

FINISHED FILE

ITU WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2017  
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

OCTOBER 18, 2017  
2:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME

PLENARY

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>> CHAIR: Good afternoon. Let's begin with our Plenary meeting for this afternoon. Please take your seats. Thank you.

Please we would like to start the session. I would appreciate if you can take your seats now. Thank you very much.

Good afternoon to the interpreters. I would like to know if everything is in order.

>> Yes, Chairman, everything is in order on the sides of the interpreters.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Good afternoon. We will therefore begin with the eighth Plenary meeting for this conference. Before we introduce the agenda I would like to make an important announcement. With the support of the Secretary-General and the director of the BDT and his team I have held some consultations on document 38. The outcome of these consultations is that Syria has decided not to present this document at this conference.

I'm grateful to the parties who were involved in these consultations. Having said this now let's move on to today's agenda contained in document ADM/30. Are there any comments on the agenda? Seeing none the agenda is adopted.

Moving on to the next item on the agenda, Revision of Resolution 18, Special Technical Assistance to Palestine on the document doc/21A6. I would like to ask the Delegation of

Palestine to introduce this document. You have the floor.

>> PALESTINE: Thank you, Chairman. On behalf of the state of Palestine and through you we would like to express our gratitude to the Republic of Argentina for its warm welcome and excellent organization of this conference. And I would like to take this opportunity to give our thanks to the ITU for the assistance provided to Palestine. Would also like to thank all of the states that have supported and will be supporting the updating of Resolution 18 made in Dubai in 2014 related to special technical assistance to Palestine.

Chairman, I have asked to introduce the draft Resolution 18 on behalf of the Arab group in accordance with the Resolution of the Plenipotentiary Conference on assistance and support to Palestine. Amendments to document 121/SDM go hand in hand with the changes that we have seen and also hand in hand with the Sustainable Development Goals. Indeed the creation of suitable telecommunications in Palestine will allow us to pull from the Sustainable Development Goals and will allow us to establish a Palestinian Information Society which is particularly important for the future of the Palestinian people. It will also allow us to secure for the future of Palestine that people will be able to enjoy the benefits of modern technology. We are hopeful that the ITU will play a full role in implementation of this Resolution.

In conclusion, Chairman, I wish to point out that this draft Resolution is being presented by the Arab group and is supported by the African group and other friendly countries. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Dear Delegate, from Palestine. I would like to inform you, the Plenary that with regard to this document in particular we have been carrying out some consultations with the support and advice of the Secretariat and we -- with the support of the BDT and these consultations and conversations have not yet finished. Therefore I would like us to move on to the next item on the agenda. The next item on the agenda is the revision to Resolution 51, provisional assistance and support to Iraq. And I wish to give the floor to a representative of the Arab group to introduce document ARB/21A18/1. Representative of the Arab group, you have the floor.

>> Thank you, Chairman. Good morning, everyone or good afternoon. On behalf of the Arab group it is my pleasure to introduce to you the amendments made to Resolution 51 presented by the group of Arab States. Chairman, the amendments to Resolution 51 are updates based on discussions that have been held in the context of the Plenipotentiary Conference. Indeed the Resolution was adopted at that conference in Iraq and these

updates have been made in light of the discussions that were held at the Plenipotentiary Conference. We have also made other updates related to this Resolution.

With regards to this document, I would like to say that we have held informal discussions with a number of Delegations related to the provision of assistance and support to Iraq and the Resolution thereon. And we will update you on those discussions as soon as they are finished.

As I have pointed out I will update you on the recent developments relating to the informal discussions that started yesterday. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much to the representative of the group of Arab States. I would like to ask you therefore whether you would like to continue these consultations. You have the floor.

>> Thank you very much, Chairman. Yes, the consultations on these Resolutions are ongoing. And I will update you on the developments from these discussions with all parties as soon as they are finished. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. So let's move on to the next item on the agenda, it is a draft new Resolution which is contained in document ARB/21A35/1. I'd like to give the floor to the representative of Libya to introduce this document.

>> LIBYA: Thank you, Chairman. I would like to thank everyone on behalf of the group of Arab States. It is my pleasure to introduce document 17/21 Addendum 35 related to the proposal for a new Resolution on the provision of assistance and support to Libya to rebuild the telecommunications sector.

Ladies and Gentlemen, ITU members, the assistance of telecommunication systems is necessary for the economic and social development of countries and particularly for countries that have special needs that have suffered internal conflict or war. The telecommunications infrastructure in Libya was significantly affected by the war. And in the current circumstances Libya is not able to rebuild its infrastructure which was struck heavily by the war.

Likewise the same goes for the effective implementation of the telecommunications network in order to fulfill the Sustainable Development Goals. This would not be possible without the support of the international community. Bilaterally all through international organizations in accordance with Resolution 34, revised in 2014 at the Plenipotentiary Conference in assistance to countries with special needs and support for such countries to allow them to build their telecommunications sector, we ask the conference to adopt the new Resolution for the provision of assistance and support to Libya to rebuild its telecommunications sector and for the creation of necessary

institutions and for capacity building in terms of human capacities and ICT capacities which are recognized to be necessary for the economic, social and cultural development of Libya. And to ensure the provision of the necessary resources for the implementation of the Resolution. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much to the Delegate from Libya. I now give the floor to the United Arab Emirates.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you, Chairman. I am speaking as the Chair of the group of Arab States. Chairman, with regard to this new proposed Resolution on the provision of assistance and support to Libya, we have held consultations with some states that had remarks on the new Resolution. And if there are any comments to be made on this Resolution, I would invite the relevant administrations to participate in the discussions on it.

