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ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE 2014

BUSAN, KOREA

28 OCTOBER 2014

ROOM A

FIFTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE PLENARY

14:30

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>> ANNOUNCER: Ladies and gentlemen, the Working Group of the Plenary will be starting is shortly. Please be seated and put on your headset.

Once again, the Working Group of the Plenary will be beginning shortly. Please be seated and put on your headset. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. I hope you all had an enjoyable lunch. Welcome back to the Working Group of Plenary.

Before we continue our agenda, I have a couple of things to go over. First of all, with regards to the new proposal IAP2 on Internet of Things, I'm happy to report that there is consensus. The document has been sorted, and will now be pushed through to a DT, so we hope to have that on the agenda for tomorrow's discussion in this Working Group of Plenary.

My thanks and congratulations to everyone who's worked on achieving this consensus.

With regards to IAP1 on the convergence of ICT Applications, we would like to, or rather I would like to propose that an ad hoc on this is formed under the leadership of Korea, which will meet on Thursday during lunchtime. This will follow the similar mechanism as used for the Internet of Things proposal, which is to have a short ad hoc during lunchtime.

Do I have any objection to this approach? I see none. Korea, do you accept this responsibility? Korea, you have the floor.

>> KOREA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are happy to conduct the meeting as Ad Hoc Group. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Korea. Now we will continue with our agenda, as agreed earlier today. We will go back to Agenda point 3 which is the environment and climate change proposals. We'll be handling each proposal independently. We'll be looking at Resolution 182, 35 and 176 but we'll be discussing each one independently. I have no requests for the floor so we will begin with Resolution 182. To begin I would like to call upon the Asia Pacific region to present Document 67/Addendum 1/16. China, you have the floor.

>> CHINA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The proposal ACP/67A1/16 is the Common Proposal made by Asia Pacific Region with regard to modification of Resolution 182. Though we think the efficient, effective use of ICT technology could facilitate the reduction of GHG emissions, at the same time it's also the source of GHG, and the use of ICT technology will be doubled in the following years, so we should also pay attention to the reduction of the GHG emissions by ICT technology. Therefore, we need to make modifications to Resolution 182.

There are six aspects. First, in the further recognize that in this aspect we think that the emissions will give more impact to developing countries because developing countries are not sufficiently prepared.

"That the use green energy resources in telecommunications to reduce GHG emissions in ways, that increases the energy efficiency for the Sector."

And ITU can play a role in developing suitable guidelines for disposal of e‑waste from telecommunications/ICTs.

Secondly, with regard to the part of "resolves," we need to add two aspects. The first one is to encourage to use green energy sources to reduce the GHG emissions.

Second point is in developing networks to use ICT to reduce the e‑waste. The second modification is in the part of "instructs the Directors." We need to add paragraph 2, assist member countries to develop their guidelines.

The fourth modification is in the part of "instructs Directors," three Directors. The second part, "to help in the promotion of research and development," "to measure the carbon emission footprint of the industry."

The fifth one is in the part of "instruct the Director of the" ‑‑ firstly, we need to add the "methods for quantifying the carbon emission."

The second is to add, "and evolve suitable energy consumption rating standards for telecommunication/ICT equipment."

And the third point is to add "along with assistance for pilot deployment."

The sixth modification is under "invites Member States, Sector Members and Associates." We need to add two works. First is "use of green energy sources." And the second addition, "and efficient disposal of e‑waste from telecommunications/ICTs" in paragraph 5.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, China. Next I would like to call upon the African region to present Contribution 69/Addendum 1/14. Egypt, you have the floor.

>> EGYPT: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman Fellow Delegates on behalf of the African group the Egypt Delegation has a proposal on Resolution 182. It is undoubted the world is facing enormous threat as the greenhouse gas emissions is growing leading to the environment. Being mindful of the crosscutting and being aware of the immense benefits the ICTs could contribute to reduce the adverse effects of global warming the African group believes that a modification to Resolution 182 is vital. In our modifications, we're aware that the entire world suffers from the negative repercussions of global warming, yet developing countries remain the largest bearer of the burden of such repercussions.

Fellow Delegates, the proposed modifications instructs the Secretary‑General and the Directors of the three Bureaux to assist developing countries in organizing seminars and launching pilot projects on the proper assessment of the size of e‑waste and the best techniques to attain its sound management.

Assisting Member States, especially developing countries, to conduct studies on the possibilities of establishing e‑waste recycling facilities. Aiming to help in the establishment of National, regional e‑waste recycling centers is also an important modification we would like to highly emphasize.

Moreover, we're proposing to extend assistance to developing countries in launching pilot projects to include, one, the achievement of a sustainable smart management of water.

Second, in disaster prediction, detection, monitoring, response and relief.

And the last proposed amendment but definitely not the least, is to instruct is Secretary‑General, along with the Directors of the three Bureaux, to encourage the use of renewable energy systems and facilities and to study the best practice on it.

Mr. Chairman, Fellow Delegates, thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Egypt.

Next I'd like to invite the RCC to present Contribution 73, Addendum 1/28. Egypt, you have the floor.

>> EGYPT: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Dear colleagues. Information and Communication Technologies and telecommunications are very important in enhancing resource management and raising awareness and in we propose Revision of Resolution 182 to reflect the basic results of work in this area over the last period and reflect the decisions and documents adopted is a scarcity of water and water management has to be addressed especially with countries with limited water resources. We have to step up work to develop energy saving standards and introduce them in developing countries given their regional characteristics and we have to have better practices for energy efficiency and resource utilization. The countries of the RCC also pay great attention to the very high value of energy saving and smart technology for rational management of resources and consumption, and these are very expensive technology which are too expensive for developing countries.

Therefore, Member States, Sector Members are invited to exchange best practices in the area of environmental regulation and rational environmental utilization to work to make alternative sources of energy more accessible, and to promote environmental innovation. These are the basic proposals for amendment to Resolution 182. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Russian Federation. Next I'd like to invite the Arab Region to present Document 79, Addendum 2/12. Arab Region, you have the floor.

>> CHAIRMAN: Egypt, sorry, if I could interrupt you. Sorry to interrupt you. There seems to be a small technical problem.

Very well.

English translation, we're checking for ‑‑

>> INTERPRETER: Can you hear the English interpretation?

>> CHAIRMAN: We can now, thank you. Egypt, my apologies for the interruption. Please continue.

>> EGYPT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I will go on from the last part, I was presenting and I will resume in Arabic. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I was saying, we were talking about the Arab Group proposal regarding 182.

[ No English translation ]

The implications of climate change throughout the world and most particularly in developing countries, particularly the developing countries which remain the most vulnerable, and those which suffer the most, and because of the development of technology ‑‑ of ICTs which could contribute to protecting these countries, and this is why the Arab Group has submitted the following proposals for the modification of Resolution 182, and I can summarize them as follows.

The Secretary‑General together with the three Directors of the Bureaux to assist the developing countries to organize advisory groups in order to better evaluate the question of e‑waste and the damage they can cause, and then the smart water management, the use of technologies and systems based on renewable energy, and to be able to forecast or to plan ahead for the actions to be undertaken which assist developing countries to undertake projects in order to recycle or dispose of electronic waste properly, and to assist regional and National offices in order to train them in the recycling of e‑waste.

We should also encourage those projects designed to reduce the gap between developed and developing countries as to the use of ICTs, and the proper use of renewable energy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Egypt and thank you for bearing with us during the technical difficulty.

Next I would like to invite the European region to present contribution 80, Addendum 1/12. United Kingdom, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair and good afternoon. I have the pleasure of presenting the CEPT proposals to amend Resolution 182. The proposed changes are based on a review of the text of Resolution 182, since it was originally drafted in Guadalajara four years ago. In the intervening time Chair, there have been many activities within the ITU that have progressed the understanding and the knowledge associated with this topic. This is no doubt reflected in the agreement at other conferences on issues related to climate change and e‑waste.

The text that we have presented here to you Chair is an attempt to bring Resolution 182 up to date and to reflect the change and progress we have made in this area since Guadalajara. As with other contributors to your meeting, Chair, we see the focus very much on capacity building, and this is indeed reflected in the significant proposals that we make towards the end of our contribution. I'm happy to take questions, and look forward to meeting with others. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United Kingdom. Next I would like to invite Indonesia to present Document 82/1. Indonesia, you have the floor.

>> INDONESIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have the pleasure to introduce Indonesia proposal. Green ICT currently becomes a broad array of study due to concerns of environmental sustainability and carbon emissions of technologies and equipment. The view of it is from managing substances, deployment of energy efficient equipment, the lifecycle carbon assessment of equipment, technologies and services.

ITU has been working towards standardizing metrics and emission methods of telecommunication equipment. In this regard, many regulatory bodies have also recommended the formulation of measurable metrics to be adopted by vendors and service providers. To verify that equipment will perform adequately with the inventory green ICT requirements testing is required but telecommunication equipment testing laboratories in developing countries found to not have sufficient green ICT metric testing capacity, and there are lack of laboratory staff with practical knowledge of green ICT metric. It includes lack of energy efficiency measurement capability.

