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ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE 2014

BUSAN, KOREA

24 OCTOBER 2014

ROOM A

EIGHTH PLENARY SESSION

08:30

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>> CHAIRMAN: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Would you put your headset on?

Please be seated. We are going to begin our Eighth Plenary meeting.

Good morning. The eighth Plenary meeting is called to order.

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I hope you had good rest. Today is a very special day for the U.N. family and the international development community. Today is United Nations day and world information day. Sixty-nine years ago, the U.N. charter was adopted with the purpose of building a more united world. Since that time the United Nations and its many agencies, including the ITU, have continued to work toward this goal and that of equal and sustainable development throughout the world.

The world development information day, adopted in 1970, is such an example and is further strengthened by the enabling role of today's information and communications technologies. And enabling ICTs to further connect the world and strengthen development is exactly what we are here to do at PP-14. So with the spirit of this important U.N. days in our hearts, let's continue our work today.

It is also a very special day for Zambia. We will give them an opportunity to take the floor before we start the policy statements. We will hear from them sometime later.

I would like to sum up our yesterday's activity. We had coffee breaks sponsored by Senegal and Azerbaijan. And we had lunch sponsored by Korea and Pakistan. And we had lovely dinners sponsored by Burkina Faso, Russian Federation, and Kuwait.

Thank you very much, all countries which provided nice coffee and meals for all of us.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Yesterday we elected a new Secretary-General, Mr. Houlin Zhao.

And we also completed two rounds of elections for the post of Deputy Secretary General.

With that, I would like to submit the Draft Agenda of the Eighth Plenary meeting. The Document Number is ADM/17-E for your approval. Any comments?

I see none. I take it that the agenda is adopted.

Now, we will move to the second item, which is election of the Deputy Secretary General, third round.

We will now proceed with the third round of elections for the post Deputy Secretary-General of ITU.

We will follow the same basic.

Procedure as we had yesterday.

The room has been divided into 5 blocks having a voting station in each. The stations are identified by numbers from 1 to 5 and are placed conveniently within each block:

Document 102(Rev.1), listing all Member States having the right to vote within each block, has been published on the website. A floor plan indicating the location of voting stations is available on the screens to facilitate the voting process. Additionally, you are requested to bring your badge to the voting station and present it to the staff and tellers for verification.

As the Chairman of Committee 2 informed us yesterday, three transfer of powers have been noted: Malta to the Netherlands, from Iceland to Denmark, and from Guinea to Mali. I refer you all to documents 99, 100, and 105 of our Conference.

Now I would like to call upon our Chairman of Committee 2 to hear if there has been any additional transfer of powers or proxies to announce. Chairman of Committee 2, you have the floor. Kazakhstan, you have the floor.

>> KAZAKHSTAN: Thank you, sir. Good morning. Good morning, one and all.

Since yesterday, the situation on credentials has not changed. We continue to only have three credentials.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Chairman of Committee 2.

Those Member States who have a transfer of powers and who will therefore be casting two ballots are invited to cast each ballot at the voting station of the respective Member State, according to the roll call that will be read by the Secretary.

The same 5 tellers who oversaw the first two rounds yesterday will continue in this role:

Region A: Ms Meredith Leter, Suriname, at ballot box 1.

Region B: Mr Raza Qureshi, Denmark, at ballot 2.

Region C: Mr Dmitry Tarasov, Russian Federation, at ballot 3.

Region D: Mr Sylvestre Noubissie, Cameroon, at ballot 4.

Region E: Mr Jackson Kariko, Papua New Guinea, at ballot 5.

The tellers are already in position, one at each of the voting stations.

The secretariat will now begin the process of distributing green ballot papers, instructions on how to complete the ballot paper, and a pen, to all Delegations having the right to vote and present in the room. Delegations having received a transfer of powers or a proxy from another delegation will receive two ballot papers, plus a pen.

I would like to remind you that, in accordance with No. 131 of the General Rules, once the voting has begun, it cannot be interrupted, unless a point of order has been raised in connection with the way in which the vote is being taken. The voting will begin as soon as I announce its beginning and will end when I announce the results of the vote.

In accordance with constant ITU practice, the doors of this meeting room will therefore remain closed throughout the voting procedure, and will be opened again once the casting of ballots has been completed and the ballot boxes are moved to the green room for counting. You may leave the room but you will not be allowed to come back in.

Before completing your ballot paper, I strongly recommend that you carefully read the instructions in order not to have your vote declared invalid.

The ballot papers carry a computer-generated identification box in the lower right hand corner which permits the papers to be identified as being used in a specific round for a specific election. The box is identical on all ballot papers in the specific round. It is not possible to use the box to identify who has completed any specific ballot paper.