And I am particularly pleased to be able to tell you that yesterday we started coordinating the text on this new Resolution with certain states and administrations which had remarks or proposals to make on the Resolution. That's why, Chairman, I ask that you provide us with the opportunity to undertake new consultations on this Resolution. And we will come back to the Plenary with a consensus text. And I will update you, Chairman, on all of the developments relating thereto. Thank you very much, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. Are there any further comments from the floor? Seeing none, and following the request from the Delegate of the United Arab Emirates I would like to ask for a proposal to be put forward on this new document after the coffee break. Thank you very much.

The next item on our agenda relates to Resolution 25. I will now give the floor to the representative of the Central African Republic to introduce the document CAF/25/1.

>> CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: Thank you, Chairman. It is an honor to introduce to you this Resolution. It is a revised version of Resolution 25 which will allow the Central African Republic which has been submerged in Civil Wars to benefit from assistance to countries in special need.

It is recognized that a reliable telecommunications network is essential for the socioeconomic development of countries, particularly those countries that have suffered natural disasters, internal conflicts or war in order to allow such countries to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore we would ask the ITU to provide all of its possible support and assistance to countries that have special needs, including the Central African Republic either bilaterally or through special measures taken by the union and furthermore, to provide necessary and developing resources.

And this is the contribution that we have submitted to you and we have been able to discuss it. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. I would now open the floor to anyone who would like to speak on this item. The Arab Republic, you have the floor.

>> ARAB REPUBLIC: Thank you, Chair. This is the first time that I am taking the floor at this conference. And this is why I would like to thank you for your excellent leadership of our work. I'd also like to thank the Republic of Argentina for its -- the hospitality that they have shown to all Delegations. Various draft Resolutions on countries with specific needs have been reviewed. We attach great importance to the contribution from the ITU to rebuild telecommunication networks in countries that have suffered war, particularly given telecommunications services in this day and age.

They are no longer a luxury but an essential need for everyone. Rebuilding these services is a Semiquinone for refugees and displaced persons to be able to return home. They were displaced because of conflict and then after conflict also. We would ask the ITU to continue in this noble undertaking and to allocate the necessary resources to this end.

I would ask you to include my statement in the report from this session. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much to the Delegate from Syria. Are there any other comments? Seeing none I understand that this document can be adopted. Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Chair. I would like to know what will be noted in the minutes of this meeting. We would like to know what will be reflected in the minutes of this meeting. Just a question for clarification on that. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Yes, I understand that we will include in the minutes of this meeting what was stated by the Delegate from Syria as he requested. Does this answer your question, Delegate from Saudi Arabia?

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Chair. So what will be reflected in the report is a statement which does not fall within the agenda for this session. This statement does not fall within the agenda of this Plenary statement. So this statement should not be reflected in the minutes of the Plenary session. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: I understand that the only thing that was raised by the Delegate of Syria was his support for the activities that the ITU is carrying out to provide support and assistance to countries in need. This Resolution like others that we have dealt with earlier does address this specific issue. I would therefore like to ask the Delegate from Saudi Arabia to accept then incorporation of this comment.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: We look forward to getting to know closely the content of that statement before accepting it. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Delegate. I understand your request. I will therefore ask the Delegate from Syria to send us the specific statement he made during the coffee break so we can examine it before incorporating it in to the minutes.

I would therefore like to ask the Plenary if we can adopt this document. Russian Federation, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Chair, we don't quite understand. Does every country have a sovereign right to make a statement on a Resolution that was submitted and Syria was withdrawn, and this statement was made just to say that Syria supports the ITU and its efforts to reestablish telecommunications in countries that have military conflict? So every country has its sovereign right to make any statement it wishes to.

>> CHAIR: Thank you to the Delegate from the Russian Federation. I now give the floor to the United Arab Emirates.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Regarding this discussion on this topic, the request was not quite clear, Mr. Chairperson. Is the question -- the matter have to do with including a statement in the minutes of this meeting or is it a statement made by the Syrian regime that is included in the minutes of this meeting? That is the query and the question. If it is a statement, we do not disagree. But to add a statement as being part of the work of this Plenary, it would lead to a misunderstanding that there is a consensual acceptance. And I ask you to clarify. Is it a statement? Then in that case we do not object as the UAE. But if we are including a text as part of the works of this Plenary, then it is the right of countries to see the document first before adding it as part of the works of the Plenary. I hope you can clarify this. Is it a statement that is provided or observations that are going to be included as part of your report with regards to this meeting? Thank you, sir.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I understand that there was some discussion on this issue to not dwell on the matter and to bring this conversation to an end. I would like to ask the Delegate from the Central African Republic to approach those Delegates that have raised concerns on this document and on the statement made by Syria and to communicate to us the understanding during the coffee break. Toga, please

>> TOGA: Thank you, Chair. Toga believes that the document for the Central African Republic poses no problem. The problem that UAE and Saudi Arabia have raised does not pertain to the document that the Central African Republic has raised. This is simply a clarification that the UAE asked for and that the bureau should provide. Asking the Central African Republic to

sort this out isn't the area here. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Do we therefore have agreement for the adoption of the document? And we will leave the statement made by Syria for further discussions amongst interested parties. We will therefore adopt the document. And I would ask those states that have raised concerns relating to the statement made by Syria to please bring consensus proposal to us during the coffee break with regard to that statement from Syria. The document is adopted.

The next item relates to Resolution 40. I would like to ask Professor Minkin who we entrusted with the coordination of work on this Resolution to introduce document DT/32. Professor Minkin, you have the floor.

>> VLADIMIR MINKIN: Thank you, Chair. In line with what you asked us to do, we carried out, we had a meeting with all interested parties. And inasmuch as a part of this we had in parallel many other meetings. We also had a supplementary meeting with all stakeholders or interested parties.