Besides technologies are also evolving rapidly and the standards that products must comply with are becoming more and more complex. Thus improving the testing capabilities of laboratories and improving the quality and testing skills of related personnel is particularly important issue in developing countries. We hope ITU can assist to solve that issue.

Thus we propose two additional clauses to the "resolves" part of ‑‑ the "instructs" part of Resolution 182, to "instruct Secretary‑General, in collaboration with the Directors of the three Bureaux, to encourage Member States in the various regions to cooperate in sharing expertise and resources and identify original cooperation mechanism including a required regional center, so as to assist all Member States in the region in measurement and training."

And "to assist Member States in particular in developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries, and countries with economies in transition, in infrastructure development and capacity building, as well as assistance for establishing laboratories for energy efficiency measurement." This is our proposal for your consideration. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Indonesia. That concludes our presentations of contributions on Resolution 182. As per our working methods, I will now open the floor for support for the discussion of Indonesia's paper, INS/82/1. Please note I have not opened the floor for comments at this time, merely for support to discuss this paper. Do I have support to discuss this paper? I have no requests for the floor at this time. I ask again, do I have a request of support to discuss Indonesia's paper? Zimbabwe, you have the floor.

>> ZIMBABWE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we support discussion of the paper. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Zimbabwe. I now open the floor for comments on contributions to Resolution 182. Japan, you have the floor.

>> JAPAN: Thank you, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Japan supports the proposal of Asia Pacific telecommunications and regarding RCC's proposal for amendment, we are concerned about I think water supply and management, and including sanitization management by ICT, and besides those and the natural resources. Of course, regarding water supply and sanitization services are very important for all people's living, its significance is very important, we regard it, we recognize.

However, I recognize that ICT will be able to support some sides of these issues like monitoring cleanness and flow of water. But however, we need time and the place to clarify what kind of aspect of ICT can support these issues from.

After consideration about water supply and sanitization services in terms of ITU utilization, it is appropriate to amendment might be done. Therefore we would like to suggest that in order to considering comprehensive and integrative system for water management, first of all, for example at the TSAG or TDAG. And then further regarding water supply and issues, these concepts and architecture should be being further discussed at TSAG level at TDAG and actually now it is going on at Focus Group at ITU‑T. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The United States supports the amendments expressed within the European Common Proposal to reflect the evolution and understanding of climate change and the role that the ITU plays in associated issues. We recognize the challenges faced by developing countries in addressing environmental sustainability issues, and can also support the additions proposed in the African Common Proposal for assisting these countries in their efforts to better understand and overcome these challenges.

We note the very difficult budget situation in the ITU today, and call on all colleagues to work together to focus ITU's activities within its areas of strength and its mandates, and avoid new calls for action like increased promotional activities. We suggest improving the Resolution by noting more explicitly the efforts undertaken by ITU‑D and ITU‑R in addressing the needs reflected in this Resolution.

We are not convinced that the necessary expertise exists within the ITU membership for it to develop suitable energy consumption rating standards for telecommunication/ICT equipment. However, the U.S. supports highlighting that ICTs also have an impact on the environment. We would be happy to work with other parties in an Ad Hoc Group to produce consolidated modifications to Resolution 182, taking these factors into account. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United States. Argentina, you have the floor.

>> ARGENTINA: Thank you, Chairman. We should like to thank the proponents and recognize how important it is to update Resolution 182. We would particularly like to raise the issue of the work undertaken by ITU‑T and in the BDT, working with developing countries in order to implement such actions, and recognizing the importance of the new issues which are arising.

We believe, therefore, that all documents should be looked at in order to consolidate a modified Resolution. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Argentina. I have no more requests for the floor at this time. Are there any others interested in commenting on these proposals? I see none.

Therefore, my first order of business will be to ask whether the floor feels it is necessary to have an ad hoc on this, or whether we can go ahead with having a consolidation of the proposals.

I'd like you to note that we do have many ad hocs running, and there have been requests to avoid scheduling conflicts due to small Delegations and experts who need to attend more than one group. If possible, I would prefer to have this as a consolidation exercise. However, if given the number of documents, if the floor feels there is a need for an ad hoc, we will schedule an ad hoc.

I would invite comments on this proposal. United Kingdom, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair. Where possible, I would support your proposal for a consolidation activity in the first instance. I think that activity would progress the need to bring the texts together that can be brought together, and would suggest that if there is any issue that falls out of informal exercise that cannot be addressed that we come back and seek an ad hoc via yourself. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United Kingdom. Is there any objection to this approach? I have no requests for the floor at this time. Therefore, we will proceed with a consolidation exercise. Egypt, I would like you to please consolidate all documents and prepare a consolidated text to be presented in tomorrow's session.

Do you accept this responsibility? Egypt, you have the floor.

>> EGYPT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, yeah, we definitely accept with pleasure. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Egypt. I would ask you to note the discussions that took place in our first Working Group of Plenary Meeting, whereby we opened the contributions on Resolution 35, so please take Resolution 35 into account when taking this consolidation document.

For all interested parties, please approach Egypt and give them your full support in this consolidation. I have no requests for the floor. Therefore, I will now move to point number 6 in our agenda. My apologies, it seems I've forgotten to discuss one point under this topic. We agreed earlier today we would actually open up the documents on 176 for EMF so I'll proceed to do that.

To begin I'd like to invite the Asia Pacific Region to present Contribution 67, Addendum 1/15. Vietnam, you have the floor.

>> VIETNAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Vietnam on behalf of APT region would like to present the Common Proposal on Revision of Resolution 176 in the Page 52 of Document 67, Addendum 1.

The PP‑10 Resolution 176 have countries in developing the National regulation to protect their citizens in regards to human exposure to electromagnetic fields. This issue is also indicated in the WTSA trial Resolution 72 and WTDC‑14, Resolution 62. They continue to be vital to protect and to guarantee safer wireless communication environment. Asia Pacific Telecommunity would commonly propose to revise the Resolution 176 to include the considering that the lack of comprehensive regulatory measures may result in increasing opposition of the deployment of radio installation and the effect of EMF to humans have not been granted enough public awareness.

The proposed revision will reflect our consideration and invite the Directors of three Bureaux work closely to continue to enhance the technical assistance provided to Member States, as well as measures and in order to help the possible effects of EMF radiation on human body. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Vietnam. Next I would like to invite the African Region to present contribution 69, Addendum 1/13. Ivory Coast, you have the floor.

>> CÔTE D'IVOIRE: Thank you, Chairman. Côte d'Ivoire would like to present the common proposal to revise Resolution 176 on human exposure to electromagnetic field and measurement of those fields. Everyone understands the ITU has to play a role in addressing the issue of human exposure to electromagnetic fields within its mandate.

Since the adoption of the first Resolution on this issue, the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly, 2008 Johannesburg, ITU has continued to present recommendations and to organize workshops for awareness raising for its members. The African Common Proposal is to support this work which must be continued. Proposed revisions are to update the Resolution taking into account relevant Resolutions adopted in the course of the World Telecommunications standardization Assembly and World Telecommunications Development Conference, the latter in 2014, the former in 2012, also the African Region is requesting the Bureau for Development of Telecommunications to monitor their equipment for compliance with recommendations and continued dissemination of information from other competent organizations dealing with human exposure to electromagnetic fields.

And finally, the Africa Group proposes a new "invites." Invites Member States, requesting them "to ensure compliance with guidelines produced by relevant international organizations with respect to exposure to EMF," and to promote cooperation between the Member States on human exposure to electromagnetic fields.

Chairman, this is the Common African Proposal. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Côte d'Ivoire. Next I would like to invite the Arab States to present Contribution 79, Addendum 2/11. Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson, and good afternoon to you all. It is my pleasure to present to you the proposal made by the Arab States in order to look into the Resolution 176. As you know, the exposure of humans to electromagnetic fields is amongst the important and sensitive issues and is something that is important to everyone, and during the past years and in view of the efforts undertaken by organizations and Governmental instances. Unfortunately we do not have any unified standard, global standard, to be adopted by the Member States in order to provide safety to the public, and there are certain parties, non‑governmental parties, that have developed standards to protect people from radio frequencies.

However, there is a gap between the efforts undertaken as seen in the nonconformity between these standards in certain areas. And this has led to problems for consultants in order to formulate National standards for protection, and therefore, the group of Arab States would like to propose that the BDT Director set down a programme which will be of high priority in coordination and cooperation with WHO and other United Nations agencies in order to develop a global standard with regards to the electromagnetic organization in order to protect individuals, and that such a standard be developed in a unified manner.

Also, we are calling upon Member States to continuous control and raising awareness, and thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Saudi Arabia.

Now I open the floor for comments on these three proposals on Resolution 176. Sweden, you have the floor.

>> SWEDEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We've noticed these proposal. I would like to just make a comment on the Asia Pacific proposal that's in Document 67/A1 on the two items added under "instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau," and so on, that is 3, "to encourage concerned agencies," and so on, "to formulate necessary measures."

We feel that this goes quite a lot out of scope of what the BDT and the BR and the Standardization Bureau has expertise for, so we're quite ‑‑ we find these to be quite questionable additions. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Sweden. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to all colleagues who presented proposals modifying this Resolution. The United States believes that the role for the ITU in the area of human exposure measurements of EMF is to work in partnership with other standards bodies, such as ISO, IEC, and others, to develop high‑level frameworks on international standards for monitoring and measurement equipment of human exposure to EMFs emitted by telecommunication equipment.

The international EMF project within the World Health Organization continues to address the question of human health impacts of EMF. The WHO has established an international Advisory Group comprising all Member States that have an interest in the issue, and they also collaborate with other UN agencies, such as the ITU, ILO, and the UNEP.

The WHO has the scientific and medical expertise to best review the science, and is also recognized as the international body best suited to this task. These standards provide a high level of protection for all members of the public, and incorporate substantial safety margins. To the extent that Member States wish to pass their own EMF legislation, the WHO has developed model legislation, and in our view, there's no need to duplicate these efforts.

The ITU does have a role to play in terms of building the capacity in nations to developing their own testing programmes. However, the ITU has no health expertise, and should not play a role in setting standards governing human exposure to EMF. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United States. I have no more requests for the floor at this time. Are there any others that wish to comment on these proposals? Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you. Canada would like to note that we would associate with other comments that this, in our view, is not falling within the mandate of the ITU, and is best left to expert agencies that have the expertise required in this area. Thank you.

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

>> INDIA: Thank you, Chairman. The EMF issue is a very sentimental issue to the people, and setting standards is one thing, and winning the confidence of the people is another issue, so I think the ITU definitely can play a role in capacity building and building the confidence into the use of mobile devices, because of which people feel that health may be affected.

Number two, as where the standards are concerned, WHO is the right organization to develop standards because they have expertise in the medical field, but since the issue relates to the telecommunication, so therefore, ITU has a play ‑‑ ITU has a role to play along with the WHO in notifying these standards so that people have confidence that these standards have been mandated by a Telecom expert organization, intergovernmental organization, where all Member States have agreed. Thank you, Chairman.

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

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair. U.K. would associate with the comments of others on the role that the World Health Organization plays in determining the appropriate standards and activities associated with this topic, and believe that that is a more appropriate place for this issue to be discussed. Thank you.

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

>> ARGENTINA: Thank you, Chairman. As to the observations made, we do understand the importance of coordination and cooperation with the WHO and recognize that the two organizations have to work together on this specific area. Each one within the area in which it is most competent.

However, the ITU does have a role to play. Thank you.

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

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Chairman. We, too, would like to point out that ITU does play a role. When we refer to the standard, it's not just levels not to be exceeded, but also methods and means of assessment, evaluation and measurement, and these issues of assessment, verification and measurement are already being considered in ITU, especially in the ITU‑R and ITU‑T, so as we see it, the proposal from the Arab States is not always fully understandable, because this word "standard" can encompass not only those levels which cannot be exceeded levels of electromagnetic radiation, but also the standards should include methods of measurement and verification so that the standards can be applied in practice.

This is what India mentioned, as well. India said that people have to be able to have confidence and understand that these standards are being applied. Therefore, we think that this issue maybe requires to be a little bit refined. Maybe we need to understand better exactly what the Arab States meant when they made this proposal to develop a standard. Obviously such a standard which would include both parameters which should not be exceeded, as well as methods and means for their measurement and practice, such a standard should be developed through joint activity of the two respected authoritative organizations. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Russian Federation. I have two more requests for the floor. I will be closing the list so I'm now making a final call for comments. I have on my list Uganda and Saudi Arabia. Are there any others that wish to take the floor?

I have none. The list is now closed. Uganda, you have the floor.

>> UGANDA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We too would like to point out that we think ITU has a role to play. This is one of the areas that we recognize that developments in the industry are making us realize that some of the things are not homed in one particular authority, and like we've been calling over, since the start of the Conference for joint, working jointly with other organizations, this is a place where we think ITU needs to work with other organizations that have expertise that is related to the same subject and be able to contribute from the side of the industry in terms of the industry‑specific requirements, whereas the bodies like WHO would bring in other competences like the health side, and maybe IEC, and as India pointed out, the issue of confidence. Unfortunately, when we go back home, the people will always look at us, so where do we turn to? We'll look at ITU.

And we therefore think we should actually look at this issue, and wish to lend our support to the African Common Proposal. Thank you.

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

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. We'd like to clarify certain points that have been mentioned by others. Currently, WHO carries out in coordination with other agencies of the United Nations such as the ITU activities in order to develop global standards with regards to electromagnetic fields, and therefore, there is a major role and a required role to be played by ITU in developing such standards, and therefore, there was a request that there be a clear programme for the ITU in developing such a standard.

And as already stated by certain interventions, the ITU does not have the expertise. The ITU does work in this field for a long time, and based on Resolution Number 2 of the Assembly, World Assembly, the ITU is responsible for the safety of people due to the electromagnetic fields that emanate from equipment, telecommunication equipment, and therefore once again the ITU has a vital role to play in this field, and also to unify these standards, and we believe that there are a number of countries that have a different standard. Some countries have adopted certain standards. Some non‑governmental instances have developed standards. And it is part of the ITU to ensure that there is a unified standard that is adopted by countries, and that is developed by the other UN agencies, and such an effort is of course led by the WHO. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Saudi Arabia. Given that there seems to be multiple opinions, I suspect we'll most likely need an ad hoc in order to have everyone in the room to discuss this issue. However, I would like to ask you for your opinions on this.

If the clarification offered by Saudi Arabia addresses some of these concerns, then perhaps we can proceed with a consolidation exercise, because as noted before, we do wish to avoid an ad hoc as much as possible to avoid scheduling conflicts.

However, if there are still concerns then perhaps we might need an ad hoc, so I open the floor for comments on the best way to proceed so that I can understand whether people feel there is a matter to be resolved, or whether the way forward is clear, the way forward meaning in this case, the text of this Resolution.

Okay, I have no requests for the floor. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you first said, I believe we need an ad hoc to resolve the differences of opinion on these important issues. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, United States. Vietnam, you have the floor.

>> VIETNAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Vietnam also support the proposal to establish the Ad Hoc Group to work on this Resolution. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Vietnam. Are there any other requests for the floor? Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Having listened to the proposals made, it seems obvious that we have to refine certain Resolutions taken previously, and there is an agreement about a certain number of points, such as raising awareness, ensuring that there is compliance and conformity, and I would like to know how can the ITU participate in developing a global standard. If this is the only aspect that is not clear, this can be resolved in this meeting rather than establishing an Ad Hoc Group to discuss this topic. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Saudi Arabia. I have two more requests for the floor. Côte d'Ivoire, you have the floor.

>> CÔTE D'IVOIRE: Thank you, Sir. We share the view of the delegate of Saudi Arabia. In terms of the exchange of views we've just had, we think the only points of divergence is whether or not the ITU needs to prepare a global standard on EMF, human exposure to EMF, so we suggest maybe consolidating group should be set up first to think about whether ITU could possibly participate in work for development of a global standard. From what we've heard, the Resolution's Revision itself does not raise any problems as to the substance of these proposed revisions.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Côte d'Ivoire. Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Chair. I believe there are more fundamental differences on this issue and we do not think the ITU should be playing a role in setting a global standard for EMF, because there are fundamental differences on this issue, I think that Ad Hoc Group is needed. Thank you.

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

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson and I'm sorry to have to intervene once again. However I have a question or reverse question. What is the reason for which the ITU does not participate in setting up a programme to develop a global standard? Despite the fact that we know that the ITU is responsible for anything that has to do with communication. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Saudi Arabia. In order not to take up the time of the Working Group of the Plenary, I believe this discussion does need to be taken up offline. I would ask that we create an ad hoc on this to discuss this in a bit more detail and I would propose that Vietnam lead this ad hoc. Do I have any comments on this proposal?

Vietnam, you have the floor.

>> VIETNAM: Vietnam agree with your proposal. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Vietnam. I would ask that the Secretariat please provide us with a room and time for this, and if necessary, any experts with the ITU who can provide some insight into the discussion.

Very well, we've now completed Resolution 176. That completes agenda point 3. We will now move to agenda point 6 on non‑discriminatory access. We have under this agenda point two matters for discussion, proposals to revise Resolution 64, and a Draft New Resolution from the African Region.

We will discuss all documents ‑‑ we will discuss the three on Resolution 64 first and then we'll open the new proposal. So to begin I would like to ask the African Region to present Document 69, Addendum 1/6. Sudan, you have the floor.

>> SUDAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sudan has the honor to represent the African group on presenting this Document, 69, Addendum 1/6, regarding the Revision of Resolution 64.

Mr. Chairman, due to the fact that some countries are suffering from not accessing some Internet resources and services, and this severely affect the progress of these countries on ICT and telecommunication, that is the reason that we made some updates and some modification on this Resolution so that to strengthen this Resolution.

First we reflect on the ‑‑ on "taking into account" the result of the WSIS high‑level event on the which sis reflected here in this Resolution.

We also make a little modification on "instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux," and also we instruct the Secretary‑General so that to cooperate and coordinate with relevant organizations involved in the development of the IP‑based networks. Thank you so much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Sudan.

Next I would like to invite Cuba to present Document 70/1. Cuba, you have the floor.

>> CUBA: Thank you, Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the modification proposed by Cuba to Resolution 64 which appears in Document 70, non‑discriminatory access to modern telecommunication/information and communication technology facilities, services and applications, including applied research and transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms.

Our proposal introduces as a fundamental concept what was agreed at the Standardization Conference held in Johannesburg in 2008, and which appears in Resolution 69 and modified at WTSA 2012 Dubai. We considered that because of its importance, there should be a Resolution of the Plenipotentiary Conference attaining the resolution and spirit of Resolution 64, Guadalajara, which is an excellent basis for the modifications proposed.

We propose the inclusion of a new paragraph, "invites the governments of Member States of the Union," expressing the following, "to refrain from taking any unilateral and/or discriminatory actions which could impede another Member State from accessing public Internet sites and telecommunication resources or from acquiring new telecommunication technologies and modern telecommunication/ICT facilities, services and related applications, within the spirit of Article 1 of the ITU Constitution and the principles of WSIS."

Mr. Chairman, there are other contributions to Resolution 64 which are similar to our own proposal. As on other occasions, Cuba is willing to work with other interested Delegations in order to come up with language satisfactory to all. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Cuba. I would next like to invite the Arab States to present Document 79, Addendum 2/3. Sudan, you have the floor.

>> SUDAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sudan has the honor of presenting Document 79, Addendum to Proposal 3 where we propose modification to this Resolution 64. A number of countries of the Union have had problems of access, and have been unable to participate in the e‑meetings, the electronic meetings, nor the Symposium organized, and other meetings arranged by the ITU.

We therefore make the following proposed modifications in recalling Resolution 167 of Guadalajara 2010, and Resolution ‑‑ other Resolutions, and taking into consideration Paragraph 8 of the Preamble of the Declaration of the implementation of WSIS results, and implementation of its actions in 2015, adopted at WSIS+10, the High Level Meeting and under "instructs the Secretary‑General, in close cooperation with the Directors of the three Bureaux," first, "to compile and distribute a list of the online services and applications which cannot be accessed, based on complaints received from ITU Member States.

"To take appropriate measures and steps to ensure the fair and equitable participation of all in ITU online services and applications.

"To collaborate and coordinate with United Nations agencies, other organizations and all concerned parties in taking the necessary measures to adopt telecommunications/ICT facilities, services and applications that are accessible to all."

Fourth, "to take into account implementation of the outputs of WSIS+10 High Level Event," and finally, "to submit an annual report to the Council on the implementation of this Resolution."

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Sudan. Before we proceed, I would like to amend one thing about the way we will discuss Point 6, which is to now open 6.2, the Draft New Resolution, and have it discussed as a whole. Do I have any objection to this amendment? I see none. Therefore, I would ask the African Region to present Document 69, Addendum 1/16. Sudan, you have the floor.

>> SUDAN: Regarding non‑discriminatory access to online services and applications of ITU. This is because this is very important and as we see, the effect of not accessing the Internet on the work of some countries with the ITU, so that's the reason we make this new draft Resolution regarding this issue. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Sudan. I will now ask for support to discuss the Cuban Document, Document 70/1. I have not opened the floor for comments. I'm requesting support for discussion of Document CUB/70/1. Belarus, you have the floor.

>> BELARUS: Thank you, Chairman. We would like to support the proposal from Cuba and include it in the discussion.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Belarus. The floor is now open for comments on any or all of the submitted contributions on this topic. Mexico, you have the floor.

>> MEXICO: Thank you, Chairman. We ask for the floor in order to support the general thrust of the Cuban proposal, non‑discriminatory access to communication technology, is fundamental to our organization, and we need to reinforce the measures taken in order to achieve this. We would be most interested in pursuing this debate, and working with other Delegations on the Revision of Resolution 64.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mexico. Do I have any other requests for the floor? United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Resolution 64 was very carefully negotiated to strike an appropriate balance on very contentious issues. Many aspects of the issues addressed in Resolution 64 fall outside the ITU's mandate, and implicate the sovereign right of Member States, as well as other Treaty mechanisms and international organizations.

With respect to the Draft New Resolution proposed by the African Group, for the reasons the United States already articulated, we do not believe that a new Resolution on non‑discriminatory access is needed. Many of the issues covered in the proposed new Resolution are similar to the proposals made to modify Resolution 64. Therefore, given the immense work that is already being done in the different Committees at the Conference, we do not believe that it would be fruitful or necessary to adopt a new Resolution on the same topic, or make any modifications to Resolution 64.

Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United States. I have no more requests for the floor at this time. Are there any others that wish to comment on these contributions? I see none.

In my judgment, I believe this issue is sensitive enough to require an ad hoc and a discussion. Therefore, I would propose that we form an ad hoc on this matter, and I would like to propose Professor Y.J. Park of Korea to Chair this ad hoc. Do I have any comments on this proposal?

I have none. Korea, do you accept this responsibility? Korea, you have the floor.

>> KOREA: Yeah, thank you, Chair. Yeah, we are happy to accommodate that request. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Korea. I would like to ask the Secretariat to provide us with a room and time for this ad hoc. The focal point for this ad hoc will be Mr. Preetam Maloor. It is now 3:45. We will now break for ‑‑ we'll have a coffee break until 10 past 4:00. Please enjoy your coffee break. Thank you.

[ Coffee break ]

>> ANNOUNCER: Ladies and gentlemen, the Working Group of the Plenary will begin shortly. Please be seated and put on your headset. Once again, the Working Group of the Plenary will begin shortly. Please be seated and put on your headset. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen, welcome back to Working Group of the Plenary. I hope you enjoyed your coffee break. We'll jump back into our agenda, we're now at number 7 which is bridging the digital divide. We have two contributions on the Revision of Resolution 137, and a Draft New Resolution.

I will be having all three present, and then we'll be opening the floor for comments. So to begin, I would like to invite the Asia Pacific Region to present Document 67, Addendum 1/13. Vietnam, you have the floor.

>> VIETNAM: Hello? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Vietnam, on behalf of APT, would like to present our Common Proposal on Revision to Resolution 137 concerning the next‑generation network deployment in developing countries.

So there are some small changes in the proposal. Taking into account we believe "that many developing countries have largely invested in deployment of NGN networks to provide advanced services but still not be able to exploit and operate effectively," and that the migration of legacy network to NGN will affect the point of interconnections, quality of service and other operational issues; this will also have its effect on costs to the end user."

The "resolves to instruct the Directors of the three Bureaux," "to study on tariff and cost," "training activities, and operational guidelines, especially for those designed for rural areas and for bridging the digital divide and the development divide."

We would like to submit this for your consideration. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Vietnam. Next I would like to invite the RCC to present Document 73, Addendum 1/17. Belarus, you have the floor.

>> BELARUS: Thank you, Chairman. On behalf of the RCC, I should like to present Document 73 Addendum 1/17. In the growing competition and complexity of ICT systems, one of the main challenges facing telecommunication operators is that of reducing operating costs relating to the operation and maintenance of network infrastructure.

One of the most forward looking solutions to this problem consists in the active introduction and implementation of software‑defined networks. As you know, software‑defined networks means a network transmission where the network transmission is done by software application. We believe that reducing maintenance costs of network infrastructure should be the future. Currently, we often face a situation where innovation and development is only for progress without den fits to telecoms operators. Practical applications of software‑defined networks to reduce maintenance costs can be for instance addressing, improving of route in between autonomous systems, and also research work on existing networks without damaging their reliability and integrity.

Therefore, we propose changes to Resolution 137, indicating the importance of this issue in the deployment of next generation networks. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Belarus. Next I would like to ask India to present their Draft New Resolution to promote efforts for early adoption of software‑defined networking in developing countries. Document 85/2.

India, you have the floor.

>> INDIA: Thank you, Chairman, and good afternoon to all. I have the pleasure to introduce proposal from India for adoption of new Resolution to promote efforts for readoption of SDN in developing countries. SDN is gaining importance for evolving to have agile and programmable network. Virtualization and cloud computing are also impacting traditional network architecture. It is expected that better central control may help in the reduction of costs for operating and introducing new services or applications.

