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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14)Busan, 20 October – 7 November 2014** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Document 176-E** |
|  | **3 December 2014** |
|  | **Original: French/English/Spanish** |
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| minutesOF THEEIGHTEENTH plenary meeting |
| Thursday, 6 November 2014, at 1430 hours |
| **Chairman:** Mr W. MIN (Republic of Korea) |

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|  | Subjects discussed | Documents |
| 1 | Draft Resolutions 99 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and 125 (Rev. Busan, 2014) (continued) | [DT/83](http://www.itu.int/md/S14-PP-141020-TD-0083/en) |
| 2 | Report by the Chairman of Committee 6 | [150](http://www.itu.int/md/S14-PP-C-0150/en) |
| 3 | Report by the Chairman of the Working Group of the Plenary | [164(Rev.1)](http://www.itu.int/md/S14-PP-C-0164/en) |
| 4 | Suppression of Resolution 163 (Guadalajara, 2010) – first and second reading | [126](http://www.itu.int/md/S14-PP-C-0126/en) |
| 5 | Draft Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014) – Revenue and expenses for the Union for the period 2016-2019 – first and second reading | [156(Corr.1)](http://www.itu.int/md/S14-PP-C-0156/en) |
| 6 | Approval of minutes | [145](http://www.itu.int/md/S14-PP-C-0145/en), [146](http://www.itu.int/md/S14-PP-C-0146/en) |
| 7 | Deadlines for the deposit of declarations and additional declarations  | - |
| 8 | Achievements of PP-14 | - |
| 9 | Presentation of ITU gold medals and certificates of achievement | - |
| 10 | Valedictory address by the Secretary-General  | - |

# 1 Draft Resolutions 99 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and 125 (Rev. Busan, 2014) (continued) (Document DT/83)

1.1The **Chairman**, recalling the consensus achieved in the previous meeting, gave the floor to the parties concerned, in accordance with the Union's normal practice in the event of a compromise, but without opening up the discussion or giving the floor to other speakers.

1.2 The **delegate of Israel** made the following statement:

 "Mr Chairman, we are very much aware of the importance of the telecommunication sector's role in promoting economic and social development for our mutual benefit. In this context Israel is fully committed to the continued support and assistance in building the Palestinian telecommunication sector.

 Mr Chairman, we would like to remind this distinguished forum that all matters between Israel and the Palestinians are to be addressed in accordance with the Interim Agreement, signed on 28 September, 1995, by Israel and the Palestinians. According to this bilateral agreement, the only platform to discuss and resolve matters is the Joint Technical Committee established by the Interim Agreement. We believe there is no better way to achieve progress than direct dialogue.

  Mr Chairman, before I conclude, I would like to express Israel's great appreciation to all the delegations involved in the process. Our deepest gratitude goes to Secretary-General Touré, Chairman Min, Legal Adviser Guillot and Ambassador Daniel Sepulveda of the US for their immense efforts and all the hard work."

1.3 The **observer for Palestine** made the following statement:

 "Mr Chairman. On behalf of the State of Palestine, I should like to express to you and to this distinguished assembly our thanks for all your efforts undertaken in order to develop telecommunications, which meet our aspirations to a better future in this critical area. The State of Palestine recognizes that prosperity can only be achieved thanks to the development of ICTs since this is the foundation of development in all areas. It is indeed the role of the international community and, within that community, the ITU in particular.

 We wish to use the latest technologies in Palestine in order to achieve our goals of wellbeing and prosperity, and to develop our use of the spectrum without any obstacles. We need to have access to ICTs and use all those applications which may serve all citizens of Palestine on a day‑to‑day basis, and to allow them to be connected to the world at large.

 Mr Chairman, distinguished delegates, I assure you that we in Palestine, despite all the challenges, are full of hope that we will achieve prosperity and well‑being for the State of Palestine. That is our absolute priority, and we hope that you will stand shoulder to shoulder with us in order to achieve our common noble goals through this resolution.