And at these meetings we managed to agree on a text that changed Resolution 30. These changes mainly pertain to the decisions that were made at the level of the United Nations. So Resolution 70/1 and 70/125 and also decisions from the Council. And of -- from other fora that pertain to issues of the World Summit on Information Society, WSIS. The Agenda 2030 for sustainable development. And also the relevant tasks before the development sector which plays a great role within the ITU to meet these goals. At this meeting we agreed on a text to change Resolution 30. And this is set out in document 32, DT/32 and it is for your consideration, Chair, and approval if we can agree on it. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Professor Minkin. Are there any comments on this document? I see no requests for the floor. So we will adopt the document and we will move on to the Editorial Committee to be included as a blue series document.

Russian Federation, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chair. I would just want to express my deep gratitude to all colleagues who participated in these at times difficult discussions and also to the Secretariat, particularly Mr. Hondu who helped us in this work. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Professor Minkin. I am particularly grateful for your efficient work which allowed us to have a consensus document at this Plenary. And I reiterate this will be moved to the Editorial Committee as a document in the blue series. This relates to the first series of texts submitted to the Editorial Committee. I will give the floor to the Chair of Committee 5 for this.

>> HASSINA LAREDJ: Thank you, Chair. I have the honor of reading the first series of -- and Resolution -- and a document 62 on the first series of texts submitted by Committee 3 on -- and 55 on Regional, African, American, Arab States, European, Pacific, initiatives and also for the suppression of Resolution 39. Same document, 62, is based on the first series of documents submitted by Committee 4 and document 59 to revised Resolution 91 -- 81. 81. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. We will now begin our reading of these documents. We will begin with document DOC/62. We propose to review it page by page reading the English version of the document.

We will begin on page 1, document on regional initiatives for the African region. Are there any comments on page 1? Thank you very much. Any comments now on page 2? No comments. Are there any comments on page 3? Any comments on page 4? Are there any comments on page 5? Are there any comments on page 6? United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm sorry to diverge from the agenda. I have been informed by my Delegation there is currently a drafting group taking place with regards to Study Group Question 4.1 which we feel should not be taking place at the same time as the Plenary session.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I would ask you please that we continue with our reading of the document. And in any case we will look at your concern.

Are there any comments on page 7? Comments on page 8? Are there any comments on page 9? Are there any comments on page 10? Any comments now on page 11? Comments on page 12? Page 13? Any comments on page 14? Page 15? Page 16? Page 17? Page 18? Page 19? Page 20? Page 21? Page 22? Page 23? Page 24? Page 25? Page 26? And part of page 27 which brings us to the end of the document?

Seeing no comments this document is adopted. We will move on to the reading of Resolution 81, revision from Buenos Aires 2017. This deals with a resolution. We will move through part by part.

I would like to ask you do you have any comments, and I would remind you that I would like to ask you whether or not you have any comments on the considering section. Do you have any comments on the recognizing? Any comments on recognizing likewise? Any comments on bearing in mind? Any comments on mindful? And on recognizing further? Are there any comments on the Resolution, on the resolves section? Seeing none, we should adopt this Resolution. Thank you very much.

We will now review the suppressions, page 32 of the document in English. Suppression 32, are there any comments on



that? Suppression 33? Suppression 34? Suppression 35?  
Suppression 36? Suppression 37? Suppression 38? Suppression  
39? Suppression 40? Suppression 41? Suppression 42?  
Suppression 43? Suppression 44? Suppression 45? Suppression  
46? Suppression 47? Suppression 48? Suppression 49?  
Suppression 50? Suppression 51? Suppression 52? Suppression  
53? Suppression 54? Suppression 55? Suppression 56?  
Suppression 57? Suppression 58? Suppression 59? Suppression  
60? Suppression 61? Suppression 62? It appears there are no  
comments. The document is therefore adopted.

The Secretariat has just advised that there is text in  
brackets, pages 18, 19, 20, 21 and 23. Given that the document  
would appear to be adopted I would like to ask whether or not  
you have any comments. And if not we will adopt this document.  
The document is adopted.

We will now move on to the next item on the agenda, the  
second series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee to  
this Plenary. And I give the floor to the Chair of the Editorial  
Committee.

>> HASSINA LAREDJ: Thank you, Chair. I have also the honor  
of submitting to you the second series under document 64 from  
the first series of texts submitted by the Working Group of the  
Plenary. And 60R2. This is the draft declaration from WTDC-17.  
The draft ITU-D contribution to the ITU strategic plan for  
2020-2023. Objectives, outcomes and outputs that we submit to  
the Plenary for your reading. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Madam Chair. We will now begin with  
our reading of this document. I would once again clarify that  
our reading relates to the version in English. We will move  
through section by section. Are there any comments on the  
recognizings?

Are there any comments on the declares part? Seeing  
none -- apologies, United States.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would like to  
note that there are some square brackets in this section. The  
United States does have concerns with regard to square brackets  
in paragraph 8. And paragraph 7 as well as paragraph 17.

>> CHAIR: Uruguay, you have the floor.

>> URUGUAY: Thank you. Good afternoon, Chair. Uruguay on  
behalf of CITELE that the declaration has square brackets around  
it because we didn't yet present the views of the CITELE region  
and likewise as the U.S. Delegation said there are square  
brackets in paragraphs 7, 8, 17, and 22. And CITELE's position,  
particularly with regard to paragraph 7 that we should delete  
the square brackets or what is in the square brackets, the  
references to technologies have no place in high level  
declaration like that -- such as that we are currently

reviewing.

>> CHAIR: Any further comments other than the comments raised by the United States and Uruguay? Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Seeking clarification how can we deal with these brackets? Are we going to look in to them one after the other? I'm seeking clarification because we have many brackets in this document. We would appreciate knowing how we will deal with these brackets. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Are there any other comments? Italy, you have the floor.

