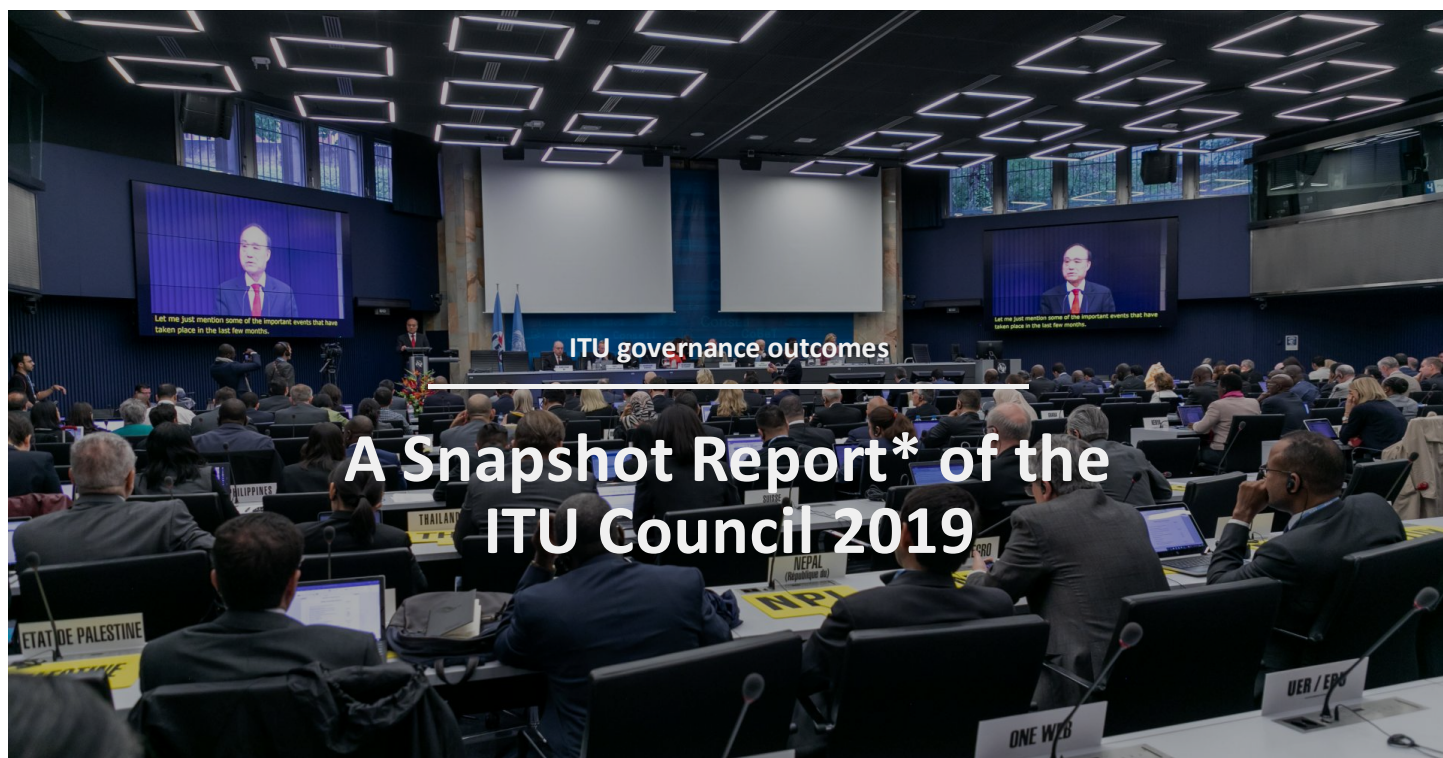


Snapshot Report

ITU Council 2019



A Snapshot Report* of the ITU Council 2019



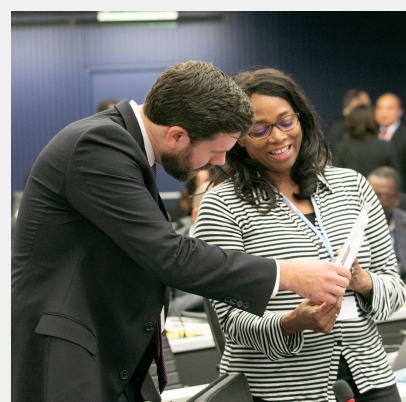
Message from the Secretary-General

Making progress in ITU governance



Welcoming Councillors

- Council 2019 at a glance



Council Overview

- Role of the Council
- Current Council Members (2019–2022)
- Council by the numbers



Key Outcomes

- General policy, strategy and planning
- Council Working Groups
- ITU events
- Administration and Management



Highlights

- Celebrating Girls in ICT day
- Digital Cooperation



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*This 'Snapshot Report' is provided as a service to ITU Member State Administrations. It is not an official document and is not a substitute for the Summary Record.





Introduction

ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for Telecommunication /ICTs

ITU allocates global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develops the technical standards that focus on interoperability and ensure that networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strives to improve access to telecommunication /ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.

ITU is committed to connecting all the world's people – wherever they live and whatever their means. ITU's work aims to protect and support everyone's fundamental right to communicate.

ITU Council is the member-led governing body that ensures that ITU's activities, policies and strategies fully respond to today's rapidly changing telecommunications environment.



Cooperation in ITU governance

I am pleased to say that a strong spirit of cooperation presided over this year's session of the ITU Council.