One final remark about the process, in the event that a delegate makes a mistake when completing a ballot paper once the vote has started, the delegate should raise the point secretariat will collect and destroy the ballot paper in question and provide a fresh one.

When the voting starts, the Secretary of the meeting will call out the French short names of the Member States having the right to vote in the French alphabetical order within each block by groups of 15 at a time. One representative of each Member State with the right to vote is invited to go to their voting station with the green ballot paper and their badge as they are called by the Secretary.

At the end of the voting, when all Member States having the right to vote have been called, the Secretary will then call on those, hopefully few, who have not cast their vote and give them a second and last chance to do so. Following this last call, I will declare the vote closed.

Is everybody is comfortable with this? Are there any questions?

We have an unexpected situation, teller number three, from the Russian Federation, is not in the room yet. Until the time we have him, we cannot proceed to election. I want to check once again. Mr. Tarasov, if you are in the room, please raise your hand. If not, I would like to ask the Russian Delegation to make a phone call to him so he can come to the conference room as soon as possible.

If not, we have to find a substitute. So it will be good if you can get him as soon as possible. We also are working to find a substitute for Mr. Tarasov.

Sorry for this situation.

Please give us a couple of minutes so we can take care of this. Thank you.

Okay. As I promised, within a couple of minutes we have resolved this issue. Now we have a new teller for block 3 who is Andrey Zhivov of the Russian Federation.

With that, are you comfortable with the instructions I have given to you? Okay.

Thank you.

I believe all delegations having the right to vote now have their ballot papers.

Security, could you please close the doors to the Plenary room?

Let me once again check, if you do not have these green papers, please raise your hands and identify yourself so we can distribute the green paper to you.

I see none.

I now declare that the voting has begun and give the floor to the Secretary.

Secretary of the Plenary, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY OF THE PLENARY: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

As indicated by the Chairman I will call out the list of Member States having the right to vote in French alphabetical order.

In addition to the ballot papers you may wish to refer to the document containing the designation of Member States by Voting Station which is Document 102 Rev. 1. Please also carefully look at the voting instructions that have been provided. Let me remind Delegates to use the pens provided by the Secretariat yesterday. Note that the voting procedures require the Delegates to mark an X on their ballot paper and an X only in the appropriate box to indicate their choice.

I would also like to remind Delegates to please bring your badge with you to the Voting Station when you arrive to the Voting Station. You will have your badge scanned and deposit your ballot in the voting box. We request all Delegates to regain their seats once they have cast their votes. The doors will remain closed as the Chairman mentioned.

So that delegations can see where the 5 voting stations are located, I will ask the staff at those stations to hold the ballot boxes in the air in consecutive order from 1 to 5.

Box 1

Box 2

Box 3

Box 4, in consecutive order from 1 to 5.

I will call the countries for Voting Station Number 1.

Afghanistan.

Albania.

Algeria.

Germany.

Andorra.

Angola.

Saudi Arabia.

Australia.

Bahrain.

Bangladesh.

Barbados.

Belarus.

Belgium.

Belize.

Benin.

Voting Station Number two.

Argentina.

Armenia.

Austria.

Azerbaijan.

Bahamas.

Brazil.

Burkina Faso.

Burundi.

Cabo Verde.

Cambodia.

Cameroon.

Chile.

Colombia.

Comoros.

Costa Rica.

Proceeding to Voting Station Number 3, United States.

Georgia.

Ghana.

Greece.

Grenada.

Guatemala.

Guinea.

Equatorial Guinea.

Guinea-Bissau.

Guyana.

Haiti.

Hungary.

Islamic Republic of Iran.

Iraq.

Israel.

Now moving to Voting Station Number 4.

France.

Gabon.

India.

Indonesia.

Ireland.

Iceland.

Jordan.

Kazakhstan.

Kenya.

Kiribati.

Kuwait.

Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Lesotho.

Latvia.

The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Now moving to Voting Station Number 5.

Philippines.

Poland.

Qatar.

Syrian Arab Republic.

Democratic Republic of Congo.

Kyrgyzstan.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Slovakia.

Czech Republic.

Romania.

United Kingdom.

Rwanda.

Saint Lucia.

San Marino.

Samoa.

Moving to Voting Station Number 1:

Bhutan.

Bolivia.

Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Botswana.

Brunei Darussalam.

Bulgaria.

Canada.

Central African Republic.

China.

Cyprus.

Vatican City State.

Republic of Korea.

United Arab Emirates.

Voting Station Number 2.

Côte d'Ivoire.

Croatia.

Cuba.

Denmark.

