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ROOM A

TENTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE PLENARY

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>> CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen, good morning, and welcome to the Tenth Meeting of the Working Group of the Plenary.

As always, I would like to begin by checking the interpretation.

English?

>> INTERPRETER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. French? Merci.

Spanish? Gracias.

Russian? Spaceeba.

Chinese? Xie xie.

Arabic? Shokran.

Before we begin with our Agenda I would like to inform the meeting as per the decision of the Steering Committee this morning our schedule today will be this session of Working Group of the Plenary from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. And we will then meet at 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. So I repeat, our afternoon session has been shifted to 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

I would like to now begin with the approval of the agenda for today. The Agenda can be found in document ADM/55. Do I have any comments on the Agenda for today?

My apologies. I referenced the incorrect ADM. The ADM for today is 64. Do I have any comments on the Agenda for today? I have no requests for the floor. The agenda is approved.

We move to item 2, the Draft New Resolution using ICTs to break the chain of health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission. This is a new document from Sierra Leone. I would like to invite Sierra Leone to present document SRL/140/1.

Sierra Leone, you have the floor.

>> SIERRA LEONE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, everybody.

Mr. Chairman, the role of ICT in the fight against Ebola has clearly become ever prominent in dealing with the crucial aspects of communication, for communication access and the general flow of information. Our joint intervention at this stage can be of tremendous respite to ongoing national and international efforts towards the ultimate eradication of health-related disasters such as Ebola. Noting ICTs are critical to address all sorts of emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission, we aim to build or current texts and Resolutions in that leveraging the use of ICTs to combat disasters and emergencies and therefore ask in this proposed Resolution that, firstly, the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau develops guidelines, best practices as well as feasibility studies, project management tools and supports to identify the communications infrastructure needed and supports the exchange of timely information on health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmissions.

And secondly, the Secretary-General collaborates with all relevant parties including all U.N. agencies and particularly World Health Organization within the scope and mandates of the ITU; and that he implements measures aimed at mobilizing supports from Governments, industry, and other partners to break the chain of health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission.

Thirdly, we invite Member States and sector members to cooperate and offer all possible assistance and supports to consumers, humanitarian oriented organizations and industry involved in ICTs to address the need to use ICTs as a tool to support responses to different types of disasters such as Ebola so that life prevents infrastructure an information can be provided to help communities especially in local languages.

We look forward to your support to this proposal. I thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Sierra Leone, and thank you very much for bringing this to our attention. I think this is going to be something that will spark very interesting discussions and work.

As per our working methods, I now open the floor to requests for support for the discussion of this document. Please note that I have not opened the floor for comments at this time.

Japan, you have the floor.

>> JAPAN: Yes. Japan would like to express our strong support to the Draft New Resolution from Sierra Leone. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Japan. As we now have support for this document I open the floor for comments.

Senegal, you have the floor.

>> SENEGAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Senegal would like to confirm its support to this document, while waiting for other comments. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Senegal. Japan, you have the floor.

>> JAPAN: Yes. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Japan would like to highly appreciate Sierra Leone's efforts to develop a Draft New Resolution in very limited time, and express our strong support to the Draft New Resolution from Sierra Leone because we think that this Draft New Resolution is regarded as very significant in order to accelerate the ultimate eradication of Ebola virus diseases.

ICT is an important tool to resolve various global issues that each participating country is facing. We hope that ITU will take actively significant measures to this issue and close cooperation with World Health Organization and other organizations.

Japan would also like to contribute further to coping with this issue. Japan believes that this Draft New Resolution will be soon approved without drastic modifications. Therefore, on the premise of this Draft New Resolution to be approved, taking into consideration critical and emergent widespread situations of Ebola virus diseases, we would like to express our financial contribution which amounts to about 180,000 Swiss francs as our first contribution in order to develop a mobile application for smart phones --

(Applause.)

>> JAPAN: -- smart phones that can provide crucial information for the prevention of the spread of Ebola diseases as well as other effective measures. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Japan. United Kingdom, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair. The U.K. welcomes the introduction of this Resolution. Ebola is one of the worst public health emergencies we have faced in a generation. We would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt condolences for those who lost family and friends to this terrible disease.