>> ITALY: Thank you, Chairman. Really this is part of the report of my -- the Rapporteur of the Plenary. And there were some consultations on this declaration and we still -- there are four items in square brackets and I -- they were in informal consultations to try to solve these pending items. I think both (inaudible) and my Vice Chairman from South Africa and they said they are hoping to solve three of the four square brackets. I'm surprised that you are discussing the declaration but anyway, that's the status.

>> CHAIR: Thank you to the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary. I would like to ask the representative of CITELE if they can comment on what has been raised.

>> Yes, Chairman. What was just said by the Chair of the Working Group was right. CITELE was looking at this and trying to establish a consensus. And within this consensus is paragraph 7. We agreed that we should delete the references to technologies. And therefore CITELE is prepared to come to a consensus. And this is our proposal therefore to delete those references to technologies. I would once again say this is a high level declaration. And here we are referring to the new technologies. We are contemplating not only technologies today but there is also tomorrow. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. With regards to the comments that we have received and following the suggestion of Saudi Arabia we could therefore review the four sets of square brackets. We will begin with paragraph 7, the section in square brackets. And as we have just heard from the Delegate from Uruguay, the representative of CITELE, we just heard their comment on these square brackets. Are there any other comments on the square brackets in paragraph 7?

Are therefore agreed that we will delete the text in square brackets as raised by the representative of CITELE? Saudi Arabia.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Chairman. We were involved in the drafting group on the Buenos Aires Declaration and during our discussions we thought that the objective of referring to

these trends was to give them certain importance over the next four years. Within the group of Arab States we don't have too much difficulty in accepting the reference to technologies contained in paragraph 7. So we would like to know whether it would be possible to keep this reference to technologies in paragraph 7. We have no problem, we see no problem with maintaining this reference in paragraph 7. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Are there any further comments? I would like to ask the Delegate from Saudi Arabia to please clarify if you would agree that we delete the reference to these technologies. I wasn't clear on your view.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. My comments previously was about listing the trends that are currently in clause No. 7. We do not see harm of keeping such a trend listed in No. 7. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, we seek the -- or we ask the colleagues to maybe maintain the text between the square brackets. This was my proposal. Thank you.

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

>> CANADA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. As clearly articulated by Uruguay on behalf of CITELE what we raised as a point of contention was that this being a high level document, it should not include reference to specific technologies and consequently leave the text saying that new and emerging technologies/trends in telecommunications/ICTs should be better in the rest of the text. Again, Mr. Chairman, this is because we need to keep the text to the declaration at the high level. Secondly, by name it would be useful to hear the voices of all the administrations and groups as to a proposal of CITELE which is removal of specific references to particular technologies. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I give the floor to Mexico.

>> MEXICO: Thank you very much, Chairman. Indeed we agree with what was mentioned by the Distinguished Delegate from Uruguay and Canada. That this is a high level declaration. And there is therefore no reason to mention specific technologies. And this paragraph 7 talks of new technologies and trends in telecommunications. As these trends, Chairman, as you know can change over time, so we do not think that it would be right to refer to specific technologies in this declaration because within a few years these technologies could be obsolete. It has no place in a high level declaration. Thank you, Chairman.

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

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The United States would like to express its support in alignment with the comments expressed by our colleagues from Uruguay, Canada and Mexico. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I give the floor to Germany.

>> GERMANY: Thank you, Chairman. Good afternoon. Well, unfortunately, Chairman, the discussion here is just repeating the discussion we had in the smaller Ad Hoc Group last Saturday where we met in order to discuss the declaration for the entire Saturday.

And with regard to No. 7 CEPT would support the deletion of the list of technologies or trends in No. 7. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chair. The Russian Delegation supports its colleagues from Saudi Arabia and other countries who share this common position on the importance of new technologies. And we do not agree to referring to in this document low as the level of this document at all. In the Strategic Plan of the ITU it -- all these new technologies are referred to. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I give the floor to Jordan.

>> JORDAN: Thank you, Chairman. We in turn would like to support what the representative of Saudi Arabia has said. It is very important that we highlight the new technologies in this area. Particularly as these technologies will be at the very heart of the work of the ITU-D and within its Strategic Plan. So there is absolutely no harm done if we refer to such technologies in this paragraph.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I would now like to ask for your views. I think that the positions are clear. The Chair of the Working Group has mentioned the difficulties and I would now like to know what your views are on paragraphs 8, 17 and 22. I would be grateful if you could be brief in your comments. I give the floor to Nigeria.

>> NIGERIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We just -- we have listened to contributions from administrations and colleagues on the issue of paragraph 7. We requested for the floor to comment on this paragraph 7. Looking at this paragraph 7, Mr. Chairman, if we remove the square bracket and the content of the square bracket, Mr. Chairman, this particular paragraph will have no meaning. And so in order to give meaning to this paragraph, we suggest that we use technologies, strength in technologies/ICT and then delete from such as cloud computing right up to Artificial Intelligence. If we delete that one, then paragraph 7 will have some meaning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I give the floor to Uruguay.

>> URUGUAY: Thank you very much, Chairman. I was going to comment on paragraph 8. CITEL's proposal here is to delete the text in square brackets. Thank you very much, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. I would also like to ask

for your comments on the two other paragraphs that we still have in square brackets, that is 17 and 22. Brazil, you have the floor.