Djibouti.

Dominican Republic.

Egypt.

El Salvador.

Ecuador.

Eritrea.

Spain.

Estonia.

Ethiopia.

Russian Federation.

Fiji.

Voting Station Number 3.

Italy.

Jamaica.

Japan.

Lebanon.

Liechtenstein.

Lithuania.

Luxembourg.

Madagascar.

Malaysia.

Malawi.

Maldives.

Mali.

Malta.

Morocco.

Moldova.

Voting Station Number 4.

Libya.

Maritius.

Mauritania.

Mexico.

Mongolia.

Montenegro.

Myanmar.

Oman.

Uganda.

Pakistan.

Panama.

Papua New Guinea.

Paraguay.

The Netherlands.

Peru.

Voting Station Number 5.

Sao Tome and Principe.

Senegal.

Serbia.

Seychelles.

Sierra Leone.

Singapore.

Slovenia.

Somalia.

Sudan.

South Sudan.

Sri Lanka.

Republic of South Africa.

Sweden.

Switzerland.

Suriname.

Voting Station Number 2, Finland.

Voting Station Number 3.

Monaco.

Mozambique.

Namibia.

Republic of Nepal.

Nicaragua.

Niger.

Nigeria.

Norway.

New Zealand.

Uzbekistan.

Voting Station Number 4, Portugal.

Voting Station Number 5.

Swaziland.

Tajikistan.

Tanzania.

Chad.

Thailand.

Timor-Leste.

Togo.

Tonga.

Trinidad and Tobago.

Tunisia.

Turkmenistan.

Turkey.

Ukraine.

Uruguay.

Vanuatu.

Venezuela.

Vietnam.

Yemen.

Zambia.

Zimbabwe.

And Chairman, that completes the list for the first call. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary of the Plenary. Thank you very much.

>> SECRETARY OF THE PLENARY: Chairman, I will now begin a second and final call for Voting Station Number 1, Belize.

South Africa.

Voting Station Number 2, Eritrea, Fiji.

For Voting Station Number 4, Kiribati, Libya, Myanmar.

Chairman, I will come back to you on Voting Station Number 5 because they are completing the first call. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary of the Plenary. Thank you.

>> SECRETARY OF THE PLENARY: Thank you, Chairman. For Voting Station Number 5 for the second and final call, Syrian Republic ...

(No English translation.)

>> SECRETARY OF THE PLENARY: Chairman, that completes the second and final call for all Voting Stations.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now I declare that the casting of ballots is closed. I will ask the Tellers and the ITU staff to please proceed to the green room with the ballot boxes.

Under the supervision of the tellers, in the Green Room, the ballot boxes will now be opened and the ballot papers counted. The results will be announced as soon as they are available.

While the tellers are tabulating the votes, I propose that we continue with policy statements.

Before that, I want to bring your attention to our agenda, especially 2bis. If we elect the Deputy Secretary General in the third round, we will immediately begin the election for three Bureaux Directors. So after the announcement of the results of the vote, if we get the kind of final results, so if we can elect, we could elect the Deputy Secretary-General, immediately following the announcement we will have the election on three Bureaux Directors.

Having said that, as I already mentioned, I would like to give the floor to Zambia for one minute for the special statement to deliver. Zambia, you have the floor.

>> ZAMBIA: Thank you, Mr. President.

On the 24th October 1964 at exactly 12:00 midnight, a young man and his friends surrounded by many nationals and allies, stood and watched, with great emotion as the. flag of a country called Zambia soared high as a mark of independence. That man was Dr. Kenneth David Kaunda my father, the first President of the Republic of Zambia.

Today, I am humbled and honored to speak on behalf of my country Zambia as we celebrate 50 years of independence, just as the UN celebrates its 59 years of existence.

Our choice of 24th to be symbolic of our faith and belief in the principles on which the UN was founded and what our very own ITU represents. We as a country have achieved so much since our. independence and continue to improve with your support.

With great joy and true jubilation, we celebrate this day with you our ITU family because we believe in the common cause of serving our people and improving lives.

To achieve this we must work together as leaders of our countries, break boundaries and embrace a global view, create strategic synergies and partnerships irrespective of location or background, in doing this we will promote true growth and see the better world we work so hard to give our people.

October as our independence date was deliberate. It was designed.

In 1964, we sang a song produced by the then President Dr. Kaunda called, TIYENDE PAMODZI NDI MUTIMA UMO, which means “Lets walk together with one heart, no matter the situation.”

Today we sing that song for the UN, for ITU and for Zambia. Let’s walk together indeed in one spirit no matter the situation.