Over nine days, from 10 to 20 June, the 2019 session of the ITU Council debated and took decisions on important issues that will undoubtedly to strengthen the work of ITU in the months and years to come. This report shows some of the outcomes of the meeting, and informs new councillors and delegates about the Council's role and structure.

Important decisions that were made include the approval of:

- the 2018 Financial Operating Report, with the allocations of the 2018 results;
- the 2020-2021 budget for an amount of 332 million Swiss Francs;
- additional appropriations for the implementation of Resolution 131;
- the revision of Decision 482 concerning the cost recovery mechanisms for complex/large non-GSO satellite filings;
- a new Council Decision on General Audit of Fraud at a Regional Office and allocation of the necessary funding;
- the Report on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan and the activities of the Union for 2018-2019;
- the Operational Plans for 2020-2023;
- the Terms of Reference of the Expert Group on ITRs;
- the strengthening of the Regional presence and its review by an external entity.

I hope that all councillors have taken with them the remarkable spirit of this year's Council and will bring it back to our major upcoming events – from GSR-19 to ITU Telecom World 2019 to RA-19 and especially to WRC-19!



"I hope that all councillors have taken with them the remarkable spirit of this year's Council and will bring it back to our major upcoming events."

Houlin Zhao
ITU Secretary-General

Role of the Council

The Council acts as governing body of the Union on behalf of the Plenipotentiary Conference (PP) within the limits of the powers delegated by the PP.



In the interval between two PPs, it supervises the overall management and administration of the Union.



A large group of approximately 100 people, mostly men in suits and a few women in formal dresses, are posed for a group photograph. They are arranged in several rows, with some individuals seated in the front. The background features a modern building with a prominent glass facade and a blue sky. The text "Welcoming Councillors" is overlaid on the image.

Welcoming Councillors

ITU COUNCIL

GENEVA 2019



"What's at stake is our ability to leverage technology to tackle some of the most important issues of our time - this requires that our Union be efficient, transparent, open and accountable."

Houlin Zhao
ITU Secretary-General



"The important thing is what we have in common – unity and purpose – a desire and a determination to get the job done."

Stella Erebor
Chair of the ITU Council 2019 Standing
Committee on Administration and
Management (SC-ADM)



"I count on your spirit of international cooperation to reach commonly agreed solutions for the continuous progress of worldwide communications."

Fabio Bigi
Acting Chairman of ITU Council 2019





Council Membership (2019-2022)

Number of seats per region

Region A : 9 Seats

Region B : 8 Seats

Region C : 5 Seats

Region D : 13 Seats

Region E : 13 Seats





Snapshot Report

ITU Council 2019 at a glance

[All Documents](#)

[Time Management Plan](#)

[Agenda](#)

[Information documents \(INF\)](#)

[Temporary documents \(DT\) \(TIES protected\)](#)

[Temporary documents \(DL\) \(TIES protected\)](#)


[Summary records](#)

[Resolutions and decisions](#)

[Webcast and captioning \(TIES protected\)](#)

[Photos](#)

[Council 2019 website](#)



2019 Snapshot Report

Key outcomes

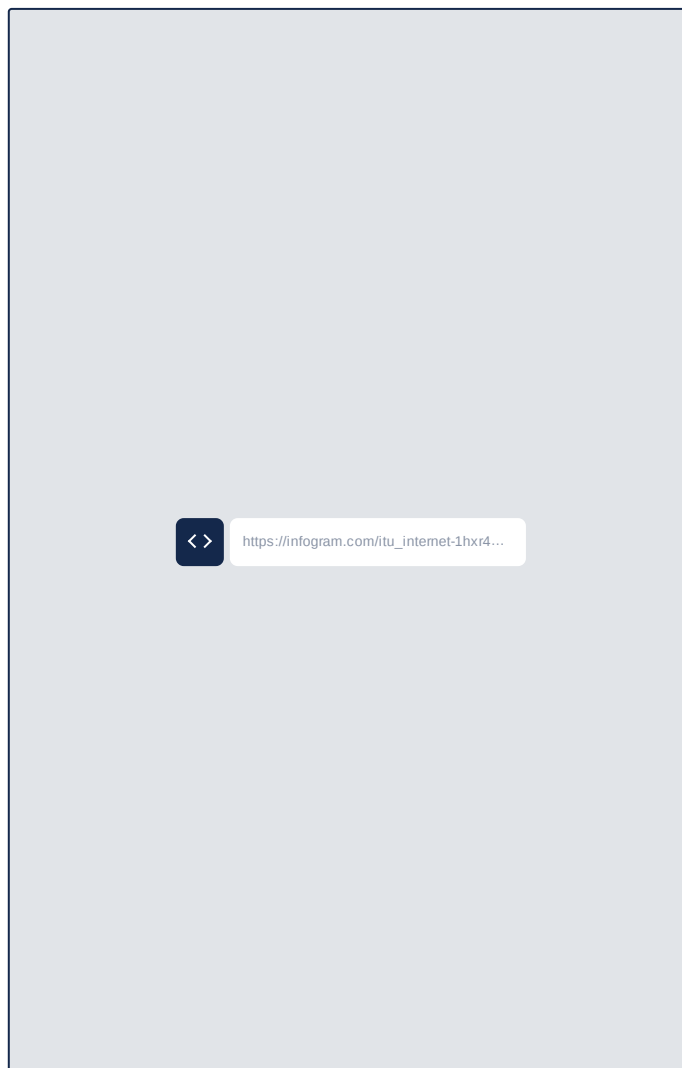
Policy, strategy, and planning

The Strategic Plan and ITU activities for 2018-2019

The Council adopted the [Report on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan and the activities of the Union for 2018-2019](#) (ITU Annual Progress Report), which includes highlights of ITU's work in 2018. The draft Strategic plan is articulated around five strategic goals: Growth, Inclusiveness, Sustainability, Innovation and Partnership.

