China, you have the floor.

>> CHINA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to congratulate the elected Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen. We have noticed that over the past years, every country has actively participated in the SG, and contributed to them, and has also suggested very appropriate candidates for Chairmen position.

Currently in every SG and every region, there are only two posts. Sometimes we still need to proceed to very difficult coordination to determine the Vice-Chairmen position because

many experts and countries are interested in our SGs' work. We noted as well that in other ITU-T and R sectors, might be interesting for us, maybe we can advice Chairmens members so that more countries can take part in SGs' work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much to the delegate from China. I now give the floor to Cote d'Ivoire.

>> COTE D'IVOIRE: Thank you, Chairman. Distinguished Delegates, the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire would like to express its profound thanks for the appointment of Ms. Bessu as Chair of Study Group 1. We would like to thank all of the delegates here for the trust that they have placed in her as a candidate. The Republic of Cote D'Ivoire would also like to reassure all of the delegations here with regard to the measures that will be taken to provide the necessary assistance and resources to Ms. Bessu to ensure that she can fully fulfill her role and ensure the success of the ITU-D for the next study period.

Likewise, the Republic of Cote D'Ivoire would like to reaffirm its commitment to work closely with the International Telecommunications Union, specifically in the D sector of the ITU.

I would also like to congratulate all of the Chairs and Vice-Chairs elected today, and I wish them every success for the forthcoming work in the next study period but also wish an excellent end to this World Telecommunications Development Conference. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, delegate. I now give the floor to the Russian Federation.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: I just wanted to align myself with the Chinese colleague and also draw your attention to the fact that in other sectors there is no limit on the number of Vice-Chairs.

My support is in the vein that many countries are involved in the work of Study Groups, and I would welcome it if the number of Vice-Chairmen was not limited to two from each region.

I'd also like to ask a question on the research and language Committee, what is the situation around the language Committee. Will it be created, for example? Also, whether there would be a Chair and Vice-Chairs also on that Committee. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much to the Russian Federation. I give the floor to Korea.

>> KOREA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On behalf of Republic of Korea, I'd like to express my thanks for hosting this meeting in such beautiful city Buenos Aires. I did appreciate the honorable leadership of ITU, and I congratulate all of the elected Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen. In this WTDC 17 it's my

privilege to extend my congratulations on the achievement in ITU-D sector for the last 25 years. I believe Korea will contribute to history of ITU by sending its experts and participating actively in ITU activities, as it has always been.

That is the reason why Korea supports the doctor as one of the Vice-Chairmen of ITU-D Study Group 1 and the perform the Director as second time as well as ITU Council membership. Korea believes they can contribute to future required by ITU. Lastly Korea is preparing to present during 2018 in February next year. I hope all delegations could visit Korea to join us in our experience with new ICT technologies. I would like to thank you again all of the head of delegations for your cooperation.

Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much to the delegate from Korea. I now give the floor to the United States.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On behalf of the United States, I would like to express appreciation to the Chair and to the heads of delegation for their expression of confidence in Ms. Roxanne MacElvaine Weber in naming her Chair of the TDAG. I would also like to express appreciation and to congratulate the Chairs of the Study Groups and other Vice-Chairs on this slate, and to thank them for their willingness to take on this important work.

The United States is committed to supporting Roxanne as she takes on this important task. Again, thank you for your confidence in her.

>> CHAIR: Thank you to the United States. I give the floor to Canada.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Chairman, and good morning to you and to all colleagues. I would like to start by congratulating all the colleagues that have been nominated for all the positions in the ITU-D and if I may, Mr. Chairman, take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to Professor Minkin, our outgoing Chairman of TDAG. We are extremely grateful for all the work he has done and of course, we hope to continue seeing him in other roles within the ITU. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Canada. I give the floor to Iran.

>> IRAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good morning to all. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, all delegates, all delegations, the heads of delegations, for their trust and confidence in me to continue as the Chair of the Study Group 2. I would like to assure you that I will do my utmost to serve the membership and the ITU in the forthcoming study period, and cooperate closely with the Chair of TDAG as well as the Chair of Study Group 1 and other participants in our meetings, Vice-Chairs, Rapporteurs and others. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Doctor. I give the floor to Japan.

>> JAPAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, colleagues. On behalf of Japan I'd like to express my congratulations to Study Groups and TDAG. Japan will continue to support the Vice-Chair of Study Group 1 for the second time and also we support the Chair of the TDAG and Chair of the Study Group 1 and Study Group 2. Also we will support all activities in the TDAG and Study Groups for the next study period. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. Thank you to all of you for your statements. I will now give the floor to the Director, Mr. Brahima Sanou to comment on the issues that have been raised. Director, you have the floor.