Well, as is tradition for any birthday, we have a wish to make: That you will support our candidature for a seat on Council under Region D. It would be a wonderful jubilee birthday gift.

I want to thank you all for allowing us to share this day with all of you and also for your attention and allowing us to speak. Please vote Zambia! I thank you.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you and congratulations.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Now, we will get the final outcome of this election, but until then we move to Agenda Item three, general policy statement. So far we have heard 96 policy statements. Today we will hear from Barbados, Australia, Mongolia, Botswana, Bulgaria.

Now Barbados, you have the floor.

>> BARBADOS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, Honorable Ministers, Excellencies, distinguished ladies and gentlemen.

I am honored to participate in this ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 that next year celebrates 150 years of making an invaluable contribution in the area of information and communications technology.

Mr. Chairman, let me congratulate you on being elected to the chairmanship of this conference.

Let me also convey the appreciation of my Delegation to the Government and people of the Republic of Korea for their warm hospitality and for the excellent arrangements in hosting this conference.

Additionally, on behalf of the Government of Barbados, I salute the outgoing Secretary-General, Dr. Hamadoun Touré and his team on the Sterling assistance they have provided to the Caribbean over the years. We are deeply appreciative of their efforts and we look forward to a similarly successful relationship with the new management.

In this regard, the Government of Barbados also offers its congratulations to the Secretary-General Elect, Mr. Houlin Zhao, and the People's Republic of China on the overwhelming support with which Mr. Zhao has been elected.

Barbados became a member of the ITU in July 1967, 6 months after obtaining independence from the United Kingdom on the 30th of November, 1966.

Ever since then, Barbados has demonstrated interest and ability in making its contribution in the telecommunications arena.

Barbados is known for stability, a successful economy, financial independence, the integrity of its legal system and women educated population. We are a very tiny island. We make our contribution in ways that belie our small size.

Barbados and the entire Caribbean share the view that developed and Developing Countries, ICT is an important engine of economic growth and major contributor to sustainable development.

Thus, despite our tiny size and lack of natural resources, Caribbean countries for the most part continue to do relatively well, both in our quality of life as measured by the U.N. indices and competitiveness of our ICT infrastructure.

In the last ICT development index prepared by the ITU, Barbados ranked number 29 in the world and number 3 in the Americas.

As a member of the regional movement called the Caribbean Community, CARICOM, much of our participation in ITU activities takes place with our fellow Member States and the Union, the CTU. Barbados is proud to host one of the ITU offices in the Americas.

And in recent years we have also hosted and participated in a number of ITU regional initiatives. Collaboratively, Barbados and the CARICOM sister states. These include the HIPCAR project, a successful initiative that developed moral legislation to harmonize the telecommunications and information society laws in the Caribbean region and to bring them in line with international best practice. Two, the cybersecurity strategy and framework. In this area, I am happy to announce that Barbados and the ITU have signed the administrative agreement under which we will establish national incidence response time by early next year. The regional infrastructure and campaign project to identify, document and take steps to fill gaps in the broadband infrastructure of beneficiary Caribbean countries and four, the spectrum project harmonization project for the entire Caribbean region. These projects have been or are being implemented in partnership with the ITU, the CTU, the European Union, the Inter-American development bank, the international multilateral partnership against cyber threats and the Caribbean association of national telecommunications organizations.

We thank all these institutions for their strong support of our ICT efforts.

Barbados therefore strongly supports the ITU and the vital work that it has done in promoting ICT at the international and regional levels.

We intend to continue in the path of active participation in the activities of the Union, thus playing our part in contributing to its tuition for 2020 and the strategic goals as endorsed by the 2014 session of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, the United Nations has this year designated the year of small island developing states. Barbados is pleased to remind this body that Barbados hosted the first United Nations global conference on sustainable development of states in 1994. To congratulate Samoa on a similarly successful conference held last month, and to present our country as a candidate for a seat on the ITU Council.

Our candidature is really an intent to make the ITU more inclusive by giving significant additional voice in this organization to Developing Countries that are also islands or small states.

Small Developing Countries face challenges of needing to increase and improve ICT infrastructure despite the absence of economies of scale. We small island developing states also have to guard against isolation that can so easily occur as a result of our high vulnerability to natural disasters. Yet we must all ensure continuous economic growth to improve the lot of our citizens and stay current with the rest of the rapidly advancing world.

Barbados extends and champions in the Council of the ITU the concerns, aspirations and unique needs of the small developing states, particularly those that are islands and those in the Caribbean.

In this endeavor, Barbados enjoys the support of the Caribbean group of 13 ITU members.