Goal 1 is Growth and Target 1.1:

Worldwide, 55% of households should have access to the Internet by 2020



In 2015, 49 per cent of households worldwide had access to the Internet. That figure rose to 53.6 per cent in 2017 and reached 57.8 per cent by the end of 2018. Therefore, target 1.1 was achieved. The Internet (household) penetration per region is also shown below.

Take a look at the [interactive version](#) of the strategic plan.

Ethics and the electoral process

The Council decided to instruct the Secretary-General to take into account the discussion at this Council session, and to prepare a report to the next council session in order to implement the Plenipotentiary Conference Committee 5 recommendations 6 and 7 on improving the electoral process.

After some discussion, the Council endorsed the basic principles contained in [C19/67](#), a contribution by three Member States, on establishing ethical principles for campaign activities prior to ITU Plenipotentiary Conferences. The text of the guidelines should be finalized at a next Council session in light of the proposal contained in Document 67 and further contributions from other members.

The ITU recently published a text on the [ITU Policy against fraud, corruption and other proscribed practices](#) as part of ITU's Enterprise Risk Management. In it reflects ITU's commitment to upholding the highest standards of ethics, transparency and accountability.

Councillors were happy to learn that the vacancy for the post of ITU Ethics Officer has been filled.

ITU and building confidence and security in the use of ICTs

The ITU Council noted a report in Document [C19/18](#) summarizing ITU activities on strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs). The development of ICTs, underpinned by security and trust, is recognized as essential for sustainable development.

The report is organized around the five pillars of the Global

Cybersecurity Agenda ([GCA](#)):

1. Legal measures;
2. Technical and procedural measures;
3. Organizational structures;
4. Capacity building;
5. International cooperation.

As an example, under Capacity building ITU has organized regional [cybersecurity forums](#) for all ITU regions in order to build capacity for different ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau ([BDT](#)) programmes/activities and provide an operational platform for regional and international cooperation.

The ITU Secretary-General will submit to the 2020 Council session a report explaining how the ITU is currently utilizing the Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA) framework. With the involvement of Member States, he will also develop appropriate guidelines for the utilization of the GCA by the ITU, for Council 2020 consideration and approval.

A new approach to gender equality

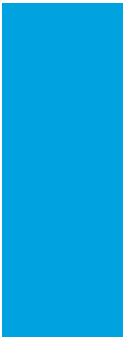
The Council noted and strongly supported the report [C19/6](#) which outlines in detail all ITU's activities related to Resolution 70 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), and a new approach to gender equality and mainstreaming planning. [See ITU's gender webpage](#).

[EQUALS](#), the Global Partnership for Gender Equality in the Digital Age, has the objective to establish a network of organizations working together to ensure that women are given access, are equipped with skills, and develop the leadership potential of girls and women to work in the ICT industry.

See the [NEW ITU gender dashboard](#) which provides a visual overview of gender in information and communication technologies (ICTs), in ITU meetings, and within ITU.

[Itu-gender-dashboard](#)
ITU gender dashboard

The ITU Secretary-General is a founding member of the Geneva chapter of the [International Gender Champions](#) and has taken the panel-parity pledge to avoid single-sex panels. The Secretary-General has made the following [annual commitments for 2019](#).



Council Working Groups



Financial and Human Resources (CWG-FHR)

Chair: Dietmar Plesse
(Germany)

Open to Member States and Sector Members of ITU
Report presented to Council for review: [C19/50](#)

[Website](#)

Financial-and-human-resources

The Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG (CWG-WSIS&SDG)

Chair: Vladimir Minkin
(Russian Federation)

Open to Member States and Sector Members of ITU
Report presented to the Council: [C19/8](#).

[Website](#)

The-council-working-group-on-wsis-sdg





Use of the ITU six official languages (CWG-LANG)

Chair: Ms Monia Jaber Khalfallah (Tunisia)

Open to Member States of ITU

Report presented to the Council: [C19/12](#).

[Website](#)

Use-of-the-itu-six-official-languages

Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet)

Chair: Majed Al Mazyed
(Saudi Arabia)

Limited to ITU Member States of ITU, with open consultation to all stakeholders

Report presented to the Council: [C19/51](#).

[Website](#)

Internet-related-public-policy-issues





Child online protection (CWG-COP)

Chair: Mr Abdelaziz Al Zarooni
(United Arab Emirates)

Open to Member States and Sector Members of ITU
Document presented to the Council: [C19/103](#)
[Website](#)

Child-online-
protection

Council Expert Group on Decision 482 (EG-DEC.482)

Chair: Mr Nikolay Varlamov
(Russian Federation)

Open to Member States and Sector Members of ITU
Reports presented to the Council: [C19/16/C19/36\(Rev.1\)](#)
[Website](#)

Council-expert-group-
on-decision-482





Council Expert Group on the ITRs (EG-ITRs)

Mr. Lwando Bbuku
(Zambia)

Open to Member States and Sector
Members of ITU
Report presented to the Council: [C19/26](#)
[Website](#)

Council-expert-group-
on-the-itrs-eg-itrs

Informal Expert Group on the WTPF (IEG-WTPF-21)

Mr Fabio Bigi
(Italy)

Open to nominated experts
Report presented to the Council: [C19/5](#)
[Website](#)

Informal-expert-group
Read more



Key outcomes

ITU events

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

The ITU Council 2019 approved the theme for the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2020 (WTISD-20): “Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”.