>> BRAZIL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Mr. Fabio Bigi the Chairman of the Working Group of the Plenary said we went through some consultations along some groups and I would suggest you leave -- if it is -- if you agree that we could pass very fastly on the results, consultations on the deletions and maintaining texts and then we could see as a whole how it would be as a proposal from Mr. Bigi and have the consultations with others so we can have a complete view of what would be the final text after those consultations and proposals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much to the Delegate from Brazil. If given the differences that I think we are very close to resolving I would like to ask the Delegate from Brazil who is also Vice-Chair of this conference for the Americas region together with the Delegate from Nigeria and the delegate from Saudi Arabia to meet and bring to us a proposal during the coffee break which we are coming close to now. I would ask you to follow up on that please. I understand there is intermediate text and we are seeking agreement on this document which as you all know is of great importance for the conference. Thank you very much. Germany has the floor.

>> GERMANY: CEPT has a very clear opinion as to how to treat square brackets and as a consequence we will be part of the group discussing this text. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I understand that there are no further comments and I -- I had no further comments and that's why I didn't include you in this informal group. But hearing the latest statement I would ask Germany or a representative from CEPT to approach Brazil and the group that will be working with Saudi Arabia and Nigeria. Uruguay, you have the floor.

>> URUGUAY: Apologies for taking the floor again, Chairman, but Uruguay would also like to be involved in this small group. In light of the comments that we have heard so we can achieve a consensus. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: I understood -- I understand that we should have a representative group. But a group that is sufficiently small so that we can arrive at some form of agreement. We are at quite an advanced stage. The Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary had made efforts and there have been informal discussions. If Uruguay is insisting to be a part of the group I would suppose that we can add them to the group, but we would ask for them to be a small consultation group which can achieve a result by the end of the coffee break. Sudan, you have the floor.

>> SUDAN: Thank you, Chairman. I completely understand

your proposal to establish a small group. We have been involved in those in the past and we believe that we could bring added value and a contribution to the group. So we would therefore ask you to accept our joining the group.

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

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chair. A representative of the RCC is also ready to participate in the work of this group. Thank you.

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

>> JAPAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Japan would like to join the small group on behalf of our APT members. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. I give the floor to the United Kingdom.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair. Could I just have some clarification? Is this about all the square brackets in the declaration or is it just those in relation to Declaration 7? Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Yes, the idea is that this small group, of course, with the support of the Working Group, the Chair of the Working Group, will address the four points that we have in square brackets. I have no problem with those who requested to join the group to do so. I had requested one representative by region. But I would like to entrust the coordination of the group to the Delegate from Brazil with the support of Nigeria and Saudi Arabia and five countries that have asked to be involved in the group. Thank you very much.

And we hope that after their coffee break there will be a consensus text. United Kingdom, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair. In light of your answer the UK will join that group. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Of course. I would ask you then to please make contact with the Delegate from Brazil.

We will move on to the next item on our agenda which is the reading of the third series of texts submitted by the Editorial Committee to the Plenary. And I give the floor to the Chair of this Committee.

>> HASSINA LAREDJ: Thank you, Chairman. The Editorial Committee submits its third series under document 72. This is the outcome of the third series of texts submitted in reference 65. This relates to the revision of Resolution 5 and a draft new Resolution entitled the use of the telecommunications development sector of the ITU of the union's language on an equal footing. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Madam Chair. Given that we are almost at the time for our coffee break, we will go forward by five

minutes before the reading and we will resume our reading of the document after the coffee break. Thank you.

(Coffee break).

>> CHAIR: We will begin the meeting again. I would ask you to please to take your seats. Before the coffee break, which I believe has been productive, the Chair of the Editorial Committee took the floor. And before reading through the document that was pending she took the floor to clarify these issues. And we are now looking at document 72E. I wish to reiterate the adoption of the Strategic Plan in the version proposed by TDAG which is contained -- the title is on page 5. And the rest of the document is on pages 6, 7 and 8.

Are there any comments on that? Seeing none, the Strategic Plan is adopted. I now wish to give the floor to the Delegate from Brazil and the vice-president for the conference for the Americas region to update on the consultations related to the declaration. You have the floor, sir.

>> BRAZIL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We convened a small group, a very productive group to deal with four square brackets. We could find agreements on three of them. And there is one remaining. I would like first, Mr. Chairman, to go to No. 7 of the Buenos Aires Declaration. And the group agreed that the words such as cloud computing, IoT and Artificial Intelligence can be deleted.

Then we remain with the words new and emerging technologies/trends and telecommunications/ICTs or in telecommunications and ICTs to make more sense. The other consensus is on No. 8. And the group agreed that we should delete reference to the -- ITU provides capacity building and tools for effective and efficient spectrum and so on.

17, Mr. Chairman it is the square brackets that remains. We couldn't find agreement for now. There are three options for us to discuss, three possibilities. But only one main issue that we must deal with. On 22, there are two options. And it was decided that the second option would fit best with only one deletion of this, on this, which is after knowledge transfer. So we have to delete unfavorable conditions in the mutually agreed terms. That would be deleted after the consultations with this small group.

So Mr. Chairman, that's the consensus for now. I look forward with our colleagues to try to find a consensus on No. 17. And maybe if you allow me more time and specific room for this work, we can try another time to advance the work on the declaration. Thank you very much for your trust, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Vice-Chair. I'm very grateful for your efforts. And it is excellent that we have three agreements on four problems. And there is only one

outstanding before we can adopt the Buenos Aires Declaration. I would now like to give the floor to the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary to hear his comments on this.

>> FABIO BIGI: Thank you, Chairman. I can only thank Mr. Jefferson for the effort he has producing and solving the remaining items. That was clearly outlined in the -- in my report, that the Chairman of the Working Group of the Plenary encourages, concerning the text in the closed paragraphs to have informal consultation with the aim of reaching consensus by the time the document was presented in the Plenary. So my understanding, Mr. Jefferson succeeded in three out of four and we have to solve and complete. I am in complete favor of giving extra time if there is some chance to obtain agreement on the text, paragraph 17.