Ladies and gentlemen, Barbados and the Caribbean look forward to your meaningful support of our candidature for the Council of the ITU. I thank you.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Minister. Thank you for share Barbados ICT policy and achievements with us. Thank you for being active in all ITU activities. Now we will hear from Australia, followed by Mongolia. I would like to call upon Deputy Secretary, Department of communications of Australia. Australia, you have the floor.

>> AUSTRALIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Secretary-General, Secretary-General Elect, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegate, ladies and gentlemen. It is indeed an honor to address this conference today on behalf of the Australian Government. Let me begin by congratulating you, Mr. Zhao not just for your election but the overwhelming confidence evident in the result. Mr. Zhao, you have our friendship and our support as you take on this new role and these new responsibilities.

I would also like to express Australia's best wishes to Dr. Touré and our sincere thanks for your leadership over the last eight years as Secretary-General of this union. I join previous speakers in congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to Chair this conference.

On behalf of the Australian Delegation, I also thank the ITU and our hosts the Republic of Korea and the beautiful City of Busan for the excellent arrangements made for this conference.

We have every confidence in its success, particularly with your able leadership, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, in looking towards the future of communication technologies in 2020 and beyond, Australia sees endless opportunities ahead. The four goals proposed for adoption in the ITU Strategic Plan all aim to fully realize these opportunities and to meet associated challenges head-on. We in this room, we who are part of this important union fully recognize that communication technologies are an enabler of worldwide social and economic development. Australia is prepared to take full advantage of the opportunities before us, and to make a strong contribution to the global achievement of the shared vision of the ITU.

Australia is pushing forward with the roll-out of its high-speed national broadband network. We plan to use a mix of technologies to deliver the NBN as quickly as possible, using the best fit solution for the many diverse regions of our country. By the time the roll-out is complete, every home, business and community across Australia will have access to high-speed broadband. Closing the digital divide and enabling all Australians to fully participate in the digital future.

The Australian Government is determined to improve mobile telecommunications across the country in places where terrain or distance are particularly challenging. It region allocated 100 million Australian dollars for this purpose, and will soon be seeking private sector proposals to deliver on its commitment.

Australia successfully completed the switch over from analog to digital television in December 2013. This will allow the release of digital dividend spectrum from one January next year to telecommunications providers while still allowing for future innovation in the broadcasting sector. The use of communication technologies in all sectors of the economy to improve productivity and stimulate growth is a strong focus of the Australian Government. Just last week the Australian Government released the industry innovation and competitiveness Agenda. Communications technologies will be critical in realizing this agenda, enabling growth and innovation in a range of sectors.

Mr. Chairman, Australia's Minister for communications, the Honorable Malcolm Turnbull will join our Delegation here in the third week of the conference. Parliamentary commitments prevented our Minister from attending sooner. When he attended Geneva for Council earlier this year he aptly described the ITU as being at the heart of humanity because humans are social beings and communicating with each other is essential to us all.

As technology changes and as networks develop, the ITU is at the center of the innovation and coordination needed to keep an ever growing number of people communicating with even other. Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Australia has had the honor to be on the ITU Council for more than 50 years. I hope that our openness, our willingness to help and our determination to work hard is well regarded by you all.

We are a relatively small country, but rank in the top ten of ITU contributors, including the commitment of 2.4 million WSIS francs to fund ITU development activities from 2011 to 2014.

This is a commitment that Australia will continue in 2015 to 2018. I hope that you will honor us by continuing to support Australia as a member of the Council for Region E in the upcoming election. Thank you for your attention, and thank you for considering Australia for ITU Council.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Excellency for your policy statement. As co-member of the APT, I would like to express our appreciation for the excellent work of Australia for the development of the region. At the same time as you addressed in your speech, you made great contributions for the development of Developing Countries and the whole global community. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Now we will hear from Mongolia, followed by Botswana. I call upon the Chairman of information technology post and telecommunication authority of Mongolia. Mongolia, you have the floor.

>> MONGOLIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, ladies and gentlemen. It is a great honor to speak at ITU's Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan City of the Republic of Korea. First of all, I would like to congratulate Mr. Houlin Zhao and newly elected Secretary-General from our broader nation of China and extend our appreciation to outgoing officials for their successful commitments. On behalf of the Government of Mongolia I would like to thank the Government of the Republic of Korea for hosting this conference by being committed to the world nations, to gather together for making the ITU emission, dedicated to bring the benefits of ICT to all inhabitants of the world.

As a Member State, we are keeping a path of ITU's directions, and currently developing our strategic policy objectives of ICT that spans for the next ten years. By defining and implementing these policy objectives, we aim to.