205 million pounds have been contributed by the U.K. This supports the provision of 700 treatment beds and providing care for nearly 9,000 new patients. We have deployed the R.F.A. Argus and two Merlin helicopters to help in this effort. We are training more than 140 health workers weekly and piloting a new efforts to prevent the transmission of this disease. The U.K. is creating laboratory services and supporting an information campaign in country.

As already has been discussed in this week in a special, ICTs have a special role to play in tackling this crisis. The U.K. supports this Resolution and looks forward to working with Sierra Leone and other affected countries on this incredibly important issue. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United Kingdom, and thank you for your efforts in combating this terrible virus.

Sudan, you have the floor.

>> SUDAN: Thank you, Chairman. We are extremely supportive of this new Draft Resolution. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Sudan. Côte d'Ivoire, you have the floor.

>> CÔTE d'IVOIRE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to thank Sierra Leone for making this proposal. As you know, we are not very far from Sierra Leone. We are a neighbor to this country affected by Ebola. So we can only support this proposal in order to stop the virus which is causing so much damage to the population in the area. I would also like to thank Japan for their initiative, and all countries who have decided to help to put a stop to this virus by joining the fight against it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Côte d'Ivoire.

Cuba, you have the floor.

>> CUBA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our Delegation would also like to express our support for the proposal by Sierra Leone. We believe that it is very relevant. We can already specify that it is a very great positive initiative and we support it. In Cuba we are also providing support to our African countries. In particular, we are fighting this virus which is so serious in West Africa.

We have around 250 people working on the ground in affected countries in order to try and get this terrible epidemic under control and thereby contribute to the wellbeing of African countries, and countries in general to prevent this terrible illness moving beyond the countries where it already is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Cuba. Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. Good morning to you and to everybody. We think that everybody agrees with the thrust of the proposals and supporting its urgent needs at this conference in order to have a Resolution. Perhaps you may consider moving forward to assign it to somebody to proceed and prepare a final draft, massaging the Resolution in order to come to your group for approval. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Iran.

Mali, you have the floor.

>> MALI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And good morning, everybody. We would also like to support the Draft Resolution. We would like to thank all those countries who have contributed or who promised to contribute to the fight against Ebola. I would like to take this opportunity to invite other countries to join this international solidarity because we can't overcome it without international support.

Without this synergy between ITU countries, thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mali. My list is continuing to grow which shows me there appears to be overwhelming support for this initiative. I would like to now close the list. I am issuing a final call for comments before I close the list. I have eight countries on the list. They are Algeria, Egypt, Uganda, Canada, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Russian Federation, the United Arab Emirates, United States and Malawi. The list is now closed.

Algeria, you have the floor.

>> ALGERIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Algerian Delegation would like to thank Sierra Leone for this proposal. We associate ourselves with all those who supported the Draft Resolution. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Algeria. Egypt, you have the floor.

>> EGYPT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We, Egypt would like to express our utmost support to the Resolution, the new Resolution raised by our brothers in Sierra Leone. We would highly thank them for this move.

Actually, in Egypt we do believe that ICT is definitely a sector in itself, but at the same time is an enabler. Given the cross-cutting nature of this sector, we do believe that it should play a vital role in combating Ebola and other epidemics.

So we do commend as well most of the actions done by the couple of countries. We have heard them speaking a while ago on their other actions on their activities they've taken to combat this epidemic. We highly support this and call upon all other countries to support it as we are hearing here. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Egypt.

Uganda, you have the floor.

>> UGANDA: Thank you very much, Chairman. Chair, Uganda is aware of the misery due to loss of lives Ebola causes to the affected communities. That is why Uganda has joined the effort in sending health workers in west Africa to help the affected communities. We commend the other countries who have joined this effort. We therefore support the proposal as presented by Sierra Leone. I thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Uganda. Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. First of all, we would like to express our sincere condolences to all those who have been affected by this crisis. Mr. Chairman, we fully support and thank Sierra Leone for its contribution by means of this Resolution. Mr. Chairman, on October 17th this year, Rona Ambrose, the Honorable Minister of Health on behalf of the Honorable Christian Paradis, announced additional funding to support international efforts led by the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response to respond to the immediate needs related to the fight against Ebola in West Africa.