The World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) takes place every year on 17 May. It helps raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICTs) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide. WTISD marks the anniversary of the signature of the first International Telegraph Convention and the creation of the International Telecommunication Union on 17 May 1865.

[Learn more!](#)

World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly

The ITU Council 2019 decided that the next assembly, WTSA-20, would be held in Hyderabad, India (subject to the concurrence of all Member States).

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly is held every four years and defines the next period of study for the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector ([ITU-T](#)).

[Learn more!](#)

ITU Telecom World

The Vietnamese Government has kindly invited to host ITU Telecom World 2020.

ITU Telecom World is the global platform for governments, corporates and tech small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to accelerate ICT innovation for economic growth and social good. ITU upcoming ITU Telecom World 2019 will take place from 9 to 12 September in Budapest, Hungary. Registration for this event is now open – [register here](#).

[Register now!](#)

World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum

The Council decided that the next forum, WTPF-21, would take place over three days in Geneva, in conjunction with the [WSIS Forum](#).

The theme will be: “How new and emerging digital technologies and trends are enablers of the global transition to the digital economy.”

The World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF) is a high-level international event to exchange views on the key policy issues arising from today's fast changing information and communication technology (ICT) environment.

[Learn more!](#)

World Telecommunication Development Conference

The Council decided that WTDC-21 would be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 8 to 19 November 2021 (subject to the concurrence of all ITU Member States).

Through its Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), ITU organizes a World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in the period between two Plenipotentiary Conferences to consider topics, projects and programmes relevant to telecommunication development.

WTDCs set the strategies and objectives for the development of telecommunication/ICT, providing future direction and guidance to the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D).

[Learn more!](#)

Plenipotentiary Conference

The Council decided that PP-22 would be held in Bucharest, Romania, from 26 September to 14 October 2022 (subject to the concurrence of all ITU Member States).

The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP) is the highest policy-making body of the ITU. Held every four years, it is the key event at which ITU Member States decide on the future role of the organization, thereby determining the organization's ability to influence and affect the development of information and communication technologies (ICTs) worldwide.

[Learn more!](#)

World Radiocommunication Conference

Preparations are well underway for the ITU's major event this year, the World Radiocommunication Conference 2019.

See the [ITU News Magazine Nos 1 and 2](#) (related to WRC-19).

World radiocommunication conferences (WRC) are held every three to four years. It is the job of WRC to review, and, if necessary, revise the [Radio Regulations](#), the international treaty governing the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite and non-geostationary-satellite orbits. Revisions are made on the basis of an agenda determined by the [ITU Council](#), which takes into account recommendations made by previous world radiocommunication conferences.

[Learn more!](#)

Key outcomes

Administration and management



**Held 10
meetings**

**Reviewed 72
documents**

13 INF Information documents
5 DT Temporary documents
3 DL documents



Adopted

4 Resolutions
7 Decisions

The Standing Committee on Administration and Management (SC-ADM) held 10 meetings during ITU Council 2019 in which 72 documents were reviewed and considered, of which 13 were information INF documents, 9 were DT documents, and 3 were DL documents.

At the final Plenary session, the Council considered the report C19/107 (restricted to ITU TIES users) by the SC-ADM Committee, which contains recommendations on all agenda items at this Council session deemed to have financial implications.

The Committee recommended that the Council adopt 4 Resolutions and 7 Decisions annexed to their Report.

The following are just some of the topics that the SC-ADM discussed:

- Financial and human resources
- Arrears and special arrears
- Staff regulations and health insurance
- Efficiency measures
- Revenues and expenses
- Measuring the information society
- Strengthening the regional presence
- Progress on the HQ project
- Security
- Fraud and ethics
- Audit
- Etc.

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- Etc.

SME participation at ITU

Small businesses have always driven economic growth worldwide, but in today's digital economy, startups and small-, and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are more important than ever.

The ability of SMEs to nimbly serve the precise needs of local populations is critical to driving the innovation needed to meet rapidly shifting market demands. They are also essential partners in the global effort to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Following the SME pilot project launched by Council 17, [PP-18](#) adopted Resolution 209, [which](#) encourages SMEs to participate as Associates in the Sectors of the Union, with reduced fees.

PP-18 decided that entities must be approved by their respective Member State as meeting national criteria for an SME. It also decided that entities must have fewer than 250 employees as well as annual revenues below a maximum determined by the Council.

On considering the report from the Secretary-General in Document C19/56, and two proposals received by Member States, ([C19/87](#) and [C19/90](#)), the Council decided to set the maximum level of annual revenue of an SME to be able to participate at ITU at 15 Million CHF.

At the recommendation of the SC-ADM Committee, the Council decided that the reduced fee option for SMEs would be made available as of January 2020, and the current SME pilot project would continue until this time, to ensure an orderly transition.

Read more about how [SMEs are contributing to ITU's work](#).

ITU People Strategy and the HR Strategic Plan (2020-2023)

The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (Dubai, 2018) instructed the Secretary-General to prepare and implement, with the assistance of the Coordination Committee, and in collaboration with the Regional Offices, a four (4)-year Human Resources Strategic Plan (HRSP) aligned with the ITU strategic and financial plans, to respond to the needs of the Union, its membership and its staff.