Realize implementation of national satellite program, enhance public service deliveries to ICT, extend broadband services to all citizens as universal accesses, implement digital broadcasting programs shifting from analog to digital, increase demand and foster innovation in ICT products and services, raise all global ICT competitiveness by building human capacity and nurturing talents, develop ePost-based services, attraction in domestic foreign investments in ICT sector through sustainable regulatory environment is important, and the public private partnership will be a principle to achieve our goals.

In order to ensure the if you can full implementation of the goals, we believe that we should update our legal environment.

Mongolia is fully recognizing the importance of boosting confidence in ICT through security and private in its usage. Therefore, we are directing our efforts in creating the legal framework for information Secretary, cybersecurity and data protection. The Government of Mongolia is committed to continue comprehensive efforts of the ITU to connect the world, and appreciates all Delegates for joining in this Plenipotentiary Conference with the aim to promote ICT for everyone's wellbeing.

Thank you for your attention.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Your Excellency, for your concise and strong message. As you rightly pointed out, PPP is a very important model. All of us need to pursue to improve the level of ICT in the field. We definitely need to work with the private sector. Thank you very much.

I told you that we will hear from Botswana, but I think we should stop here because the tellers just finished counting the vote.

So I will announce the result and then as I already mentioned, we have three more countries in the speaker list. Yesterday I appreciated your cooperation. You gave the chance to your colleagues to make policy statements.

I once again ask your cooperation and respect to our colleagues so they can complete their policy statements without any disturbance, without any disturbance. Thank you very much.

I am pleased to announce the tellers' report to you. Tellers report: Election of deputy Secretary-General, third round. Ballot papers deposited, would be hundred 69. Invalid ballot papers, zero. Abstentions, zero.

Delegations present and voting, 169.

Required majority, 85.

Magdalena Gaj, 47; Shola Taylor, 51, Mr. Malcolm Johnson, 71 votes.

As you heard, no candidate has obtained the majority required for election in the third round. According to General Rule 192, a fourth round will be held between the two candidates having obtained the largest number of votes at the third ballot, i.e. Mr. Malcolm Johnson and Mr. Shola Taylor. Considering this exceptional circumstance and in order not to delay the substantive work of the conference, I propose that we proceed to the fourth round of voting at 1430, 2:30 p.m. this afternoon.

Any comments on my proposal to have this first round at 230? I see none. So we will have fourth round election at 2:30.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: I just want to express our sincere appreciation to Ms. Magdalena Gaj and Ms. Fatimetou Mohamed-Saleck. The two women candidates lost this time, but I do believe that next time when we have another, we will have a Deputy Secretary-General or Secretary-General at this podium. This is a whole process and I do appreciate your excellent, impressive and clean campaign. Thank you for your efforts and your contributions to the work of ITU.

Before moving back to the policy statement I appreciate your support. So they can, our colleagues can complete their policy statement. I want to announce today's schedule because things ever are changing every minute.

After completing the policy statement we will have two Committee meetings which will be immediately followed by this Plenary. That will be Committee 6 and Working Group Plenary. Committee 6 and Working Group of the Plenary will meet just after the completion of this seventh Plenary meeting.

Sorry, Eighth Plenary meeting.

Now we will resume policy statements. We.

The Director of Communications Botswana, you have the floor.

>> BOTSWANA: Mr. Chairman, Deputy Secretary-General, Secretary-General Elect, Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegation, Distinguished Delegate, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Republic of Botswana would like to join all the previous Member States who have been congratulating you, Chairman, on your appointment to guide this august conference. In the same token, Botswana would like to applaud the Government and the people of the Republic of Korea for the wonderful reception and warm hospitality that we have been enjoying since our arrival in this great country and the beautiful City of Busan.

Dr. Touré and his team at the ITU Secretariat are equally worthy of our accolades for the wonderful work they have been doing in serving us, the Member States.

It is through the leadership of Dr. Touré that Botswana has made progress in integrating ICT into its mainstream economy. We wish Dr. Touré well in his future endeavors.

Since Plenipotentiary ten, Botswana has made steady progress in the ICT sector. A new converged regulator was established in 2012 with the regulatory oversight of all sectors of the communications, including postal. This came about as a result of the new Communications Regulatory Authority Act of 2012.

The implementation of the eGovernment strategy begun two years ago, and I'm proud to inform you that already some Government services are accessible online, making Government service delivery more efficient with increased accessibility by the citizens of Botswana.

With the advent of electronic services on a large scale, the legal framework has been revamped. The electronic communications and transaction act and electronic evidence act will be coming into force this year. Mr. Chairman, the consumer protection act and the cybercrime and computer related crimes act are due to be submitted to parliament in November this year for review. These will be accompanied by the data protection bill as well to further strengthen our legal framework.