Mr. Chairman, to date Canada has contributed over $86.4 million. Additional measures will be taken to continue to contribute to curtail this crisis. Mr. Chairman, we look forward to working with those interested in this Resolution to have it adopted at the Plenary. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Canada. Democratic Republic of Congo, you have the floor.

>> CONGO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the floor. Our Delegation thanks Sierra Leone for this initiative of this new Resolution. As other countries have done. We fully support the proposal. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Russian Federation, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On behalf of the Russian Federation on the CIS countries we would like to thank the Government of Sierra Leone for this report. We fully support the proposal. We would also like to thank the Secretary-General for his activities and the dialogue that was organized on this issue.

We took part and informed the participants what activities our country is carrying out in that regard. We can assure you that we will continue to cooperate and we very much hope that we will be able to influence the solution and the decision so that together we can deal with this threat represented by this incident which affects the whole planet.

We would like to express our condolences to the families of the dead and assure you of our continued support and cooperation on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Russian Federation. UAE, you have the floor.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Mr. Chairman, we would like to thank the Delegation of Sierra Leone for having tabled this proposal. We are in full support thereof. Also we would like to express our heartfelt condolences to the victims of Ebola.

Mr. Chairman, the United Arab Emirates have provided financial and material aid to a level of 5 million U.S. dollars in order to fight against this scourge.

We have seen, Mr. Chairman, that ICTs have a major role to play in the fight against the Ebola virus and this disease. Hence we are in full support of this proposal tabled by the Sierra Leone. We would like to take part in the small Committee work that will be set up to draft the Resolution. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, UAE.

United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We would like to thank the administration of Sierra Leone for this timely proposal. Like many others who spoke before me, the United States is working to address this crisis and we support this Resolution. The United States is fully invested in a whole of Government response involving multiple federal departments and agencies including the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as the Departments of Defense, State, and Health and Human Resources.

ICTs and broadband connectivity are an integral and indispensable part of this effort, enabling us to address the complex coordination and communication challenges. We believe ICTs will play an increasingly important role in coordinating an effective global response.

We support efforts by the ITU in collaboration with the World Health Organization to stop the spread of Ebola and appreciate the session hosted by the Secretary-General last week to utilize ICTs in this fight. We look forward to working with others to implement this important Resolution. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United States.

Malawi, you have the floor.

>> MALAWI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And good morning. Malawi supports the proposal by Sierra Leone which will go a long way to help fight the disease that has affected a number of our fellow African countries. Malawi would like to thank all countries who have contributed resources to the fight of this epidemic. Malawi supports the proposal. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Malawi. That concludes my list of speakers.

I can only characterize what I have heard as overwhelming support for this Resolution. Therefore, I propose that we accept and approve Proposal 140 from Sierra Leone as is. Do I have any comments on this proposal?

I see no requests from the floor.

Proposal 140 from Sierra Leone is approved.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: I would like to give the floor now to the Secretary-General, Dr. Hamadoun Touré.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank all of the Delegations who have supported this proposal and especially Sierra Leone for submitting it.

And it has been approved unanimously. That is really to our honor. As you all know, the crisis has already affected more than 14,000 people and resulted in around 5,000 deaths, distributed mostly in three countries: Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia. The worst part of this crisis, with the right processes it could have been avoided or the impact could have been mitigated. We have the tools. We have the technology. We have the information. But in a world in which everybody is talking about big data and still haven't been able to set up the right mechanisms to accelerate the distribution and utilization of realtime information when it is mostly needed.

And this is what this crisis has reminded us all, and what this proposal is trying to address. Accelerating the use of technology that is ready to use in circumstances in which global collaboration is needed. At ITU we are already working very closely with WHO. I would like to invite all ITU membership to be forward-looking to start taking the right actions to accelerate the exchange of timely information on health-related emergencies and put ICTs at the public service when it is mostly needed.

Once again I would like to thank Sierra Leone for putting this proposal forward, and all membership of ITU for accepting unanimously this proposal. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Dr. Touré.

I would like to echo the Secretary-General's thanks. I would like to thank everyone for their unanimous support, for their contributions and for the solidarity that we have showing to those ravaged by this terrible disease.

