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| INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION | **Joint Coordination Activity  On Accessibility and Human Factors** |
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1. Opening of the meeting

The JCA-AHF meeting was held in the afternoon of 21 October 2015 during ITU-T Study Group 16 (12-23 October 2015) and chaired by the JCA-AHF Chairman Ms Andrea Saks (USA).

Vice-chairman Christopher Jones (UK) who is deaf was attending with two British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters. Christopher signed to the interpreters who then spoke for him by translating his signs into voiced speech. Mr Beat Kleeb is deaf too and the representative of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) also attended and had the interpreters voiced over his speech so that his comments could be understood. Both men and others with hearing difficulties and those without or those who may not have English as first language used the captioning to follow the meetings as did the remote participants. Vice-chairman Mr Gerry Ellis (Ireland) attended remotely.

Before moving to the agenda item, Mr Beat Kleeb, World Federation of the Deaf, announced that Ms Andrea Saks has been honoured with a First Class International Social Merit Award at the World Congress of the Deaf which held recently in Istanbul. Ms Frederique Palama, Swiss Association of the Deaf, presented the certificate honouring the Merit Award and its accompanying medal to Ms Andrea Saks who has been adopted into the Swiss Deaf community.

Mr Malcolm Johnson, Deputy to the ITU Secretary-General, praised her award and appreciated her work. He was also appreciated for his support for the work in the area of accessibility and was offered a book entitled Deaf Gain which explains accessibility works and examples of positive impacts. Mr Malcolm Johnson explained he is actively working on spreading the ITU’s accessibility work across all UN agencies, especially at the occasion of planned big UN event in Geneva in 2016.

2 Agenda and allocation of documents

The Chairman introduced the draft agenda and document allocation as contained in [Document 213 Rev.1](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2015/JCA-AHF-Doc-213R1.zip).

The complete list of documents is available on the JCA-AHF website (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Pages/201510-docs.aspx>).

3 Approval of the last JCA-AHF meeting report

The “JCA-AHF 17 June 2015 meeting report” ([Document 210](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2015/JCA-AHF-Doc-210-Draft%20report%20for%2017%20June%202015.docx)) was approved.

4 Review of ITU accessibility activities

**4.1 ITU 2015 accessibility briefing – ITU 150 years celebration – accessibility as the theme of July 2015**

Ms Lucy Spencer, ITU Communication Unit, explained ITU’s promotion on accessibility. Accessibility has been heavily promoted in July 2015 across the blog and ITU storytelling campaign as part of the ITU150 celebration. Ms Lobna Smida, advocate in the Tunisian Presidential palace, was featured in July in ITU storytelling campaign, and [this story](http://itu150.org/story/july/) has been viewed nearly 600 times since its launch. [Blogs on accessibility](https://itu4u.wordpress.com/category/accessibility/) are also promoted, authored by, such as: Mr Beat Kleeb, Mr Peter Hayes who is the Founder and CEO of VTC-Secure, Ms Andrea Saks, ITU Secretary-General, and Ms Patricia Graves who is the President and CEO of Caption First.

**4.2 ITU-D**

Ms Roxanna Widmer-Iliescu, ITU-BDT, reported the Rapporteurs’ meeting of ITU-D Q7/1 held on 13 April 2015, where capacity-building training was offered to members on topics covered by the Model ICT Accessibility Policy Report, in particular to the necessary changes to existing legislation to promote ICT accessibility; on how to promote accessibility in public ICT spaces such as data centre and public pay phone; on public procurement, including commercial best practices, as well as on which accessibility tools can be used for persons with difficulties in reading and writing, and for practical application for accessibility e-education.

On 16 and 17 September, ITU-D Q7/1 was held, and ICT accessible technologies and solutions were demonstrated by: Mr Ribback VerbaVoice (Germany), Sub-Ti (Italy), AT&T (US), and VTC-Secure (US). The last one was about a relay service called Accessible Communication for Everyone (ACE), and Mr Christian Vogler was to show the same system during this JCA meeting. It was also reported that Mrs Amela Odobasic was elected as a new co-Rapporteur. Ms Roxanna Widmer-Iliescu also explained about a document from the meeting on the protection in spectrum management for assistive listening devices for persons with disabilities and medical short-range devices, making the participants aware that certain spectrums can become overloaded and subsequently cause malfunctions by interference, and has been taken into consideration for their future work. She also mentioned the launch of the competition on the best strategies policies developed by ITU members in the areas of ICT accessibility, the deadline of which would be 19 February 2016.

Ms Susan Schorr, ITU-BDT, introduced ITU-D meetings and related events on ICT Accessibility.

**4.3 ITU-T**

**SG16 – Multimedia (19-23 October 2015) Question 26**

Mr Masahito Kawamori introduced the following documents discussed during Q26/16 meeting:

* F.ACC-TERM, which would be proposed for consent at this SG16 meeting, and which gives correct usages and definitions of terms for accessibility to be used in standardizing accessibility.
* HSTP-ACC-REMPART, which is a technical paper to be approved at this SG16 meeting, and which describes guidelines for accessible remote participation.
* FSTP-AM, which is also a technical paper to be approved at this SG16 meeting, and which describes guidelines on accessible meeting, not only remote participation but also any meetings which need to be accessible.
* H.IPTV-ACCProf, which stands for IPTV accessibility profiles, and which defines three accessibility profiles for IPTV systems: Basic, Enhanced and Main, in increasing level of support for accessibility features. These profiles are already implemented globally in the market as these are on IPTV. It was agreed by Inter Rapporteur Group on Audio-visual Media Accessibility, where broadcast requirements are discussed, to send H.IPTV-ACCProf to ITU-R Secretariat so that the broadcasting people can consider implementing those profiles.
* F.relay, which is ongoing work item, and which Q26/16 started to restructure so as to provide standardized technology such as the one that Mr Christian Vogler just demonstrated.