SDN may also lead to develop hyperscale and agile networks. It will be noted that SDN was assigned a strategic priority by WTSA‑12, Resolution 77, and SDN introduced services are very useful for developing countries, developing countries requires building of capacities in SDN and need to have approaches or plans for migrating smoothly to SDN based networks so that readiness may be achieved at an early stage.

In view of submitted points earlier, it is proposed by adopting a new Resolution on SDN for promoting efforts for early adoption in developing countries will help in bridging the gap, and it will help in meeting the requirements related to SDN for developing countries. So proposal is submitted for kind consideration of the meeting. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, India. As per our working methods, I will now ask for support for discussion of the proposal from India, Document 85/2.

Uganda, you have the floor.

>> UGANDA: Thank you, Chair. We'd like to thank India for these proposals and indeed we support the proposal. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Uganda. Now that all individual contributions have been supported, I open the floor for comments on any or all of these Resolutions.

China, you have the floor.

>> CHINA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We also think that SDN is very important. It's a disrupter technology. ITU as an international leading organization in ICT Telecom technology we need to strengthen our work in SDN. We hope that SDN deployment should be accelerated in developing countries by amending and modifying our relevant Resolutions, especially on the basis of India's proposal to introduce a new Resolution so as to help developing countries to include into relevant action for developing countries when it comes to SDN development, in order to enhance support for developing countries to close or narrow the gap in development. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. I don't have any other requests for the floor. I have now one, United States you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to those representatives of the Asia Pacific and RCC regions for their proposals on Resolution 137, and to India for their proposal.

With respect to Resolution 137, we have a number of amendments that I would categorize as rather simple to address directly with the authors of the proposals, and I'm happy to have our Delegation work offline with others to effect those amendments.

But with respect to the draft new Resolution to promote efforts for the early adoption of software‑defined networks in developing countries, the United States has great difficulty with this Draft New Resolution. We support the multistakeholder network of the five regional Internet registries which have responsibility for IP address resource distribution within their respective geographic regions. The ITU does not and should not have any operational role in allocating, assigning, and otherwise administering these resources, including associated policies and policy development.

We encourage India to express the interests and concerns reflected in this proposal to ICANN, APNIC and IETF. These organizations have the responsibility and expertise for the administration of numbering resources, and for the development of technical standards which underpin the Internet.

The United States supports Internet routing systems that rely on commercial arrangements instead of regulation. Internet traffic usually runs independently of geographical boundaries, and the independent routing of packets through the Internet with a routing system help ensure redundancy and resiliency across multiple networks while limiting latency. Communication that flows into and out of a country may in fact be taking the most efficient and cost effective route. In some cases, it may be the only route.

And so, Mr. Chairman, we would not support this Draft New Resolution. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United States. Mexico, you have the floor.

>> MEXICO: Thank you, Chairman. Like the United States, we would like to thank the proponents for presenting these documents on Resolution 136. We believe that some of the proposals could go forward. We could discuss them quickly in a Drafting Group. As to the proposal of Indonesia, Mexico would like to express some ‑‑ India, the speaker apologizes, we express some concern, because it is a technology issue, and my country could not support it since we ascribe to technological neutrality. Thank you.

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

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chairman. We also thank those who have submitted these proposals. We support these proposals. First of all, we support the Revision of Resolution 137. We think it should be updated to reflect those solutions which we've taken up over the last four years.

As regards the proposal from India, it is a very interesting proposal. We need to look at it with more attention, we think. ITU does have the necessary level both of expertise and it has the requisite mandate to deal with the issues raised especially future networks, of course, within its mandate, and of course, in close cooperation with other organizations which are involved in this process.

Thank you, Chairman.

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

>> INDIA: Thank you, Chairman. The idea behind this proposal is not to engage in new activities of the standardization. This is related to the capacity building process in the developing countries and the migration plan. So many activities have already been taken up in the ITU Study Group 13, and some specifications have been published, so we are focusing only on the part of the capacity building which is under ITU's mandate. That is our summation. Thank you, Chair.

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

>> CANADA: Thank you, Chairman, and good afternoon after the coffee break to you and to colleagues. Mr. Chairman, Canada would like to associate itself with the comments made by the Delegations of Mexico and the United States in regards to the proposal by the Indian Delegation, which is although very interesting, we strongly believe that it is outside the remit of the ITU.

Mr. Chairman, we will not be in a position to support this Draft New Resolution. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Canada. I have no more requests for the floor. Are there any other Member States wishing to make a comment at this point?

United Kingdom, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair, and good afternoon. We have listened with interest to the interventions, and would like to thank the contributors on the issue of Resolution 137 and our colleagues from India. We believe that the clarification of it by our colleagues from India on their proposed new Resolution on software‑defined networks, SDNs, is of interest. We note also with interest the current proposals and amendments from Member States on 137, and feel that there may be some benefit in trying to combine the two proposals. I think the clarification, as I've indicated from India on capacity‑building is one that we should fully support. Thank you.

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

I have no more requests for the floor at this time. Therefore, I will now propose a way forward. I would like to propose that we look at a consolidation exercise, both to consolidate the Resolutions between 137 and to take a look at the Indian Resolution. The consolidation could end up with either a single, unified proposal, or two separate proposals but I leave this to the interested parties to discuss.

I would like to propose that Belarus lead this consolidation exercise. Do I have any comments on this approach? Belarus, you have the floor.

>> BELARUS: Thank you, Chairman. Of course, we agree. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Belarus. If I have no objection from the floor, we will proceed in this manner. Please provide all support to Belarus and any Member States wishing to participate or having comments, please approach them for consolidation.

Very well, we'll now move on to the next point in our agenda. We'll now be looking at the Revision of Resolution 30. We only have a single proposal on this Resolution, so I invite a representative of the Americas region to present Document 34, Revision 1, Addendum 1/25. Paraguay, you have the floor.

>> PARAGUAY: Thank you, Chairman. Good afternoon. On behalf of CITEL, we have the honor of introducing IAP25, Document 34 of the Conference. We'd propose a Revision of Resolution 30, Special measures for the least developed countries, Small Island Developing States, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition. The UN has a special Conference every 10 years for these countries. In 2011, it was held in Turkey, which adopted the Istanbul programme for action.

This year there was a Conference in Samoa for Small Island Developing States, and in November, a comprehensive 10‑year review of the Conference of the Almaty programme for action for LLDCs. As a member of UN family, the ITU must reiterate its commitment to support these actions with respect to ICTs for LDCs, the Almaty programme and the Barbados plan of action for sustainable development.

In that framework, proposed that Resolution 30 "invites Member States" to cooperate with these countries, "to cooperate with LDCs, SIDs, LLDCs and countries with economies in transition in promoting and supporting regional, subregional, multilateral, and bilateral projects and programmes for the development of telecommunications/ICTs and the integration of telecommunication infrastructure making it possible to improve international connectivity conditions. " We submit this proposal to this Conference of Plenipotentiary. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Paraguay. As this is the only proposal we have on Resolution 30, I now open the floor for comments.

I have no requests for the floor. I ask again, are there any countries wishing to make a comment? As there are no requests for the floor, I move that we approve this submission, and approve the amendments to Resolution 30. Congratulations, this is the second approval from the Working Group of Plenary.

[ Applause ]

We now move to point 7.4, the Revision of Resolution 135 on "ITU's role in the development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies, in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries and in implementing relevant national, regional and interregional projects," a fairly long title, indeed.

So we only have a single proposal, which I would like to now invite a representative of the Americas region to present Document 34, Revision 1, Addendum 1/12. Bahamas, you have the floor.

>> BAHAMAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, good afternoon all. The Bahamas on behalf of the Member States of CITEL hereby proposes that Resolution 135 on the ITU's role in the development of telecommunications/Information and Communication Technologies, in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries and in implementing relevant National, regional and interregional projects be amended.

The proposed modifications are meant to incorporate current considerations such as the Dubai Action Plan of 2014, new actions related to the role of the ITU in the development of telecommunications and ICTs in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries, and in implementing relevant National, regional, and interregional projects having regard to the work being conducted in the other sectors of the Union.

Developing countries in this case is also inclusive of least developed countries, LDCs, Small Island Developing States, SIDs, which describes the Bahamas, landlocked developing countries, LLDCs, which describes Paraguay, and countries with economies in transition. It is critical for these states to receive technical assistance and advice to improve their ICT infrastructure and connectivity. By the very definition of these states, it is evident that physical, human and financial capital are limited, and technical assistance and advice are needed to assist in eliminating the digital divide for these countries.

Therefore, CITEL proposes to include, among other considerations, Subparagraphs 5 and 6 in Resolves 2 of that Resolution, whose aim is to ensure that the Telecommunication Development Bureau, the BDT, steps up its efforts to promote and facilitate collaborative actions with the different sectors of the Union to carry out studies and interrelated activities to deepen and provide universal access to knowledge, and to complement the use of telecommunication technologies and systems so as to achieve optimal use of telecommunication resources, especially orbital resources and associated spectrum resources, and improve access to and the connectivity of telecommunication/ICT systems and networks to address the telecommunication needs of developing countries.