We now move to Agenda Item 3. Before we go through the agenda I would like to explain my intention for how we will proceed. With reference to item 3.1, the revision of Resolutions 140 and 172, we need a few more minutes to receive the Spanish version. So I propose that we move it to after, immediately after point 3.4. We will proceed in the following order: 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and then 3.1.

I would also propose that in order to give more time for translation for items 3.5, 3.6 and 3.7, that we will tackle them in our afternoon session. We will conclude at 3.1.

Do I have any comments on this intention?

I have no requests for the floor. We will proceed as suggested.

I now move to Agenda Item 3.2, new Resolution, "Connectivity to Broadband Networks." I would like to ask Canada to provide us with an update on the progress of work. Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Chairman, and good morning. Chairman, Canada is pleased to report that we have reached a consensus text in our informal discussions with interested administrations. That informal, that text now appears as DT/40. Document DT/40 contains a number of changes, but most of those changes are focused on broadening the scope of the Resolution in such a way as to make it applicable to broadband networks generally as opposed to simply mobile broadband networks. This change is most dramatic in the title of the Draft New Resolution, which is now "Connectivity to Broadband Networks" as opposed to "Mobile Broadband Networks."

There have been a number of editorial changes as well, most specifically the emphasizing" section has been removed. And in most cases references throughout the text to mobile broadband have been changed to wireless broadband connectivity.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to submit Document DT/40 to this Committee for its consideration.

Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Canada. My thanks to everyone who has participated in this work. I submit for your consideration and approval DT/40. Do I have any comments on DT/40? I have no requests for the floor. I move that we approve DT/40 as is. I have no requests for the floor. DT/40 is approved as is.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Next we move to Agenda Item 3.3, the revision of Resolution 182 and the suppression of Resolution 35. I invite Egypt to provide us with an update on the progress of work.

>> EGYPT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to resume what I just mentioned last Friday that we just, as a wrap up very quickly, I won't like repeat what I said last Friday. We met four times and made sure that all the proposals and contributions from different countries and different Regions were incorporated in the text. So by the end, by Friday morning we reached consensus to all the proposals and contributions that were mentioned in 182 and asked for suppression of 35. We reached consensus after consulting with the Regions and the countries' representatives in the consultation group, that it will be suppressed.

I knew from the Secretariat that it was going to be from DL to DT on Monday. So I will be waiting to hear from the Secretariat whether it was transferred to a DT or not. But it is final now and it got consensus among the group who participated in that. Like once again I would like to thank all the Delegations who participated in reaching consensus as well.

Thank you, Honorable Chair.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Egypt. My thanks to everyone who participated in this work. It has indeed been converted into a DT and is now translated into all six languages. I present to the floor DT/52 for approval. But before I open the floor for comments I would like to make one clarification. We have here two Resolutions which will require two separate approvals. DT/52 is the revision of Resolution 182. So first, I would like to approve 182. Once we conclude I will then request approval for the abrogation and suppression of Resolution 35. I put forward DT/52 for your comment and approval for Resolution 182. Do I have any comments?

I have no requests for the floor. I move that we approve DT/52. I have no requests for the floor. DT/52 is approved as is.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Next I put forward for your approval the suppression of Resolution 35. Do I have any comments? I see no requests from the floor. I ask again, do I have any comments?

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Suppression of 35 is approved.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Next we move to item 3.4, the revision of Resolution 179. I would like to ask the United Kingdom to provide us with an update on the progress of work.

United Kingdom, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair, and good morning. The revision of Resolution 179 appears in document DT/50. It is the result of an Informal Group. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all those involved in that Informal Group for the spirit in which we discussed the proposals that had been submitted.

DT/50 had been submitted to your meeting last week, Chair, but had not been translated and was, therefore, delayed until this meeting for approval. In submitting the text last week, and I must point out again for consistency we do have two sets of square brackets within the document, Chair. In "requests the Council" number 2 and "instructs the Secretary-General" number 6, these are in square brackets awaiting the outcome with regard to Decision 11.

And with that, Chair, I am happy to take questions and to offer this for approval of this body. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United Kingdom and my thanks to everyone who contributed in this work.