I already outlined what has been approved, the Strategic Plan. We transmitted to the Chairman of Committee 3 to complete the annex to take in to account the final draft action plan, assuming the linkage between the objective outcome, Sustainable Development Goals and (inaudible) the annex action line. This is the annex to Strategic Plan we just adopted just in order to clarify. I don't know if you want me to finish with the report on the Working Group of the Plenary or for time this is sufficient?

>> CHAIR: Thank you to the Chair of the Working Group on the Plenary. Before we continue with taking the decision on the pending issue I would like to ask the Plenary that we adopt the document of the declaration with the exception of paragraph 17. Saudi Arabia, you have floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. We in turn would like to thank Mr. Jefferson for his efforts in order to reach a consensus. We believe, Mr. Chairperson, that it might be more appropriate to look in through the whole declaration, Buenos Aires Declaration before adopting it. And therefore we propose to wait until we have a glimpse of the whole declaration. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. So that we don't extend the time of this Plenary meeting I would ask the Vice-Chair of the conference with the Americas that he together with the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary continue working on seeking a consensus on paragraph 17. And I would ask him also to update us in tomorrow's Plenary meeting. Thank you very much for your efforts.

Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Chairman. I want to thank Mr. Jefferson and all that work in the conclusion of this text. And to support you, of course, your proposal that the meeting to conclude this text be dedicated only to the paragraph 17 that



you have mentioned and not, of course, to the revision of the whole text. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I understand that the discussions that will continue will be on paragraph 17. Tomorrow when we put this forward for adoption we will accept any other comments that are made but we would ask that the work of these discussions focus on paragraph 17 which is the -- that paragraph in which there are still conflicts. I think that it would be easy to resolve when we have the final outcome of the agreement that will be made. This being the case that I would ask that we continue with our agenda.

We will review document 72-E and it will be introduced to us by the Chair of the Editorial Committee. The document contains a revision of Resolution 5 to begin with. As we did earlier we will move through section by section. Are there any comments on the considerings? Any comments on the recognizing paragraphs? Are there any comments on convinced? Are there any comments on further instructs the director of the Telecommunications Bureau?

Apologies. We omitted our consideration of one resolves which is prior to the further instructs paragraphs. Are there any comments on the resolves paragraphs?

Are there any comments now on the further instructs paragraphs, further instructs the director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau? Are there any comments now on the paragraph on invites the director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau?

Are there any comments on invites Member States, sector members and associates? Are there any comments on requests to the Secretary-General?

And are there any comments on invites the Plenipotentiary Conference? Seeing none the Resolution was adopted. We now move on to the proposal for a new Resolution, COM4-1, contained on page 4 of the document.

We will review it section by section as we have done previously. Are there any comments on the recognizing? Are there any comments on the considerings? Are there any comments on the notings? Any comments on the resolves paragraphs? Are there any comments on instructs, invites the Council? Apologies, I'm going backwards. I'm going back to instructs the director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau. Are there any comments on these paragraphs? And on invites the Council?

I now give the floor to ATDI.

>> ATDI: Sorry to taking you back to resolve 3. Two experts one from Study Group 1 and Study Group 2 shall be appointed by the WTDC to present the ITU in WTDC in level of

Vice-Chairman. It is written that WTDC will implement it in this conference or is it only in the next conference? I ask this question, Professor Vladimir Minkin, and his intention was that we should make it here. Now the question to you, did you appoint those two Vice-Chairs from any study group? Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: I would like to ask the Chair of Committee 4 to comment on this point.

>> MAJED MAZYED: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Can you phrase your question once again, please?

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. The representative of ATDI could you please repeat your question so the Chair of Committee 4 can take note of it? ATDI, you have the floor

>> ATDI: In resolves 3, two experts shall be appointed by WTDC. If we appropriate this Resolution, we should nominate two persons for the ITU CC. The question is we will nominate them now or tomorrow during this WTDC where will we implement this Resolution on our next WTDC? Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Their of committee 4, you have the floor.

>> MAJED MAZYED: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Regarding the question raised after adopting this Resolution by the Plenary, it is up to the Plenary to identify the two experts referred to.

>> CHAIR: Thank you to the Chair of Committee 4. I believe this clarifies the matter. Colombia, you have the floor.

>> COLOMBIA: No, I didn't request the floor.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Are there any additional comments? So we have finished with our review. So if there are no further comments -- Russian Federation.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chair. I'm speaking just because my name was mentioned. And so I would like to say that the decision is taken by the conference. And the -- there is no personal views here which should be taken. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much for your clarification. It is understood that it is the Plenary who will decide on this issue which we will decide on after we have adopted this document. Are there any other comments? Seeing none the document is adopted.

Given that the director of the BDT who has to present the document on the next item isn't in the room, I suggest that we continue with our reports from the Chairs of Committees and the Working Group of the Plenary.

Item 12 of the agenda and then we will go back to item 11. I will now give the floor therefore to the Chair of Committee 2.

>> HELENA FERNANDES: Thank you, Chair, for giving me the floor. Good afternoon, everyone. Chair, since the beginning of this conference we had one meeting last week on the 3rd of October. We also drew to the attention all decisions and Resolutions with financial implications have to be sent to the

Committee 2. Until now, Chair, we only received from Committee 3 the proposal for France for the initiatives and now we are waiting for other proposals. Today we have the second meeting of this Committee. It will start in the next minutes. Chair, that's what we have to present until now. We only received one proposal from the Committee 3 in regard to the proposals for the meeting general initiatives. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. Are there any comments on this report? Algeria, you have the floor.