 Ms Andrea Saks introduced new ITU-T Study Group 20 – IoT and its applications including smart Cities and communities, the chairman of which is from the United Arab Emirates. The Arab groups have been making contributions on accessibility including the problem with spectrum and hearing aids to the World Radio Congress as well as the Radio Assembly.

Mr Christopher Vogler added some examples of accessibility applications related to smart cities, such as notifications of fire alarms on a mobile phone which vibrates and flashes a light to alert. Ms Andrea Saks explained further that such applications can be used not only by persons with disabilities, but also by mainstream society.

Ms Andrea Saks suggested sending a liaison statement from the JCA-AHF to the Study Group 20, proposing to work together, and the Accessibility Checklist for Study Group 20 to take note when designing infrastructure for smart cities, as well as the list of newly consented recommendations and technical papers of Q26/16. The JCA agreed to send this liaison also to all Study Groups and W3C.

**4.4 ITU-R**

Ms Andrea Saks reported that she has been told during the IRG meeting yesterday that there seemed to be exceptions in the past in adding an agenda item during the WRC. She seeks for any possibilities to make such a case happen at the next WRC, as there is a problem of interference with ZigBee, Bluetooth, and medical devices which all started with the assistive listening devices. The possible way forward, Ms Junko Koizumi found from the Section 5 of the Convention 118, is at least one quarter of the Member states to address the Secretary-General who will transmit to the Council for approval, or an a proposal of the Council.

5 Outside Groups

Mr Masahito Kawamori introduced a collaboration on safe listening with WHO, to protect the youth from losing hearing because of listening to loud music for a long time. As a follow-up of the joint WHO/ITU meeting on 1-2 October 2015, WHO participated in the meeting Q28/16 on e-health, and Q28/16 decided to create a new work item on safe listening to collect information on this.

Royal National Institute for the Blind had a conference on audio description in London, in September, and invited Ms Andrea Saks and Mr Masahito Kawamori, and both saw demos and discussions on various areas of audio description, including use of synthesized voices and audio descriptions in cinemas.

Mr Beat Kleeb reported the successful World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf, Istanbul. Turkey which had 1300 participants. He informed that ITU has provided a budget to convert information onto digital memory sticks for the member organizations, while those didn’t delivered to the Congress venue because of the Customs problem. Thus he would give them out as he goes. He would inform that the link to information about the Congress once it would have been ready.

Ms Andrea Saks explained her participation in the 2015 Biennial TDI Conference in Baltimore. TDI is mainly a U.S.-based telecommunications-oriented group of deaf and hard-of-hearing people.

Ms Andrea Saks also reported her participation in the IEEE in Singapore on how deaf communication and technology evolved with a history of persons with disabilities. She met Disabled Peoples Association which is an organization funded totally by charitable donations and run by a young woman. Then she met Deaf Association of Singapore and gave a demonstration on ACE/Relay service.

Mr Gerry Ellis introduced remotely the activities of the European Disability Forum which represents 80 million people with disabilities, and is very actively working.

6 Demonstrations

Mr Christian Vogler demonstrated ACE/Relay service, which is a system of video relay service call working on an iPhone. The system showed that it could leave a message with the help of an interpreter. Ms Andrea Saks added that this system is connected to an open source platform, thus it can be implemented worldwide, while all the relay services solutions in the U.S. are proprietary and run by different people, which result in lack of interoperability, and difficulties in flexibility to meet a various types of disabilities.

Mr Yuzo Oshima, NPO for Persons with Disabilities, Japan, showed a video demonstrating the system *Listen with your eyes on IPTV*, which provides captioning and sign language and audio description based on the Japanese Government commission’s project. The service adds sign language and closed captioning on top of the normal TV programs. Users can change both font and background colour as defined in H.IPTV-ACCProf.

7 Liaison Statement

Incoming Liaison Statement

The following Incoming Liaison Statement was noted.

* [LS/i/r on cybersecurity/security on the Internet for persons with disabilities (reply to JCA-AHF - LS 35) [from JCA-COP]](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2015/Doc%20211.doc)

Outgoing Liaison Statement

The following Outgoing Liaison Statement was agreed and sent from JCA-AHF.

* [LS on request to consider accessibility and universal design in ITU-T SG20’s work [to ITU-T SG20](http://www.itu.int/net/itu-t/ls/ls.aspx?isn=7034)]

8 Future events

JCA-AHF Chairman drew the attention and encouraged participation to the following future events:

* [Asia-Europe Meeting Disability Cooperation Event](http://www.aseminfoboard.org/events/asem-cooperation-disability), 29-30 Oct 2015, Beijing, China
* IGF 2015 (10-13 November 2015)
* [Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/accessibility/dcad/Pages/default.aspx) (DCAD) workshop No.253 ‘[Empowering the next billion by improving accessibility](http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/wks2015/index.php/proposal/view_public/253)’
* [Accessible Americas II: Information and Communication for ALL](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/EVENTS/2015/1104-CO-2ndAcce.aspx), 4-6 Nov 2015

9 Next JCA-AHF meetings

The next JCA-AHF meeting will take place on 25 January 2016 during ITU-T Study Group 2 for a half day.

10 Closing of the meeting

The JCA-AHF Chairman, Andrea Saks, thanked all the participants, in the room and remotely, for having attended the meeting. The Chairman thanked the sign language interpreters, the real time captioners and the all of the staff from the ITU- IS department for the demonstration of the remote participation and all of ITU staff and the TSB staff for its help, the JCA-AHF secretary Xiaoay Yang for the smooth running of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 17:35.

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