>> BRAHIMA SANOU: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I will first start by congratulating the incoming Chair of TDAG, Chair of Study Group 1 and Study Group 2, together with the Vice-Chairs. Congratulations for the confidence that your country have put in you. Congratulations for the confidence that this August meeting of head of delegation has put in you, and also congratulations in advance for the great work you are going to do in leading the work at level TDAG and the level of the Study Groups.

I keep saying that over the past year I had the great privilege to benefit from your advises, to benefit from the work we have done, and all the ITU membership have benefited from the result you achieved particularly in the Study Groups as this was seen during when I presented document to report on implementation and action plan, when the Chairs of Study Group presented their work. I must tell you that this arrangement by the Member State is so important for the Director. We make sure that in every day you have surrounding you people who have been trusted to help you to lead the house, and I benefited a lot from them and all the result we got, they are part of it.

I would like particularly on this anniversary to express my very deepest gratitude to Professor Vladimir Minkin. When I started at the BDT you never know too much what is inside at this level. Professor Minkin was there next to me. He guided my first steps as Director of BDT, and together with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Study Groups, I think that we did something that is for me very appreciable. So I cannot, because this is your last term as was already said, we continue to need you, Mr. Minkin. Don't think that we let you go. We continue to need you. We will find other means for you to continue to work with us.

Since the appointment at the plenary I would like to tell you that the future of ITU-D is somehow in your hands the way you will advice the Director, the way you conduct the work of

the Study Group to make the Study Group and continue the role of the Study Group as the center of ITU-D and the platform for sharing experiences and group practices for the development of the ICT sector. Coming back to the issue raised by China and Russia about the member, what we did, we just used the number 2 of resolution 61.

What it said that for efficiency reason, we are going to have up to two Vice-Chairs. This is your decision. I just follow it. And I can tell you also from my personal experience that the member, the two Vice-Chair by Study Group for efficiency reason for me could be enough. It is my personal experience as Director of BDT.

However, the work is level of Rapporteurs and vice Rapporteurs and this way I think we can all contribute more than being Vice-Chair. Vice-Chair, kind of administrative but the real work of course we have a lot of Vice-Chair work and for Rapporteur. What I'm saying is not being Vice-Chair or not being level of Vice-Chairs doesn't change our commitment. We can be very committed at the level of Rapporteurs and I count on you to continue to commit your expert and your qualified expert to be Rapporteurs, Vice-Rapporteurs, coRapporteurs. We have a lot of questions, a lot to do. I think that we will need all the hands of the expert of your country.

Coming back now to the issue raised by Russia, about the language Committee, there is a resolution just been adopted, resolution 41 about the language Committee. The resolution has been adopted by Committee 4, but not yet passed through the plenary. So when this is passed, I think maybe at that time this conference may want to give the delegation to TDAG to appoint the Vice-Chairs of this Committee coming from ITU-D. This is what I can tell at this point in time. So Chairman, thank you very much. We had a very nice breakfast this morning, that is why I'm talking too much. I thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Director. Are there any comments on this?

I think that the explanations that Mr. Brahima Sanou has given are satisfactory. And they fully justified what we have done.

There are any other comments? Seeing none, we have come to the end of our agenda. Given that all of the heads of delegation are here in the room, I wanted to let you know that Committee 3 has requested a session for this evening at 6:30 until 9:30 p.m., given the need to complete the significant workload that they have, and the Chair and the Secretariat have decided to authorize this meeting.

I wanted to announce this to all of you so that you can share this with your delegations. I would ask you that we

strive to complete the work this evening. Thank you very much.
Russian Federation, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Yes, I just wanted to say that it will be best if on the languages, at the conference, the TDAG, an approval is made, because if you have a Council resolution, the status would be higher than if it's adopted at the advisory group. And a proposal could be made on the candidates by this evening. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I'll give the floor to the Director.

>> Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The issue is, of course, this conference to make a decision, what I was thinking that if we are to make it here now, I can imagine for some countries need consultation back home. We are two days before the end of the conference. Some countries have left the conference already. Some did not come. Maybe this is why I was suggesting that the conference delegate from TDAG, otherwise we won't be enough inclusive in our consultation. It is just for this reason. Having said that of course, I'm at your disposal, this conference to take any decision. I'll be happy to apply any decision taken by the conference. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Director. Are there any other comments? I suggest with the explanations that we have heard from the Director that we should bring an end to our discussions of this. If there are no further comments, we shall adjourn the meeting. Thank you very much.

(meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.)

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