While Botswana relatively big in geographic area, that has a small population of 2.1 million people scattered over an area comparable to the size of France. This has resulted in enormous challenges in providing universal access to ICT services. Despite these challenges, Botswana has made great strides. We have managed to achieve a near universal access for voice telephony. Mobile penetration currently stands above 150 percent. However, we are still lagging behind in broadband access, especially in rural areas. To address this challenge, we have recently developed a national broadband strategy that we have started implementing. Through the strategy we are beginning to see positive increase in the broadband access and the use of ICT services.

As a developing country, Botswana has seen an influx of ICT devices, some of which are substandard and may be harmful to consumers, a challenge that we are addressing. We continue to benefit from ITU recommendations and studies to make our ICT environment a more conducive one. The increase in the use of ICT has not spared Botswana in the challenges of cybercrime. Through the assistance of ICT-impact partnership we have been able to set up structures to address this challenge. Further, we recently undertook a capacity building program on cybersecurity and assessment for our stakeholders.

Going forward, Botswana continues to count on ITU for the continued growth of its ICT sector. I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Your Excellency, for your policy statement and sharing your policy with all of us. And indeed, the national broadband strategy is a very instrumental for the success for implementation and diffusion of the broadband in many countries. I hope that your national broadband strategy will work very well as it has done in many other countries. Now, we will hear from Bulgaria and from Brunei Darussalam. I call to the head of the Minister of Transport, Information Technology and Communications, Bulgaria, you have the floor.

>> BULGARIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Excellencies, dear Mr. Secretary-General of the ITU, dear colleagues, on behalf of Her Excellency, Ms. Nikolina Angelkova, Minister of Transport, Information Technology and Communications of Bulgaria, let me allow you to present our congratulations to Mr. Hamadoun Touré for his highly devoted service to ITU in the last eight years and to congratulate Mr. Houlin Zhao for his election as Secretary-General of the ITU. The Republic of Bulgaria has 134 years of traditional relations with the International Telecommunication Union dating back to 1880.

This long period of time is marked by the active participation in ITU activities, a recognition of the role of Bulgaria in the development of global telecommunications is the fact that Bulgaria has the honor to be part of the structure which is responsible for decision making between the Plenipotentiary Conferences, the ITU Council, and we highly appreciate this international recognition.

The Republic of Bulgaria was among the initiators of one of the most important activities of the ITU relating to child online protection. The Bulgarian participation in the research groups of the telecommunications development sector for the period 2014-2018 is another example of the high reputation of the country in the field of ICTs.

An expression of the efficient cooperation between Bulgaria and the ITU is also the successful initiative on electronic accessibility to ICT for blind and visually impaired children and adults with visual impairments.

Another recognition of the role of Bulgaria in the implementation of successful international projects came just a few hours ago. We are really honored that the UNESCO U.N. project "Women in African History: An eLearning Tool" supported by the Government of Bulgaria has been awarded the first ITU U.N. Women Gender Equality Mainstreaming Technology World in Category 1, ICT applications, content, production capacities, skills for women's social political empowerment, and women's empowerment linkages with sustainable development.

The fact that this project was awarded with 360 nominations is really a source of pride for us.

Bulgaria is a country with a modern telecommunication infrastructure which meets the requirements of today's digital society. In cooperation with the ITU and other international organisations, Bulgaria successfully implemented reforms in the telecommunications sector and that resulted in a competitive electronic communications market and the introduction of foreign information and communication services of high quality. Bulgaria ranks among the top ten countries in the world with the highest speed of fixed broadband connections. Our goal in this regard is by means of effective cooperation in the ITU Council, to continue the exchange of useful experience and to assist the overcoming of digital fragmentation between the regions of the world.

Bulgaria has made a successful transition to digital terrestrial broadcasting. We express our willingness to share the useful experience on the implementation and challenges of the process with other interested ITU members who are facing this process. Digital inclusion on the Bulgarian agenda and we will continue our efforts to ensure equitable access for all, regardless of territorial boundaries and cultural differences corresponding to the modern needs of the digital society. The experience gained allows the Republic of Bulgaria to contribute to the development of telecommunications and the implementations of programs and initiatives of Region C of the ITU, as well as to the continuous improvement of the activities of this leading EU agency. Last but not least we would like to thank our host, the Government of the Republic of Korea for the excellent facilities provided and the kind welcome extended to us. And we would like also to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your able chairmanship of this conference.

I thank you all on behalf of our Minister for being committed to connect the world.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Your Excellency, for your policy statement. My congratulations on your achievement in the field of ICT, in particular woman ICT mainstreaming and the recognition and award you have received, which clearly shows where you stand in that arena.