The ITU People Strategy and the HR Strategic Plan (2020-2023) presented in Document [C19/57](#) was developed by the Human Resources Management Department based on a consultative process conducted from December 2018 to April 2019 with the Bureaux and General Secretariat, as well as the Staff Council.

The HR goals in the plan are reflected in four main pillars:

1. Fit-for-purpose workforce integrating diversity and agility (aligning ITU workforce to the ITU goals)
2. Engaged employees
3. Excellence-driven HR services
4. Enabling work environment

At the request of the AC-ADM Committee, the ITU Council 2019 approved the proposed ITU People Strategy and the Human Resources Strategic Plan in Document

At the Committee's request, the Council also submitted the draft Resolution 1299 proposed by Member States in Document [C19/75\(Rev.1\)](#), to the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources (CWG-FHR), for review and submission to Council 2020 for approval.

Progress on the ITU new HQ building project

The Council Member States considered the report on progress on the [Union's headquarters premises project](#) in Document [C19/7\(Rev.1\)](#), a [proposal in C19/76 to ensure](#) the presentation of contributions and donations, and the report of the Member States Advisory Group (MSAG) on the Union's Headquarters premises project ([C19/48](#)).

At the recommendation of the SC-ADM Committee, the Council decided to hold a one-day additional session in September 2019 take a decision on proceeding to the next phase of the HQ building project.

The Council instructed the Secretary-General to provide the information required in [C19/DL/12 to be](#) made available to Council Member States two weeks before the date of the extraordinary session. MSAG and all other parties concerned were invited to collaborate.

The last Plenary of Council decided that the Secretary-General would hold an information session for Member States on the 16 September on the above matter, and that the additional Council session would take place on 27 September 2019.

Read more about the new HQ project [here](#).

[Learn](#) more about sponsorship opportunities [in the HQ e-book](#).



Paying tribute to dear colleagues



During the ITU Council 2019 session, ITU Secretary-General Houlin Zhao paid tribute to dear colleagues from the African Regional Office, Mr Marcelino Tayob and Ms Maygenet Abebe, who perished in the Ethiopian Airlines flight ET302 crash just three months from the first day of the meeting.

The Council paused in a moment of silence for Marcelino and Maygenet, and for all the victims of the terrible tragedy.

Marcelino Tayob, a national of Mozambique, worked as a senior advisor at the ITU Regional Office for Africa in Addis Ababa. He joined ITU in 1997.

Maygenet Abebe, a national of Ethiopia, worked as an administrative assistant at the ITU Regional Office for Africa in Addis Ababa. She joined ITU in 2010.

“Maygenet and Marcelino were committed and dedicated staff who worked hard to increase the impact of ITU’s work as the regional offices expand their initiatives in the region,” said Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Director of ITU’s Telecommunication Development Bureau, in a [communication in March](#). “They touched our lives as colleagues and friends. They will be sorely missed, but never forgotten. The contribution they made will live on in the work we do every day.”

International Girls in ICT Day



During Council 2019, delegates received a briefing about International Girls in ICT Day, an initiative to encourage and empower girls and young women to consider studies and careers in the growing field of information and communication technologies (ICTs), and for technology companies to reap the benefits of greater female participation.

Celebrated around the world on the 4th Thursday in April each year, with over 11,100 events held to date in 171 countries worldwide, Girls in ICT Day is reaching an estimated 357,000 girls.

In 2019, ITU celebrated the

International Girls in ICT Day in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The event welcomed over 250 girls from local schools and leaders from government, private sector partners, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the educational community.

It proved to be a high-energy, educational showcase of the power and possibilities a career in technology can offer.

ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia were once again encouraged to organize events attracting as many girls and young women as possible.

Also during the Council session, ITU Secretary-General Houlin Zhao highlighted his commitment to gender equality and mainstreaming and the importance of attracting more women to the technology sector (also see the Key Outcomes section of this Council snapshot report). He also took the opportunity to encourage ITU Member States to nominate more women in their delegations, to ITU meetings, and to leadership positions.

[See Girls in ICT day 2019 video highlights](#)

Digital cooperation

ITU Secretary-General Houlin Zhao also announced during the ITU Council 2019 session the launch of a Report of the United Nations (UN) Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation: "[The Age of Digital Interdependence](#)".

ITU Council delegates received a briefing about the report from Fabrizio Hochschild, who has been appointed by UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, to work with all stakeholders to refine the Report's recommendations.

Mr Hochschild mentioned that ITU is and will be a key partner in refining these recommendations, given ITU's longstanding expertise. He also stressed the need for a multi-stakeholder approach. Read more in the [full article](#).

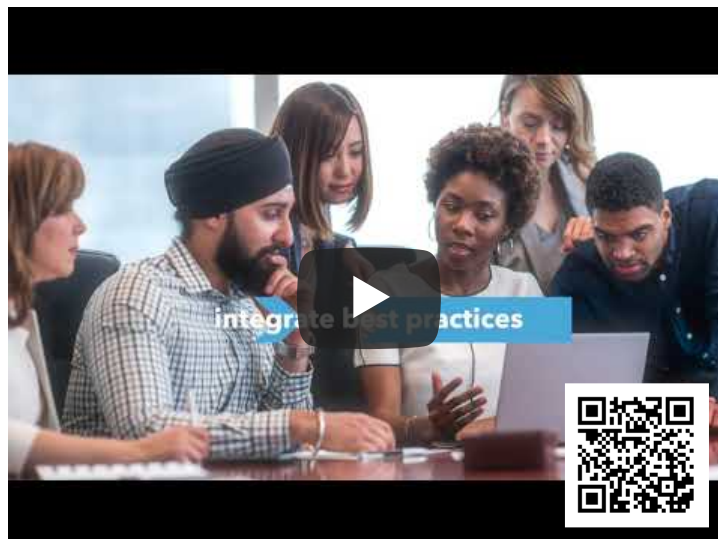
[A new dialogue with the digital investment community](#)

To date, in spite of significant efforts and investments in digital technologies and applications for development, amounting to billions of dollars worldwide, progress has been hampered by a lack of coordination, and, in particular, from not taking a whole-of-government approach to digital investments. So says the foreword of a recent report by ITU and the Digital Impact Alliance (DIAL) setting out a SDG Digital Investment Framework intended to be the start of a new dialogue with the digital investment community.