Mr. Chairman, I hereby submit this proposal. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Bahamas. As this is the only proposal, I now open the floor for comments.

I have no requests for the floor. I ask again, are there any Member States wishing to make a comment? United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We'd like to seek clarification regarding the intent of the phrase "equitable and non‑discriminatory universal access to ICTs." We suggest that instead of using this language, that we use language that was used in the Dubai Action Plan, Part A, "recognizing e, which says, "with the aim of ensuring equitable access to telecommunication/ICT." This language has been recently approved, and it's clear to all parties what it means, so with this change, we could support the revisions to this Resolution. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United States. I have no more requests for the floor. So the contribution is put forward, with the amendments as proposed by the United States. The Resolution is hereby adopted with amendments.

We now move on to 7.5, Revision of Resolution 139. We have three contributions on this Resolution. So I'd like to invite a representative of the Americas region to present their proposal, Document 34, Rev 1, Addendum 1/38.

Mexico, you have the floor.

>> MEXICO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On behalf of Member States of CITEL, we propose the following modifications to Resolution 139. Has the following goals, to intensify efforts to promote and facilitate cooperation between the Member States of the Union, for those issues which seek to improve investment in including satellite systems and also to develop broadband in order to reduce the digital divide, and build capacity for the efficient use of these scarce resources.

We invite Member States to promote public and private investment in these systems, and to include relevant proposals for the WSIS High Level recommendations, and the development which is set forth in Resolution 139. And this appears both in the "recognizing" and "considering." And in "resolves 4, we note the need for ITU with relevant organizations pursue its task of preparing adequate ICT reference indicators in order to better measure the digital divide and collect statistical data in order to measure the impact of ICTs, and facilitate a comparative analysis. A new "instructs 5" to the Secretary‑General and to the Director of the Radiocommunications Bureau. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mexico. As this is the only proposal ‑‑ sorry, not, terribly sorry, I jumped ahead of myself. I'd like now to invite the African Region to present Document 69, Addendum 1/8. Egypt, you have the floor.

>> EGYPT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On behalf of the African Group, Egypt will present our proposal for the modification of Resolution 139, in order to reflect and update this PP Resolution, with the outputs of both WTSA‑12 and WTDC14. In addition to the strategic plan for the Union which focuses on bridging the digital divide. Within this framework we refer to Resolution 44 reviewed in WTSA on bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries and Resolution 37 and 50 on WTDC14 on digital divide related issue.

Recognizing that many countries especially the developing countries still don't have the basic know how, plans and infrastructure to promote digital opportunity and to face particular problems in bridging the digital divide, appreciating and believing in the role played by the ITU in bridging the digital divide for the developing countries, I would proposal mainly focuses on presenting the Member States with a database for required expert and to fund the necessary action for bridging the digital divide. More over we invite Member States to continue to undertake action to achieve the objectives of Resolution 37 of WTDC14 in order to bridge the digital divide and meet the telecommunication needs especially in developing countries. This is a brief on our proposal for the modification of Resolution 139 for the meeting's consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Egypt. I would like to now call upon the Arab Region to present Document 79, Addendum 3/3. Egypt, you have the floor.

>> EGYPT: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. On behalf of the Arab Group we have the honor to present the Arab proposal with regards to Resolution 139 to bridge the digital divide, and we would like to look into the WTDC‑2012 especially with regards to the Dubai Plan of Action in 2014. And in conformity with the proposals made by the other Regional Groups, the Arab Group would like to emphasize the importance to refer to the second objective goal of the ITU, because this is closely linked with closing or reducing the digital divide and, as we believe, in the role undertaken by the ITU. In this context, the Arab Region proposes cooperation with regional organizations that are looking into reducing the digital divide. In addition to the ITU's continued support to the Member States and Sector Members and also financing the necessary measures in order to reduce the digital gap. This is a summary of the Arab Group with regards to Resolution Number 139. Thank you for your kind attention.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Egypt. We have now presented all contributions on Resolution 139. I open the floor for comments.

I have no requests for the floor. I ask again, are there any Member States wishing to comment on any of the contributions? As I see none, I would like to ask Egypt to coordinate a consolidation exercise to ensure that all three contributions are merged into a consolidated Document and report back to this Plenary. Egypt, you have the floor.

>> EGYPT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We accept with pleasure, thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Egypt. We now move to 7.6, a Draft New Resolution from the Inter‑American region, connectivity to mobile broadband networks.

I would like to ask a representative of the Americas to present Document 34, Revision 1, Addendum 1/42. Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, this is a new draft Resolution, an Inter‑American proposal on connectivity to mobile broadband networks.

Mr. Chairman, when we go through the text of the draft Resolution and we see in the emphasizing that the number of mobile broadband subscriptions is projected to reach 2.3 billion globally by the end of 2014 according to the estimates and the data collected by the ITU, and that of that number, 55% are expected to be in the developing world, parallel to this, Mr. Chairman, as reflected in the "considering" section, we see that there are several activities and programmes being undertaken along the issue of broadband connectivity, ranging from the work done by the UN Broadband Commission for Digital Development, Opinion 2 of the WTPF, the mere title and theme of the latest WTDC Broadband for Sustainable Development, new Resolutions at WTDC‑14 on "Broadband technology and applications for greater growth and development of telecommunications and ICT services and broadband connectivity, as well as WTDC‑9, Resolution Number 9.

Mr. Chairman, it is in the view of the American region, the IAP, that reliable and affordable access to broadband networks is directly and indirectly related, enabled and supported by many diverse technologies, including fixed and mobile terrestrial technologies and fixed and mobile satellite technologies, and in the same token, the spectrum is an essential requirement both for the direct provision of mobile broadband connectivity to uses by satellite or terrestrial means or for the underlying enabling technologies.

That said, Mr. Chairman, we believe that it is very important that National strategies be developed to facilitate the deployment of broadband networks, and that it is important to seek partnerships and cooperation with Sector Members involved in the provision of services and applications to people, families, businesses, and societal functions to address the need for further improved mobile telecommunication facilities and networks, and to share relevant information, experience and expertise with the Telecommunication Development Bureau.

In this context, Mr. Chairman, we invite Member States to recognize in particular that enabling connectivity to satellite or terrestrial mobile broadband networks is an important component of improving access to broadband services and applications.

Mr. Chairman, the development of National policies pointed at mobile broadband networks is a very important component to ensure the closing of the digital divide in the developing world. Consequently, Mr. Chairman, we invite the floor to join us in approving this new draft Resolution. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Canada. This is the only proposal we have on this matter, so I open the floor for comments. Japan, you have the floor.

>> JAPAN: Japan recognizes the importance of the connectivity to mobile broadband networks, especially the rural areas and using satellite or the terrestrial networks, so from the point of view, we support the proposal from the IAP. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Japan. I have no further requests for the floor. I ask again, are there any wishing to take the floor? I move that we accept the ‑‑ we approve the proposal as is.

China, you have the floor.

>> CHINA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We appreciate IAP for the submission of this new Resolution. However, in the "resolves," if it only relates to the Standardization Sector and the Communications Sector without mentioning the BDT, is only the requirement for one side. Therefore, we think that we should also add BDT in this Section. Therefore, we should make joint effort to promote the broadband connectivity. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: China, as I understand your proposal, you are referring to the resolve Section, to resolve not only the Directors of the BR and TSB to work with the BDT, but also vice versa. Is this understanding correct? China, you have the floor.

>> CHINA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we should also invite the Director of the BDT.

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

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chairman. We support the proposal of China, and also believe it's necessary to arrange cooperation between all the sectors, and intensify this cooperation, and of course, we must reflect the role of the Development Sector. This Sector can provide significant assistance to developing countries in resolving their objectives in using telecommunications and ICTs to bridge the digital divide. Thank you.

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

>> CANADA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to thank those administrations that have taken the floor. Mr. Chairman, we fully concur with the concept that the three Bureaux have to work closely in regards to the implementation of capacity building activities, and we would have in principle no issue with modifying the text of the "resolve" to state that it instructs the Directors of the Bureaux to work closely on capacity building activities, et cetera, et cetera. But in principle, Mr. Chairman, it is the BDT that undertakes capacity building initiatives, and that is why the resolves to instruct the Directors of the other two Bureaux is to work with the BDT.

So in essence, the text as it is encompasses the need for the three Bureaux to work together on capacity building initiatives. The latter, which is the BDT, is the Bureau that has the role and responsibility of doing capacity‑building initiatives.

But again, Mr. Chairman, in order to move this Resolution forward, we would see no problem in modifying the "resolve" to say, "resolves to instruct the Directors of the Bureaux to work closely," delete "with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau," and have the rest of the text starting on capacity building activities remain in the draft Resolution. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Canada, for your proposal. India, you have the floor.