I understand that one of the sensitive issues we have been discussing here, primarily in Working Group of the Plenary and Com 5 is the participation in groups and access to documents. I note that these are the two issues under square brackets. However, this Resolution deals with child online protection which I believe is not only one much the most sensitive issues but something that affects us everywhere, regardless of where we are in the world or what background we hail from.

I would like to particularly thank the Secretary-General, Dr. Hamadoun Touré, and the Chairman of the Council Working Group, Dr. Hashem Al Hashemi from Egypt, for their help in this regard. In light of the sensitivity of this I would like to make a proposal.

I would like to propose that we slightly amend these two texts in square brackets in order to approve them in this session of the Working Group of the Plenary. My proposal is as follows: With regard to the "requests the Council", point number 2 will read as follows: To facilitate the contribution and participation of all relevant stakeholders in the work of the ITU Council Working Group COP to ensure maximum collaboration in implementing this Resolution.

My second proposal is with regard to "instructs the Secretary-General" 6, is in two parts. First, I propose that we move it under "requests the Council" such that it becomes "requests the Council" number 4.

I then propose that it reads as follows: "to continue to make all output documents related to child online protection issues publicly accessible without password protection."

I submit this proposal for your consideration. Do I have any comments on DT/50 with the proposed amendments?

Before I accept comments I would like to make one note that this proposal is without prejudice or precedent for any other decisions made in any other Resolutions. It is purely based on the sensitivity and the global nature of the threat and the demands for child online protection.

United Arab Emirates, you have the floor.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the United Kingdom for having chaired our Working Group. I would like to commend the group on the results they have attained.

Mr. Chairman, after your proposed amendments, now with those proposed amendments we can adopt this draft proposal. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, UAE. Jordan, you have the floor.

>> JORDAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would also like to endorse this Draft Resolution. We would like to thank the Working Group that worked hard on this. We would like to thank furthermore the Chairman for the amendments he has submitted. And we endorse these as well along with the Draft Resolution. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Jordan. Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. And we would like also to associate ourselves, to thank the Distinguished Delegate of U.K. for coming to this proposal. We would like to support your amendments to this document. This is in line also with the open access to documents that we have approved in other areas. Therefore, we would like to support this Resolution with your amendments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Iran. I have no further requests for the floor. I move that we approved DT/50 with the amendments as read out by the Chairman.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. DT/50 is approved.

I would like to give the floor now to the Secretary-General.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you very much, Chairman. Thanks to all our members here for approving this very important Resolution. As you know, as Secretary-General of ITU I have launched the child online protection initiative in 2008 as one of the main initiatives under the global cybersecurity Agenda. I have received very strong support from the Council Working Group and also the Member States who have done not only a lot in contributing at home, at the domestic level in protecting the children but also in contributing at the global level inside the ITU in this initiative. This issue of protecting children online found support in the high level Expert Group that agreed on the global cybersecurity agenda framework for international cooperation.

And since 2008, COP has made great progress in establishing itself as a platform for all stakeholders to come together to discuss ways and means, both public policy and technical, of protecting and empowering children online.

COP is a truly global multistakeholder effort with governments, with Civil Society, academia and international organizations working hand-in-hand.

The Council Working Group on child online protection is testimony to this global cooperation. As Secretary-General, I have pushed an emphasis on inviting the for most experts on this topic, both ITU members and nonmembers to the Council Working Group, COP means, based on their roles and responsibilities. Again congratulations for adopting this very important Resolution. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Dr. Touré and thank you, everyone, for approving this very important Resolution.

Next as agreed we will go to Item 3.1, the revision of Resolutions 140 and 172. I would like to invite the Russian Federation to provide us with an update on the progress of work. Russian Federation, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Ad Hoc Group on Resolution 140 and 172 had three meetings. I am proud to be able to tell you that thanks to the friendly working atmosphere which is generally part of the ICT group's work, taking into account all of the attempts to find a difficult compromise, we can now submit for your consideration an agreed text Resolution, 140 that is in document 48. We included in that Resolution 140 material from Resolution 172, which was reflected in the name of the Resolution. Resolution 172 is, we think, something that can be included if 140 is adopted.