 I would like to thank all those who participated in the conference, and the Chairman of the conference for his leadership and wisdom which has allowed all stakeholders to achieve positive results. We should also like to express our appreciation to all those administrations which supported Palestine and our request, and have allowed us to achieve this happy outcome.

 Palestine will make every effort to achieve its noble goal, and we should also like to congratulate all the elected officers, more particularly the new Secretary‑General and his deputy."

1.4 The **delegate of Canada** asked, in view of the prudent decision of the Chairman not to allow other delegations to make oral statements on Resolutions 99 and 125, what the procedure was for making a statement that would be reflected in the minutes.

1.5 The **Chairman** said that, following the precedent of the compromise that had been agreed for Document DT/84(Rev.2), delegations could if they so wished submit a written statement to the secretariat which would be inserted in the minutes of the plenary meeting[[1]](#footnote-1).

# 2 Report by the Chairman of Committee 6 (Document 150)

2.1 The **Chairman of Committee 6** introduced Document 150 in detail. Recalling the terms of reference of Committee 6, she noted that the Committee had held 11 meetings and set up five ad hoc groups and 12 drafting groups. The work of Committee 6 had led to the revision of two Decisions and 23 Resolutions, to the adoption of four new Resolutions and two new Decisions, and to the suppression of three Resolutions, as noted in Annex 3 of the report (except that Resolution 150 as amended replaced the draft new Resolution COM6/3). Committee 6 had among other things reviewed the Union's financial management in 2010‑2013 as well as the draft financial plan for the period 2016‑2019 and the draft text of Decision 5. It had adopted the new financial plan in its tenth meeting; revenue and expenses had been balanced at CHF 635.7 million; and the amount of the contributory unit had been fixed in the plenary at CHF 318 000. The Committee had adopted the Strategic Plan for 2016‑2019 in accordance with Resolution 71 and its four annexes. It had taken note of the statement of the President of the ITU Staff Council reproduced in Annex 1 of the report. Annex 2 of the report contained the draft revision of Annex 3 of Resolution 71, which the Committee asked plenary to approve when approving Document 150.

2.2 The **Chairman** thanked the members of Committee 6 for their excellent work, and in particular for having succeeded in drawing up a balanced budget and balanced financial plan despite the unforeseen difficulties announced at the start of the conference.

2.3 The **delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran**, as Vice-Chairman of the APT Preparatory Meeting, paid tribute to the Committee Chairman for her competence, and said that every position set out in the report had been examined in detail by the Committee. He therefore proposed that the plenary approve the report without discussion.

2.4 The report of the Chairman of Committee 6 (Document 150) was **approved**.

# 3 Report by the Chairman of the Working Group of the Plenary (Document 164(Rev.1))

3.1 The **Chairman of the Working Group of the Plenary**,introducing Document 164(Rev.1), recalled the terms of reference of the Working Group and said that the latter had held 12 meetings during which 85 proposals by Member States had been examined. Ten ad hoc groups had been set up and some 11 consolidation exercises carried out. All results had been obtained by consensus. The Working Group of the Plenary had approved nine new Resolutions, updated 21 Resolutions and one Decision, and decided to suppress two Resolutions (see Annex 1 of the Report). Annex 2 of the report contained statements which had been submitted with a view to their inclusion in the report: one by the delegate of India concerning approval of revised Resolutions 101, 102, 133 and 180; one by the delegate of Australia, Chairman of the ad hoc group of the Working Group of the Plenary on Decision 11; and one by the delegation of Argentina on behalf of the CITEL countries concerning the withdrawal of a draft new Resolution concerning multilingualism in the Internet.

3.2 The **Chairman** thanked the members of the Working Group of the Plenary for their excellent work, which was of great value to the Union, and took it that, in the absence of any comments, the report had general approval.

3.3 The report of the Chairman of the Working Group of the Plenary (Document 150(Rev.1)) was **approved** and the statements contained in Annex 2 of the report were **noted**.

3.4 The **delegate of Tunisia** congratulated the Chairman of the Working Group of the Plenary on the tremendous work which it had accomplished and the approach to dealing with very sensitive documents.