>> INDIA: Thank you, Chairman. As far as the proposal is concerned, we appreciate the proposal and thanks, Canada, for this, but here we have a small issue where the "invites Member States" to recognize in particular that enabling connectivity to satellite or terrestrial mobile broadband.

On the satellite connectivity, there are certain security issues. I think those should be reflected into this "invites Member States" appropriately. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: India, could you propose some text for us? India, you have the floor.

>> INDIA: To recognize in particular that enabling connectivity to terrestrial mobile or satellite taking into account security concerns, concern, for broadband network is an important component of improving access to broadband. Yeah, so something like that. Or we can write it, it will take some time to formulate it and we can give a formulation in that.

We will be able to give a formulation on this issue. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, India. I have two changes to the text which I would like to put forth for your consideration. The first is as stated by Canada, is in the "resolves" section, which now reads, "resolves to instruct the Directors of the Bureaux, 1, to work closely on capacity building activities, and then it continues as normal."

This is the first change. The second change is under "invites Member States," point number 2, "to recognize in particular that enabling connectivity to satellite or terrestrial mobile broadband networks, taking into account security concerns, is an important component of improving access to broadband services and applications."

Is there any objection to these amendments to the text? Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and we thank India for their comments. Mr. Chairman, the whole purpose of this draft Resolution, draft Resolution, is to address capacity building issues. The whole idea is to ensure we can have the three Bureaux working closely together in the development and helping Member States in the development of National policies to enable connectivity to satellite or terrestrial mobile broadband networks.

We believe that adding language on security‑related matters is not pertinent to this Resolution, and consequently, Canada would not be in a position to accept the insertion of the term "security" in the current draft Resolution. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for your comments, Canada. I have three more requests for the floor. I have three requests for the floor: India, Russian Federation, and Switzerland ‑‑ sorry, I deeply apologize ‑‑ Sweden. And I also have now Zimbabwe. Before we proceed, it appears to me that we have consensus on the first text change, which is under the resolves.

With regards to the "invites Member States" proposed change, I would like to note that security concerns are addressed in 130, so I would ask if we can accept the text without the amendment.

I put forward this for your comment. India, you have the floor.

>> INDIA: We appreciate the security as it mentions. I think when we're using "security," we're becoming hyperassociated on the issue of security. Security here is about the communication, and the 130 Resolution it deals with the overarching issue of the cybersecurity. It does not deal with the information security aspects and the satellite communications, because there is a particular type of communications which can be provided globally. Unless the issue of the security is taken care of in the issue in this context, I think we will not be able to accept this proposal, because as such, the countries themselves are aware of the broadband penetrations, and they will do whatever is required to be done even without this Resolution.

But if we have to put in this Resolution, we will like that this security aspect is taken care of so that it doesn't become sort of informally binding on the nations that they have to provide this connectivity even when the security concerns have not been taken care of. Thank you.

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

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chairman. In principle, while we support the proposal in this Document, we nevertheless would like to point out that the text requires some editorial improvement. The last part, where it says, "invites Member States," we don't really understand why 2 refers to "recognize in particular that enabling connectivity." I understand it's not really recognizing enabling connectivity. Everyone understands that. It's really what we're talking about is the importance of further development of connectivity, et cetera, and there are another one or two places where editorial improvements are needed. We would be prepared to participate in an informal group. We're not proposing an Ad Hoc Group. We could just work informally with a few countries just to make some editorial improvements which could then be sent for consideration by your group. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Russian Federation. I have two more speakers on the list. I will be closing the list so I'm issuing a final call for comments.

I have no more requests for the floor. I have one more. I have Sweden, Zimbabwe, and Uruguay. The list is now closed. Sweden, you have the floor.

>> SWEDEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to associate ourselves with the comments from Canada. We're a bit concerned. I think there are language in some of the proposed revisions to other Resolutions that bring in security concerns without the obvious reason for doing so, and this to us makes the drafting much more difficult. It brings in sensitive issues, and as you very pertinently said, Mr. Chairman, we do have Resolution 130, we're going to spend the evening on that and I guess that will be quite enough for a lot of us.

So we feel that adding security to this Resolution as proposed by India would basically create more problem than it would solve.

Finally, we're also a bit concerned singling out satellite and broadband ‑‑ sorry, satellite and mobile broadband access solutions for special security concerns would be a bit ‑‑ we can't see really the reasons for that, because there are security concerns in every network. So singling out, that isn't really something that we think is a good idea here. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Sweden. Zimbabwe, you have the floor.

>> ZIMBABWE: Thank you, Chairman. We thank Canada for coming up with this contribution. However, Mr. Chairman, we share the same concerns as India, that some of the solutions that are emphasized in this contribution would cause problems to the sovereign nations that are meant to benefit from the broadband.

We also feel that ITU should remain technology‑neutral, and to the extent possible at this level, we should remain service‑neutral. So, Mr. Chairman, we see no point, really, in the emphasis on mobile broadband. Rather, the Resolution should focus on broadband.

There are a number of solutions, there are a number of technologies, that are available that can help developing countries in the form of fixed broadband services, mobile broadband services, as well as satellite. We see no reason why we should forecast only on mobile broadband services.

With that, we thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Zimbabwe. Uruguay, you have the floor.

>> URUGUAY: Thank you, Chairman. Uruguay would like to ask Canada whether under "resolves 2," where it says, "resolves to instruct the Directors of the Radiocommunication Standardization Bureau to work closely," we're not really quite clear how we're going to instruct the Directors to seek partnerships with Sector Members. And as a number of earlier speakers have said, "invites Member States" does seem to stress mobile networks and does not refer to other types of broadband networks. In the case of Uruguay, public investment in the area have been based on optical fiber on broadband.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Uruguay. Well, it seems to me that we're going to need a bit of consolidation, so I would therefore ask Canada to take all comments on Board, and to meet and consult with all those who have raised their comments, and provide us with a consolidated text.

Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will be pleased to do so, and that would include having a meeting of the Inter‑American Telecommunication Commission, because I believe that following the intervention of Uruguay, it is important among ourselves to clarify which is our collective position in regards to this IAP, but again, Mr. Chairman, we'd be more than pleased to work with you and move forward with this Resolution.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Canada. We move to 7.7, the Draft New Resolution on implementation of SMART Africa Manifesto. I would like to invite the African Region to present Document 69, Addendum 2/1. South Sudan, you have the floor.

>> SOUTH SUDAN: Thank you very much, Chair. With reference to the Document FCP/69A2/1, Draft New Resolution, AFCP‑4, implementation of SMART Africa Manifesto, the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union Busan 2014, "considering a, that at its 2nd Ordinary Session, it was decided that the African Union General Assembly, quote, Endorses the key outcomes of the transform Africa Summit hosted by His Excellency Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda in October 2013, which adopted the SMART Africa Manifesto, highlighting the need to place ICT at the center of national socioeconomic development agenda, and SMART Africa Alliance as implementation framework, end quote.

"B, Resolution 30, Reference Guadalajara 2010, of the Plenipotentiary Conference on special measures for the least developed countries, LDCs, Small Island Developing States, SIDs, LLDCs, and countries with economies in transition.

"C, the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome.

"The outcome of the Geneva 2003 and the Tunis phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, WSIS.

"Recalling, a, the Connect Africa Summit goals adopted by African Heads of State present on 29‑30 October 2007, which reflect the challenges and opportunities in the Africa region.

"B, the creation of the multistakeholder SMART Africa alliance and a governance Board consisting of Presidents of Rwanda, Chair, Senegal, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Gabon, South Sudan and Mali, African Union and ITU to oversee the implementation of the manifesto.

"C, the implementation of such quick‑wins as the SMART Africa scholarship fund to address the gap in ICT expertise through African Centers of Excellence.

"Resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau to provide technical expertise to carry out feasibility studies, projects management and support for the implementation of the SMART Africa Manifesto.

"Instructs the Secretary‑General, 1, to engage the different UN agencies to support various components of the SMART Africa programmes, in areas within their scope and mandate.

"2, to implement measures aimed at mobilizing financial and in‑kind support, from Governments, industry and other partners.

"Invites Member States to cooperate with African countries in promoting regional, sub‑regional, multilateral and bilateral projects and programmes for the implementation of the SMART Africa Manifesto."

Mr. Chair, here is the New Draft Resolution. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, South Sudan. I now open the floor for comments. Rwanda, you have the floor.

>> RWANDA: Hello? Chairman, we support the Resolution. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Rwanda. Zimbabwe, you have the floor.

>> ZIMBABWE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's just clarification. On number 2, after "instructs the Secretary‑General," it says, "financial and in‑kind support, from Governments, industry and other partners."

Now, that "industry," are we being specific as to what industry? Or is it encompassing? What is the industry referring to? Couldn't we widen it and include perhaps the private sector since the first one is Governments? If we say Governments, then perhaps in the private sector it would be more inclusive. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Zimbabwe. I have a proposal to amend "instructs the Secretary‑General number 2," to read as follows, "to implement measures aimed at mobilizing financial and in‑kind support, from Governments, private sector, and other partners."