>> ALGERIA: (Speaking in a non-English language). If you allow me, Chair, there was some delay in receiving the documents. There are some documents have yet to arrive. We are a little behind. And so the documents have been arriving quite slowly. And we just wanted to flag that up for you. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much for your comment. We have a request for the floor but we are not able to identify from who it is coming. I will give you the floor, but please introduce yourself and say who you represent. The request for the floor has disappeared. If there are no further comments, I would like to give the floor therefore to the Chair of Committee 3, Dr. Sharafat.

>> AHMAD REZA SHARAFAT: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Briefly just to bring you up to date on what we were dealing with. We had 24 Resolutions plus six new Resolutions. So that comprises 30 Resolutions plus action plan. And we started with 17 questions, study questions. And so you see that we have had an extremely heavy workload. We met ten times. And our next meeting will start at 6:30 tonight. We hope to be able to move as quickly and as efficiently as possible to finish our work. The study questions, Mr. Chairman, from the 17 we had 20 nations and we merged two questions in to one. At this moment we will be having 14 questions all together. Nine are already approved and five remains to be considered by the Committee 3.

And so Mr. Chairman, we still need to consider many topics. Unfortunately the more sensitive and controversial topics remain on our agenda. I am grateful to all the Delegates for their cooperation, for their flexibility. But nevertheless we need to be as flexible and as efficient as possible. We plan to finish our work tonight, but if there is a need my request would be to give us another possibility of meeting early tomorrow morning from 8 to 9:30 in order to be able to present you with my report that would cover all the topics, whole items on our agenda.

Again I'm counting on the cooperation of all Delegates which I have been extremely fortunate to benefit from and their flexibility in the remaining issues so that we will be able to provide you in the Plenary of this conference with a number of

remaining problems to be resolved by the Plenary. That concludes my report, Mr. Chairman. And I stand ready to clarify any points that you initiate. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you to the Chair of Committee 3. Are there any comments on this report? Seeing none, Chair of Committee 3, we have no problems with a final meeting being held tomorrow morning. However, it is important that all Delegates bear in mind that tomorrow is the penultimate day of the conference. I would ask that this meeting does allow us to completely finish all of the items so that we can review the work that is done this evening and not to open new debates.

I'm not trying to be flexible, inflexible because we are coming to the end of our time and we have much work ahead of us in the Plenary. So we will allow the meeting of tomorrow morning. And I will ask the Secretariat to take all necessary measures to ensure that this work can be finished in due time and form. And I will now give the floor to the Chair of Committee 4.

>> MAJED MAZYED: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. The fourth Committee held four meetings during the past days. The last of which was this morning. And during these meetings the four resolutions were discussed. And a number of Resolutions were agreed upon and they were adopted a few moments ago. They were sent to this Plenary and were adopted a few moments ago. As for certain Resolutions like Resolution 1 and Resolution 2 and Resolution 31 and 59, these will be sent to the Plenary. There are certain consultations that are ongoing with regards to Resolution No. 2 which is to reflect the final outcomes of the questions in the second Addendum to the Resolution. And then to send them to the Plenary.

With regards to Resolution 1, there are certain drafting works to be done with regards to the Resolution in addition to ensuring the compatibility of certain paragraphs from the procedural point of view. With that, Mr. Chairperson, the Committee 4 has ended its work in this morning's meeting. And I would like to seize this opportunity to thank all the Honorable Delegates for their active participation and for the long hours they have spent in the works of our Committee, the subsidiary Working Groups. And I would like to thank all the heads of Working Groups and in particular Madam Roxanne from the United States of America and Mr. Adel Darwish from the Kingdom of Bahrain. Do not forget to profusely thank the Secretariat of the Committee, Brahima Hadad as well as Mr. Comad and Mrs. Christine and Mr. Mammood for their great efforts in ensuring the success of the committee.

The Secretariat are the key to our success and we are grateful to them for all the efforts undertaken. And I also

thank the interpreters for their efforts and patience because we took a lot of their time. And I would like to thank once again all the Honorable Delegates. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much to the Chair of Committee 4. Are there any comments on this presentation? Thank you very much. I now give the floor to the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary.

>> FABIO BIGI: I have given part of the report in document 61. We had five meetings, thanks to your understanding and with the assistance of my four Vice-Chairmen that I put a contribution. For example, during the third session I asked my Vice-Chairman from Singapore we go to the Strategic Plan with only four objectives that are outlined in my report. And we forward these Strategic Plan to the Chairman of Committee 3 as I said to use as a reference while developing the action plan. The request to Chairman of Committee 3 was to complete the annex and take in to account consideration of the final action plan showing the linkage between the objective outcomes and Sustainable Development Goals and society action line.

For declaration, I have intervened before and I have to thank Ms. Ingrid, Vice-Chair, South African Chair. We come as -- as already mentioned with four bracketed items but the rest of the text was agreed. And two final comments I have to thank my four Vice-Chairmen for the -- with them several coordination meetings to prepare the session. And I thank my secretary Mr. Jaroslaw Ponder and Mr. Zawazawa and all the Delegates who contributed to the work and resolves and please make an extra effort to try to solve pending item in the declaration. At the end it is the spirit of international cooperation that has always guided my action and my activity. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With that I think I conclude my report.

>> CHAIR: Thank you to the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary. Are there any comments on this report? Seeing none I would ask you all please for a round of applause for all of these Committees and their Chairs.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIR: Before move -- we move on to the next item on today's agenda, I would like to ask the interpreters that we have come to the end of our time if we could have ten additional minutes.

>> Yes, Chairman. That's fine.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. As I said we will now go back to item 11 on our agenda. The proposals for the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group and the ITU-D Study Groups. I would like to ask the Secretariat to read document DT/58. Apologies. Now the director of the BDT has arrived. I would ask the director to read this document, DT/58.