# 4 Suppression of Resolution 163 (Guadalajara, 2010) – first and second reading (Document 126)

**SUP Resolution 163 (Guadalajara, 2010) ‑ Establishment of a Council working group on a stable ITU Constitution**

4.1 The suppression of Resolution 163 (Guadalajara, 2010) was **approved** on first and second readings.

# 5 Draft Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014) – Revenue and expenses for the Union for the period 2016‑2019 – first and second reading

5.1 The **delegate of Brazil**, supported by the **Chairman of Committee 6**, indicated that there had been agreement within the ad hoc group that the sections *invites the Council* and *invites Member States* should be placed after *instructs the Council* 10. He proposed that draft Decision 5, as it appeared in Corrigendum 1 to Document 156, be modified accordingly.

5.2 It was so **agreed**.

5.3 Draft Decision 5 (Rev. Busan, 2014), as amended, was **adopted** on first and second readings.

# 6 Approval of minutes (Documents 145 and 146)

6.1 The minutes of the ninth and tenth plenary meetings (Documents 145 and 146) were **approved**.

# 7 Deadlines for the deposit of declarations and additional declarations

7.1 The **Chairman** announced that declarations would be accepted until 2100 hours on Thursday, 6 November, and that the Plenary would convene at 0830 hours on the following day, Friday, 7 November, to take note of those declarations. The deadline for the deposit of additional declarations thereafter would be set at 1030 hours and the signing ceremony would take place at 1400 hours.

# 8 Achievements of PP-14

8.1 The **Chairman** outlined the main achievements and outcomes of PP-14 and invited delegates to watch a video focused on ITU's initiative in favour of gender equality and mainstreaming in ICT (GEM-TECH).

 **A video highlighting GEM-TECH activities and events, including its recent awards ceremony, was screened.**

# 9 Presentation of ITU gold medals and certificates of achievement

9.1The **Secretary-General** presented ITU gold medals and certificates of achievement to Mr Houlin Zhao, Deputy Secretary-General and Secretary-General elect; Mr Malcolm Johnson, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and Deputy Secretary-General elect; Mr François Rancy, Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) and re-elected Director of BR; and Mr Brahima Sanou, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) and re‑elected Director of BDT.

# 10 Valedictory address by the Secretary-General

10.1 Dr Hamadoun Touré, outgoing **Secretary-General,** delivered the address available at <http://www.itu.int/en/plenipotentiary/2014/statements/file/Pages/valedictory-toure.aspx>.

10.2 The **Deputy Secretary-General** and **Secretary-General elect** presented an ITU gold medal and certificate of achievement to the outgoing Secretary-General. He assured the membership that he and his fellow elected officials would build on Dr Touré's outstanding work in order to take the Union forward to ever greater levels of excellence.

 **A slide presentation was screened in tribute to the outgoing Secretary-General and his inspirational leadership of ITU throughout his tenure.**

10.3 The **delegates of the Philippines**, **India**, **South Africa**, **United Arab Emirates**,speaking on behalf of the Arab Group, **Bahrain**, **Islamic Republic of Iran**, speaking on behalf of APT, **United States**, **Russian Federation**, **China**, **Poland**,speaking on behalf of the CEPT Administrations, **Mozambique**, **Oman**, **Zimbabwe**, **Vanuatu**,speaking on behalf of the Pacific Island States, **Uganda**, **Bangladesh** and **Senegal** took the floor to pay tribute to the outgoing Secretary-General for the many achievements he had accomplished during his tenure. Speakers also addressed congratulatory remarks to the Chairman, the host country, the officers, staff and elected officials of ITU, and newly elected or re-elected Council Member States.

10.4 The **Secretary-General** expressed his gratitude for the kind tributes paid to him.

**The meeting rose at 1725 hours.**

The Secretary-General: The Chairman:

H. TOURÉ W. MIN

**Annexes:** 4

**Original:** English

Annex A

Statement by the delegation of Canada

The delegation of Canada would like to emphasize that Canada is committed to the goal of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians, including the creation of a Palestinian state living side by side in peace and security with Israel. Ultimately, the best way to address the current situation between Israel and the Palestinians lies in a comprehensive peace agreement achieved through negotiation between the parties.