Now we will move to our last speaker Brunei Darussalam.

I would like to call the Brunei Darussalam Director of Communications. You have the floor.

>> BRUNEI DARUSSALAM: Honorable Chairman, Heads of state and Ministers, Distinguished Delegates, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the Government of Brunei Darussalam, we congratulate Mr. Wonki Min on his election as Chair and we have seen his excellent work in the past few days and our heartfelt thanks to the Secretary-General, Dr. Hamadoun Touré, for his work throughout his term. Our congratulations to Mr. Houlin Zhao on his victorious appointment as the new Secretary-General. We are indeed honored to have had Mr. Zhao's presence during the recent Asia-Pacific telecommunication min city held until Brunei representing ITU. We extend our congratulations to the Government of the Republic of Korea for graciously hosting this Plenipotentiary Conference, 2014 in beautiful Busan.

Our appreciation also goes to the people of Korea for the warmth and hospitality extended to all the Delegates at this conference.

We are gathered here over the next few weeks to set out an ambitious vision and framework for the telecommunications and ICT sector for the year 2020.

The creation of Connect 2020 vision and framework is appropriate as ITU seeks new vision and direction to facilitate the growth and development of ICT in a globally connected world.

In September, Brunei Darussalam hosted the ministerial meeting which commemorated the 35th anniversary of the Asia-Pacific tele-community. The Asia-Pacific ICT Ministers adopted the Brunei statement on building a smart ICT telecommunication community through ICT on six priority areas. These priority areas are aligned with Connect 2020 goals of growth, inclusiveness, sustainability and innovation and partnership.

Brunei Darussalam is committed in harnessing ICT in the priority areas set out by the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministers and the Connect 2020 goals.

Brunei Darussalam is merging our telecommunications and broadcasting authorities, policies and frameworks to foster a more conducive business environment for growth in ICT and innovation.

In May this year, with the collaboration of ITU, Brunei Darussalam formulated a national broadband policy, document which sets out the goals for the development of broadband and broadband enabled services in the country over the next four years.

We are grateful to ITU on the work done and hope to work further with ITU on other programs.

Brunei is embarked on manpower master plan and ICT industry competency framework targeted to be completed in early 2015. With the experience gained through this initiative, Brunei is addressing several of the priority areas set out by the ICT Ministers and the Connect 2020.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, Brunei's membership in the ITU is important to us. We believe the ITU together with Member States will and must continue to play a significant role to coordinate international cooperative efforts to globally advance telecommunications in ICT development and harness its economic and social benefits for each Member State as well as the global economy.

To conclude, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for the opportunity to address the conference. I am confident that our deliberations, discussion and decisions in the next few weeks will result in a Connect 2020 framework that will be achievable, pragmatic and inclusive, whether it be individually, regionally or globally. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Excellency for your concise message. Through this manpower master plan even though we are dealing with fancy technologies, the most important asset is the human itself. And human capacity building is the key of the success to build developed ICTs societies and economies. I hope your ICT, manpower master plan will bring a great success for the development of your country.

Having said that, we will close the Agenda Item 3 which is the general policy statements. Now we will move to the fourth Agenda Item, the last, other business.

Before we move back to the policy statements, I told you that we will have Com 6 and Working Group of the Plenary. While we were hearing from our colleagues, the Chairman of Com 5 and 6 met and decided that to have Com 5 meeting instead of Com 6 meeting with the Chairs believe that Com 5, having Com 5 meeting is more appropriate at this time. So Com 5 will meet in Room B and Working Group of the Plenary will meet room A at 10:30, 10:30. After we close this session, the eight Plenary meeting the coffee break will be provided by Kyrgyzstan. So thank you for providing coffee break and then we will have Com 5 and Working Group of the Plenary meeting at 10:30.

We will meet at 2:30 this afternoon again. I would like to give the floor to Kyrgyzstan. Kyrgyzstan, you have the floor.

>> KYRGYZSTAN: (No audio.)

>> CHAIRMAN: The mic is not working. I announced that the coffee break will be offered by Kyrgyzstan. Thank you very much for your kindness.

Before closing, I give the floor to the Secretary-General. Secretary-General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to remind you all of the luncheon of Mali. I hope you are going to all be there. I want to especially address you there at this juncture of the conference. I would like you to be there from 12 to 1:00 o'clock today. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary-General. With Mali, Ghana will also provide lunch. Mali and Switzerland are offering gifts. So you can collect your gifts at the place you have received the other gifts.

With that, the Eighth Plenary meeting is adjourned.

(The meeting concluded.)

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