>> BRAHIMA SANOU: Thank you very much, Chairman. Chairman, in accordance with Resolution 61 we held consultations and we received an awful lot of assistance from regional Telecommunications Authorities in these consultations. This morning we proposed this document at the meeting of the heads of Delegations who endorsed the document. And I therefore submit it for your consideration and approval. Thank you very much, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Are there any comments on this document? Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Yes, thank you very much, Chairman. I wanted to make you and the Plenary aware of the fact that at the end of the heads of Delegation meeting this morning and taking note of the fact that on behalf of the Americas group there was -- there wasn't even one Vice-Chair for the Telecommunications Development Advisory Group. We were able to meet with our colleagues from the Americas region. And we wish to submit to your consideration and to that of the Plenary the fact that we have asked the Dominican Republic to accede to participate as the second Vice-Chair for the Americas region. This request represents the consensus from the Delegations of CITELE and the Republic of Cuba. And I would like to tell you, Chair, on -- the name of the representative from the Dominican Republic is Katrina Melt. And she is the executive director of the Dominican Institute for telecommunications, INDOTEL.

Chair, in good time and in accordance with the rules of procedure for this type of appointment, we will submit to you the relevant document. Thank you the Dominican Republic for having to accept to be nominated for this Vice-Chair. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. I would now like to open the floor for comments and then approval of this proposal. Dominican Republic, you have the floor.

>> DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Thank you, Chairman. I think that I interrupted you. Apologies. I wanted to thank you on behalf of our country and executive director and Canada for the other regions for their generous offer. We are ready to accept it and shoulder this particular challenge. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much to the representative of the Dominican Republic. Are there any further comments? If not, then I would ask the Plenary that we approve the appointment of this second Vice-Chair for the Americas region for TDAG provided that they duly submit the relevant background documents imposed by Resolution 61.

And with that being noted we would adopt or approve that appointment. Are there any other comments? We will therefore approve the new authorities and Chairs of direct -- of TDAG.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIR: Director, you have the floor.

>> BRAHIMA SANOU: Thank you very much, Chair. This is an important moment and I would like to thank CITEL first and foremost for this proposal. The lady proposed, I know her personally. And I can confirm that she fulfills all the conditions required to be Vice-Chair of TDAG.

As director of the BDT and having benefitted from the services and views and advice from TDAG I would like to officially present my thanks to all members of TDAG, Chairs, Vice-Chairs. I would also like to thank all the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Study Groups and also to the Rapporteurs. And I would like to say how this structure is useful for -- by the BDT director such as myself because through this structure we can provide advice, submit proposals and this allows us at all the time to be able to follow exactly what is going on.

I would also like to thank particularly Professor Minkin who has concluded his last mandate as TDAG Chair. I said it this morning at the heads of Delegation meeting, he has been a remarkable Chair. He is a remarkable person and we will continue to count on him. And other Vice-Chairs who have completed their mandate, to them I would like to very officially here thank them all for the support they have provided. All that we have achieved in ITU-D and they are part of all these achievements. I would like to personally thank them and give a round of applause, particularly for Professor Minkin.

(Applause.)

>> BRAHIMA SANOU: I would like to welcome the new cohorts because we are starting a new study cycle. Welcome one and all. Congratulations. And I will meet you very soon because at the end of this conference we are going to send a letter to appoint Rapporteurs for questions. So a new cycle is commencing. Thank you very much for being so available for this work. Thank you very much. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, director. That brings us to the end of today's agenda. And I was saying that brings us to the end of today's agenda. We do have some pending items which we'll continue in consultations because we have already come to the end of our time. I would like to know whether you have any additional comments. And if not we will adjourn the meeting. Syria, you have the floor.

>> SYRIA: The Syrian administration would like to amend the statement that we read earlier to summarize this declaration. If you allow me, I'm going to reread the text in its current version. The Syrian -- Syria appreciates ITU's efforts to rebuild telecommunications efforts in countries affected by war. We urge ITU to achieve this noble task. That's the final version of our statement.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much Delegate from Syria. Are

there any other comments? Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Chair. Ladies and Gentlemen, the ITU is a noble organization. The name is -- has humanitarian and civilization aspects to it. The ITU should remain a specialized organization in the field of telecommunications and ICTs. The name should not be used as a means of achieving political ends. Chair, Saudi Arabia does not accept to discuss the Syrian crisis which today is in its sixth year. And this crisis should be solved politically based on the Geneva declaration one and on Resolution 2254 from the (inaudible) Council.

Chair, our country is not ignoring the humanitarian side of this crisis. We have opened our doors to host hundreds of thousands of Syrians. Not as refugees and refugee counts but as brothers who enjoy everything they require to have a normal life. And it allows them also to benefit from medical, educational services and others. And in this connection I would like to recall that King Solomon, center for assistance in humanitarian affairs plays a key role in Syria. The international community, Chair, has not ignored the humanitarian aspect of this. Many Summits have been convened. Billions of dollars have been collected. And our country has -- was honored to be one of the biggest contributors here.

Therefore, Chair, I repeat that the name of the ITU should not be mixed in to this issue for political ends. This could affect the success of -- of the conference. Thank you very much, Chair. And I would ask you to reflect this statement in the minutes of this meeting. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you to the Delegate from Saudi Arabia. Estonia, you have the floor.

>> ESTONIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On behalf of the European Union and its Member States we ask for the statement to be translated. And we reserve the right to come back to this issue. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I give the floor to Bahrein.

>> BAHREIN: Thank you very much, Mr. President. In short we support and associate ourselves with the comments from the Delegate of Saudi Arabia. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. As I said previously there are some issues that remain pending. This without a doubt is one of those. But we have run out of time. With that therefore I would like us to adjourn this afternoon -- this afternoon's meeting. And we will come back to the pending items in tomorrow's meeting. The meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much.

(Session concluded at 5:50 p.m. ART)

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