In joining consensus, the delegation of Canada would like to be clear, notwithstanding the references to "State of Palestine" in the text of Resolution 99 (Rev. Busan, 2014), Canada does not recognize a "State of Palestine". Canada continues to oppose Palestinian efforts to seek member or observer state status in the UN's specialized agencies, including the ITU, and other international organizations prior to a negotiated peace agreement with Israel.

The delegation of Canada steadfastly opposes efforts by some delegations to politicize the ITU. We believe that initiatives that unfairly single out one party, in this case Israel, are outside the mandate of ITU, detrimental to its work and only serve to further inhibit practical solutions.

**Original:** English

Annex B

Statement by the delegation of the United States

The United States deeply appreciates the spirit of compromise and flexibility shown by all parties involved in revising Resolutions 99 and 125. We are especially grateful for the excellent leadership by the Chair of the Conference and the ITU Secretary-General.

The United States supports the active and robust participation of the Palestinians at the ITU, which is essential to solving technical telecommunications issues. The ITU is providing valuable assistance to the Palestinians, guided by Plenipotentiary Resolutions 32 and 125 and WTDC Resolution 18. We believe Resolution 125, as revised, will ensure this support continues.

We understand that use of "State of Palestine" in the revised version of Resolutions 99 and 125 refers to the preferred nomenclature of the Palestinians as observers at the ITU. It does not prejudge the outcomes of the peace process or bilateral agreements between parties, and it does not infer additional rights and privileges on Palestinian participation in the ITU than are otherwise stipulated in these resolutions.

We hope for progress in the work of the Joint Technical Committee, the principal mechanism for the resolution of telecommunications issues between the Palestinians and Israel. It is our understanding that the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza is the presiding bilateral arrangement between the parties with respect to telecommunications and that Resolution 125 does not contradict that Interim Agreement.

**Original:** English

Annex C

Statement by the delegation of Israel

The delegation of the State of Israel to PP-14 would like to reiterate the position expressed by Israel's Ambassador to the UN on November 29th, 2012, in the context of the adoption of General Assembly resolution 67/19 as well as in the Security Council on January 23rd, 2013. Israel regrets and objects to the use of the misleading terminology "State of Palestine" and to the Palestinian participation in this meeting under that title. It is counterproductive to use this term when no such State exists and when such a State can only be established, as has been affirmed repeatedly by the international community and agreed between the Parties, through direct negotiations. In this regard, we ask that this statement be noted in the official record of the meeting.

**Original:** Spanish

Annex D

Statement by the delegation of Venezuela

Support of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for Resolutions 99 and 125 concerning Palestine:

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expresses its total support for the State of Palestine in strengthening and developing its own telecommunication networks, as well as changing its current status in the Union, as in our view all peoples must enjoy the right and the fundamental principle of self‑determination, sovereignty and development of their human and technical capacity so as to ensure the possibility of growth in peace, harmony and conditions of equality. We reiterate our solidarity with Palestine and vigorously condemn the new military aggression by the political and military elite of the occupying forces against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip. The acts of state terrorism and war crimes perpetrated by the occupying power, in clear violation of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, have potential consequences under international law which cannot be ignored.

Venezuela, in total solidarity with the Palestinian cause, advocates the definitive lifting of the illegal blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip since 2007 in flagrant violation of the human rights of that fraternal people. We support the establishment of a Palestinian State with secure and internationally recognized pre-1967 borders and with East Jerusalem as its capital. We encourage the parties concerned to pursue their diplomatic efforts to seek a solid and durable peace, just as we wholeheartedly support the admission of Palestine as a fully-fledged State within the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union.

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1. Statements were subsequently submitted to the secretariat by the delegations of Canada (Annex A), the United States (Annex B), Israel (Annex C) and Venezuela (Annex D). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)