The framework encourages a whole-of-government approach to investing in digital technologies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It sets out to help governments address key strategic investment questions and choose effective, scalable technology-based solutions - and in particular, help them to consider using information and communication technology (ICT) Building Blocks for economies of scale and maximum return on investment

[Learn more!](#)

[Read the paper](#)







Financial and human resources

The Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources (CWG-FHR) examines the provisions of the Financial Regulations and Financial Rules, with a view towards ensuring conformity and consistency with the basic instruments of the Union, decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference and the Council, as well as the evolving needs of the ITU.

The CWG-FHR deals with issues such as the draft biennial budget of the Union; the human resources strategic plan; the ITU's future headquarters premises; staffing at regional offices; implementing the new PP-18 resolution on small- and medium-sized enterprise (SME) participation in ITU, and more.

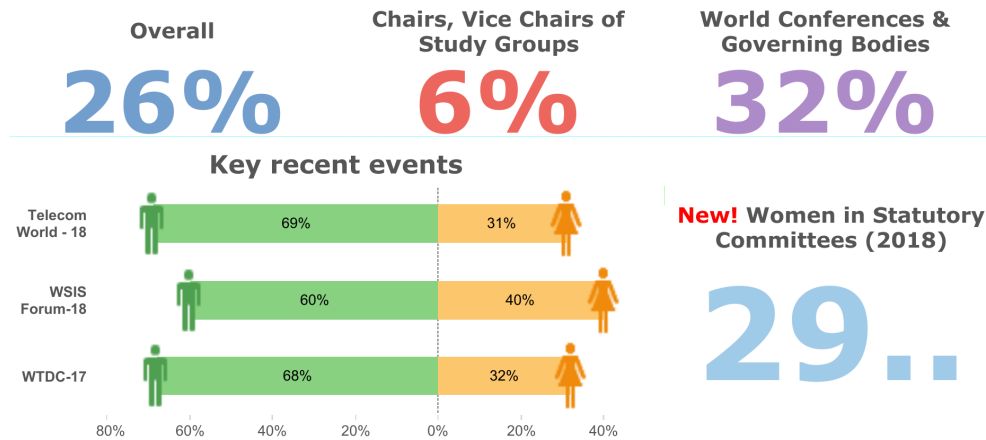
The CWG-FHR Final report in Document C19/50, on the results of the group's last meeting, held in January this year, was presented to the Council for review.

Amendments to the working group's terms of reference

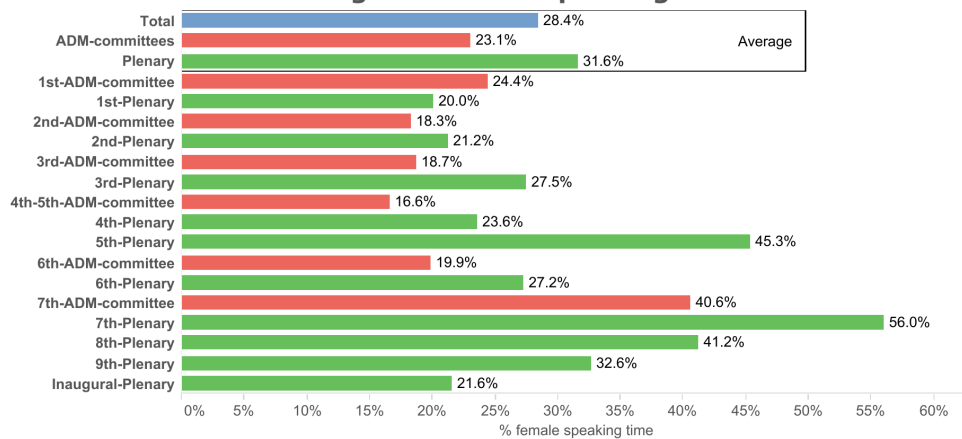
Five countries had proposed a revision to Decision 563 in C19/80 on the terms of reference of the working group. After some discussion, an informal drafting group was formed to deliver a draft revision of Decision 563 in C19/DT/8. The resulting text, to amend the CWG-FHR's terms of reference, was later approved in Plenary. Decision 563 will be revised accordingly.

The work of the CWG-FHR was considered at the Standing Committee on Administration and Management (SC-ADM). See Document C19/107, which is the SC-ADM full report, for all outcomes in Council related to financial issues.

Women in ITU Meetings (2017/2018)



NEW! Council 2018 Percentage of Female Speaking time



Chair's speech automatically removed, Error: $\pm 3\%$

Pilot test of a project for Machine Learning automation for analyzing gender participation at UN-like events, in partnership with the Signal Analysis and Interpretation Laboratory of the **University of Southern California**.

The Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG

The role of the CWG-WSIS&SDG

The Council Working Group on the World Summit on the Information Society and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) ([CWG-WSIS&SDG](#)) facilitates inputs from membership on the ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through its regular meetings and circular letters, questionnaires or other appropriate methods of query.

The group also oversees, considers and discusses ITU's implementation of the WSIS outcomes and related ITU activities, and, within the financial limits set by the Plenipotentiary Conference, to make resources available as appropriate.

Council reviews CWG-WSIS&SDG' work

The Council took note of the CWG-WSIS&SDG' report in Document [C19/8](#), which summarizes the main results of the group's 33rd meeting held in January in line with [PP-18 Resolution 140 \(Rev. Dubai, 2018\)](#) and [Council Resolution 1332 \(Modified 2016\)](#).

Text submitted to High-Level Political Forum

The Council approved a text to submit as a contribution to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), subsequent to an invitation from the President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council ([ECOSOC](#)). This [text](#) showcases the intergovernmental body's contribution towards the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, in accordance with this year's theme and focused review of SDGs 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 and 17.

Streamlining resolutions on WSIS

The Council also approved a proposal in Document [C19/70](#) aimed at streamlining PP-18 Resolution 140 and Council Resolution 1332 on ITU's role in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The agreed text to revise Resolution 1332 can be found in Document [C19/DT/5](#) and the approved Resolution can be found in [C19/137](#).

Use of the ITU six official languages (CWG-LANG)

The role of the CWG-LANG

The role of the Council Working Group on the use of the six official languages of the Union (CWG-LANG) is to oversee the implementation of Resolution 154 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) and Council Resolution 1372, on the use of the six languages of the Union on an equal footing, and the draft plan for full achievement of provisions for the adoption of alternative translation procedures.

The CWG-LANG report

The CWG-LANG report shows that translation volumes continue to reflect full equality of treatment of all six ITU official languages.

Translation operations continue to show consistent savings, with actual disbursements revealing savings of as much as 14% for 2018.

Work has begun on translating WSIS Forum webpages into the six official languages of ITU.

Council endorses the CWG-LANG annual report

The Council endorsed the annual report of the CWG-LANG (C19/12), and the proposed revision of the Plenipotentiary Conference Council Resolution 1372 in the Annex (with a slight editorial change suggested by Russia).

The Council noted the detailed draft four-year plan in Document C19/14(Rev.1), taking into account the observations at this Council, and implementation within the budgetary limits.

The Council encouraged the secretariat to continue the search for improvements in potential savings, efficiency and innovation for the translation of documents into the six official languages of the Union.

Child online protection

The role of the CWG-COP

By Resolution 1306 ITU Council established the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP): to exchange views and promote and work on the subject matter, and to report to the Council annually on the activities of the working group on child online protection (CWG-COP).

BDT to update the child online protection guidelines

The Council considered Document C19/103 and requested that the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) update the child online protection guidelines. These new guidelines would include challenges related to new technologies, including the topic of “safe listening”.

The increasing accessibility to smart devices by children and the long time they spend listening to music or watching videos at a high volume poses a physical risk on children, that is hearing loss.

In an effort to counter hearing loss, the ITU, in close collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO), developed a new recommendation “Guidelines for safe listening devices/systems”, H.870, that “describes requirements on safe-listening devices and systems, called personal/portable audio systems, especially those for playing music, to protect people from hearing loss”.

The new child online protection guidelines should be aimed at children, parents and educators, industry, and policy-makers, as appropriate, to capture the new risks that have surfaced with new technologies and services, as well as unsafe behaviour that are affecting children, and to raise awareness of them.

Council Expert Group on Decision 482

The Role of the EG-DEC.482

At its 2018 session, the Council approved modifications to Decision 482 related to cost recovery for satellite network filings and decided to create an Expert Group on Decision 482. This Expert Group was instructed to report to the 2019 session of the Council with a status on the implementation of cost recovery.

Council review

The Council endorsed the progress report of the EG-DEC.482 in Document [C19/36\(Rev.1\)](#), which recommends possible revision of Decision 482 concerning complex/large non-GSO satellite filings and Exceptionally complex GSO satellite filings.

The Council also adopted the revision to Decision 482, which can be found in Annex 1 of the full Report of the Administration and Standing Committee SC-ADM) ([C19/107](#)), as well as other decisions taken on this topic.

The SC-ADM report C19/107 shows the outcomes of all topics that have financial implications.

Council Expert Group on the ITRs (EG-ITRs)

The role of the CWG-ITRs

Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) on Periodic review and revision of the ITRs resolves that the ITRs should normally be reviewed periodically; and to conduct a comprehensive review of the ITRs with a view to achieving consensus on the way forward in respect of the ITRs.