We have two issues I would like to draw your attention before submitting the document for your consideration, Document DT/48.

Firstly, we have two square brackets left, not because we couldn't reach an agreement; because we don't know what is Com 5's decision on the work on the terminology. The working definition of ICT.

For that reason, as we don't know that decision, we were unable to conclude that question.

I would also like to come up with a purely editorial comment which we spoke about yesterday. That concerns part, the Secretary-General is recommended", invites the Secretary-General and Directors of the Bureaux as point 1 and 2.

Where there is a reference to the parts "decides, resolves."

There should be in point 1, 2, 3, and 4, of "resolves."

And it has to be in 1 and in 2. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

So I hereby submit the document for your consideration.

Plus a decision on "including" Resolution 172, I would once again like to thank all the members of the group for their active participation and their spirit of compromise as well as the Secretariat for their support. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Russian Federation. As I understand the output of the Ad Hoc Group we now have two approvals the make which is the approval of DT/52, which is the revision of Resolution 182 -- sorry, not 182.

Of 140, and the suppression of Resolution 172.

So I would like to open the floor. Russian Federation, sorry, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Document 48 excluding 172.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for the clarification. Yes, DT/48 is also on 140. We will be handling the other separately.

I put forward Draft Resolution, DT/48 on the revision to Resolution 140, for your consideration, with the understanding that the square brackets are editorial in nature and will be aligned by the Editorial Committee and the Plenary.

Do I have any comments on DT/48?

I have no requests for the floor. I move that we approve DT/48 with editorial alignments.

DT/48 is approved.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: Next I would like to put forward for your approval the suppression of Resolution 172. Do I have any comments? I have no requests for the floor. I move that we approve the suppression of Resolution 172. I have no requests for the floor. The suppression is approved.

(Applause.)

>> CHAIRMAN: I would like to now give the floor to the Secretary-General.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have seen that you reached agreement regarding ITU's role in implementation of WSIS outcomes as well as overall review. I am happy to see that there is such a broad consensus on the way forward. WSIS is an important process for ITU and helps ITU to adapt to the new ICT ecosystem. As you know, WSIS was first decided at ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Minneapolis in 1998. That is where we took real leadership in the world on this area.

This agreement is not to deny that during the last eight years we succeeded to establish efficient institutional mechanisms for coordination of the activities at the U.N. level while engaging stakeholders in the work of the process.

WSIS high level event was a demonstration of the multistakeholder approach and proved that ITU has capacity and capabilities to handle complex multistakeholder processes addressing the issues related to the Information Society development. I am confident that ITU became an effective platform for negotiations and reaching consensus in a multistakeholder format. I'm happy that it was recognized by Council this year.

We need to look forward. I notice in the draft that the membership wishes us to continue playing an important role in the process in the future, while continuing key activities including work on key action lines, C2, C5, C6, the WSIS Forum, which is stock taking, WSIS, measurements on ICT development, et cetera. Nevertheless we need to pay attention to the outcomes of the United Nations General Assembly overall review. This review will provide us an opportunity of finalizing the role ITU had been playing in this process since its inception. I encourage all Member States to do so with Ministers of Foreign Affairs and making sure that this message goes well in the General Assembly process.

We should be proud of what we have achieved here together and I would like to again congratulate you for really coming to consensus on this important matter for the future of the Union. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Dr. Touré. Well, we have proceeded very quickly through our Agenda for this morning. So we, actually all remaining Agenda Items will be discussed this afternoon. Given the hard work and positive spirit I have seen over the weekend, I'm looking forward to some positive reports in the afternoon.

We will now break for lunch. Before that I would like to be make an announcement that the fourth round table dialogue focusing on innovation and partnerships in the ICT sector will be hosted today from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Room D.

The panelists include the Director of the TSB, the Deputy Secretary-General Elect, Mr. Malcolm Johnson and special invited guests from the conference. So I hope we can look forward to another engaging dialogue.

With that, we will now adjourn and we will reconvene at 4:00 p.m. this afternoon. Thank you very much for all your support, for your understanding and for the extremely positive spirit of collaboration I have seen today. Thank you all.

(Applause.)

(The meeting adjourned.)

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