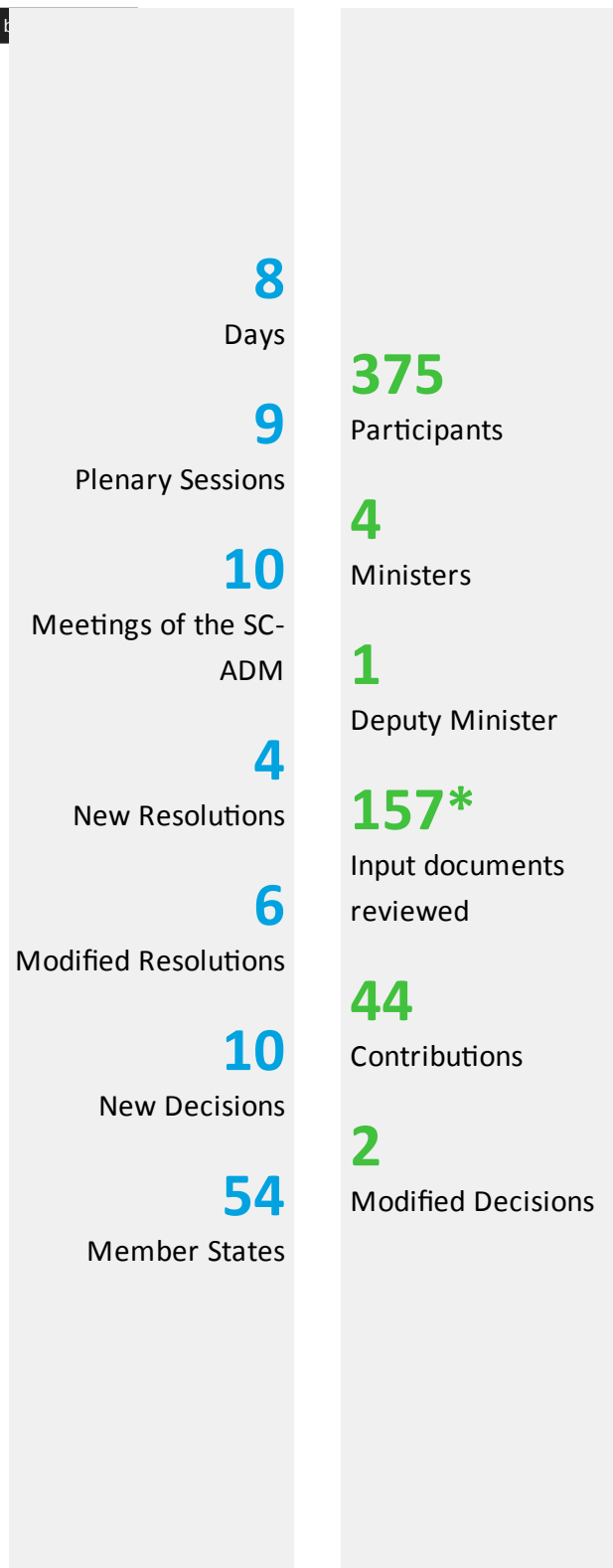
Status of the ITRs

Document [C19/26](#) provides some background information on the status of the International Telecommunication Regulations (Rev. Dubai, 2012) and highlights instructions received from the 2018 plenipotentiary conference on the Periodic review and revision of the ITRs.

Revised terms of reference for EG-ITRs

The Council noted the report in Document [C19/26](#) and following consideration of a number of Member States contributions ([C19/89](#); [C19/86](#); [C19/81](#); [C19/69](#); [C19/100](#); [C19/79](#); [C19/74](#)), decided on a revised the terms of reference for an Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITRs). The text for proposed revision is contained in Document [DT/11](#), with the revised Resolution 1379 ([C19/139](#)).





Informal Expert Group on the WTPF (IEG-WTPF-21)

The role of the IEG-WTPF-21

The World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF) is a high-level international event to exchange views on the key policy issues arising from today's fast changing information and communication technology (ICT) environment.

Resolution 2 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) resolves to hold the next WTPF-21 preferably in conjunction with the

WSIS Forum 2021, taking account of the need to ensure adequate preparation by Member States.

Document [C19/5](#) provides general information on WTPF and suggests a timeline for the preparatory process for WTPF-21.

Council decisions on the next WTPF

The Council 2019 considered a number of country contributions ([C19/94](#); [C19/93](#); [C19/88](#); [C19/83](#); [C19/99](#); [C19/85](#); and [C19/78](#)), and decided that the next forum, WTPF-21, would take place over three days in Geneva, in conjunction with the WSIS Forum.

The theme for WTPF-21 will be: *"How new and emerging digital technologies and trends are enablers of the global transition to the digital economy."*

The 2019 Session of the Council, also, through its Decision 611, decided that the Secretary-General shall convene a balanced, informal group of experts (IEG-WTPF-21), each of whom is active in preparing for WTPF-21 in his/her own country, to assist with the development of the report by the Secretary-General to WTPF-21.

Member States, Sector Members, Associates, and Academia of ITU, as well as the State of Palestine and Organizations which have the right to attend ITU Conferences and meetings as observers, are invited to nominate their experts by sending their following contact details to: wtpf@itu.int by 21 August 2019 at the latest, with:

First name, Last name;
Job title;
Ministry/Organization;
E-mail address.

Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet)

The role of the CWG-Internet

The Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet) identifies, studies and develops matters related to international Internet-related public policy issues, and including those issues identified in Council Resolution 1305 (2009).

Council 2019 review of CWG-Internet

The Council noted the Report of the 12th meeting of the CWG-Internet which was held in February.

The Council noted the report, and upon request, provided guidance.

The Council discussed the topics of the group's future open consultations and a number of contributions from Member States in that regard (C19/61; C19/62; C19/66; C19/84; C19/92; C19/97;

C19/71. It finally decided to leave the decision up to the next CWG-Internet meeting to be held in September (following prior consultations).

The Council approved a contribution from the Russian Federation (C19/71) proposing to merge Resolutions 1336 and 1344. This resulted in a revision of Resolution 1336 the abrogation of Resolution 1344. The revised Resolution 1336 can be found in C19/140.

The Council decided to add OTTs to the table of Annex 1, and amend Resolution 1305 (C19/136).