Gabon, you have the floor.

>> GABON: We also support this Draft New Resolution with the amendment concerning the private sector. Thank you.

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

>> UGANDA: Hello? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Chairman, Uganda indeed supports this Draft Resolution, and we thank South Sudan for presenting it and Rwanda for spearheading this initiative, and indeed we support the proposed amendment of "private sector" instead of "industry." Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Uganda.

I have no more requests for the floor. Burundi, you have the floor.

>> BURUNDI: Thank you, Chairman. Burundi also would like to associate itself with colleagues in supporting this Draft New Resolution, and, of course, we also support the proposed amendment with reference to the private sector. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Burundi. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We applaud the initiative of 7 African nations to collaborate on common approaches to place ICTs at the center of Africa's development agenda. The SMART Africa Manifesto is a constructive way to share and leverage each country's talents and expertise to advance progress in this important area.

This collaborative approach also creates the potential for streamlined market access requirements that could reduce costs and increase initiatives for private sector stakeholder engagement. We applaud this initiative, and look forward to hearing reports regarding progress. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United States. I would like to now move to approve this important Resolution. I see no objection.

The Resolution is approved.

[ Applause ]

And if you allow me, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Minister of South Sudan for presenting this paper, and to congratulate all countries involved for this very important initiative, and wish them the best of luck.

With that, we come to the end of our agenda. We have just a few more points under "any other business."

I would like to give the floor to the Bahamas to provide us with an update on Resolution 136. Bahamas, you have the floor.

>> BAHAMAS: Thank you, Chairman. As indicated this morning, the Ad Hoc Group created to consider the three proposals that were presented for Revision to Resolution 136, namely, Inter‑American proposal 34, Rev 1, Addendum 1/30, ACP proposal 67, Document 67, Addendum 1/12, and India's proposal Document 85/1 has now completed its deliberations, and has had the Secretariat has created, thank you for the assistance of the Secretariat, DT number 19, which presents a consolidated version of those revisions that were accepted and agreed by consensus in the Ad Hoc Group meeting.

I wish to present that for consideration of the Working Group at this stage. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Bahamas. We present DT/19 for your consideration and approval on the amendments to Resolution 136. Guyana, you have the floor.

>> GUYANA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. First of all we wish to congratulate all the contributors to formulating this very good Resolution. However, we'd like to propose just one little addition. Under, "encourages Member States, we wish to propose, "to harmonize the use of specific frequencies and technologies for emergency communications, especially within their respective regions." Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Guyana. We put forward DT/19 on 136 with the proposed amendment from Guyana for your consideration. Are there any requests for the floor? Russian Federation, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chairman. I apologize, could you not perhaps explain again where the change is proposed to be included?

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Russian Federation. Guyana, could you please read out the statement again and specify exactly where in the Document it will be added. Guyana, you have the floor.

>> GUYANA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Okay, under the subhead, encourages Member States, this is under the last Section of the proposal. And the text we're proposing is, "to harmonize the use of specific frequencies and technologies for emergency communications, especially within their respective regions."

This text is being proposed to be included under "encourages Member States." Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Guyana. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We would prefer to adopt the text in DT/19 without any amendments. In adding text about harmonizing the use of specific frequencies and technologies, we're getting into areas that are more properly addressed by a World Radio Conference, so we would prefer not to add this text. Thank you, Chairman.

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

>> CANADA: Thank you, Chairman, and we of course, want to thank Guyana for its intervention, but again, we would like to associate ourselves with the observations made by the United States. We believe that the current DT/19 is comprehensive enough, and including new language on spectrum and technologies doesn't really belong there.

So we strongly support the DT in its original version. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Canada. Guyana, could you accept DT/19 as is? Guyana, you have the floor.

>> GUYANA: Okay, we take the comments from the U.S. and the Canadian Delegations, and the reasoning behind this proposal, if it can be accommodated somewhere else, we'll be happy to leave the text as is, but if we can recall, there have been some general spectrum allocations for emergency communications, and I can use the example of Region 2, but those are very general allocations, and in cases where there are emergency communications or emergencies, and countries are being assisted by other countries, sometimes there can be an issue of equipment incompatibility and frequency, you know, different frequencies being used and so on so we thought that this would have been something that would help coordinate that.

However, if this issue can be resolved somewhere else, then we'll be happy to leave the text as is. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your understanding, Guyana. Mexico, you have the floor.

>> MEXICO: Thank you, Chairman. Like previous speakers, I would like to thank all of those who took part in the discussion of these modifications to the Resolution, particularly the Bahamas who has done an excellent job. We do need some clarification in paragraph C under "considering," there is some language in brackets. I'd like to know whether it's proposed to eliminate that language, or to eliminate the brackets. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mexico. Could you let me know exactly where you're referring to the brackets? These are square brackets you're referring to? Mexico, you have the floor.

>> MEXICO: Yes, of course, it's in the "considering" section, in the little g, "the satellite services among other Radiocommunications services, may" "may" are in between brackets is the part where we want to have clarification for that. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mexico. I see them now. Bahamas, could you please clarify the square brackets here? Bahamas, you have the floor.

>> BAHAMAS: Thank you, Chairman, and thank you to Mexico for pointing out what is an error in the documents as they were going back and forth for discussion among the many contributors to this process.

So the fix would be to remove the brackets, which are around the word "may" in the text, so, Chair, if we could have the proposed language put to the group, without the brackets, the square brackets, that appear in the small g, and I just want to thank Mexico again for that intervention.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Bahamas, and thank you, Mexico, for bringing it to our attention. Jamaica, you have the floor.

>> JAMAICA: Thank you, Chair. Under "encourages Member States" number 6, it reads, to take appropriate measures so that all operators inform. We would like to propose insertion of the words "to ensure that," so it would read, "to take appropriate measures to ensure that all operators inform local," because as it is now, it leaves it kind of hanging as to what the measures should do.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Jamaica. I will recap the discussion on this Document.

The current proposal is to approve DT/19 with two amendments. Under little g, we will remove the square brackets around the word "may," and under the "invites Member States" Section, point number 6, the text will now read, "to take appropriate measures to ensure that all operators inform local and roaming users in a timely manner and at in cost, numbers in use to contact emergency services."

This is the proposal for approval. Do I have any objection? I see none. Document is approved.

[ Applause ]

I'd like to thank Bahamas for leading this exercise, and thank everyone who took part in the work. I would also ask that the comments of Guyana be noted, and reflected where appropriate in other matters.

I would like to ask the interpreters if we could have 10 more minutes.

>> Interpreter: You can have 10 more minutes, Sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. I would like to now ask the Dominican Republic to give us an update on Resolution 70. Dominican Republic, you have the floor.

>> DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Thank you, Chairman. We would be submitting for consideration of the room DT13 which was the result of the consolidation undertaken within the group of countries representing Africa, Europe, and of the Arab Group. We have undertaken a number of informal consultations and the Document we have come up with is DT/13, but we would like to hear from Guyana, whose Delegation I believe has some comments. If that were acceptable, then we would submit the Document so that we could perhaps approve the Resolution tomorrow.

And, of course, I am available to respond to any questions you might have.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Dominican Republic. I would like to note that Resolution 70 includes a square bracket reference to the Revision of Resolution 48. That needs to be approved by Com 6. Working Group of Plenary is invited to approve the Document as included in DT/13, pending the approval of Resolution 48 by Com 6, at which point the Editorial Committee will remove the square brackets.

This Document is submitted for your consideration and approval. Do I have any comments? Guyana, you have the floor.

>> GUYANA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wish to clarify, if I make my suggested addition to the text now or whether it should be done tomorrow.

>> CHAIRMAN: Guyana, as the Document is under consideration for approval, please make your proposal now.

>> GUYANA: Okay. The proposal is to add, under invites Member States and Sector Members. The text and I read, to report to the ITU any lessons learned from girls in ICT day activities. Thank you.

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

>> CANADA: Yes, thank you, Chairman. Very briefly, first and foremost, we would like to congratulate the Dominican Republic on the GEM award they received earlier today.

Secondly, Mr. Chairman, a point for clarification, when you refer to Resolution 48, could you please clarify if this refers to a Document that needs to be presented at Com 6, which may be Document 32 from Canada, on a modification to Resolution 48, and that is the reason why the reference to such Resolution remains in brackets? Or is there any other explanation to this? Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Canada. Yes, the square brackets do refer to that Document, and the only reason it is in square brackets is that it is pending the revisions until Com 6 approves them. As I understand it, and please, Dominican Republic, correct me if I'm wrong me if I am wrong, the square brackets do not indicate any disagreement on the text. It is just pending the approval of 48 by Com 6. Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just we had a new proposal to add to "invites Member States and Sector Members" to the post of ITU. Member States and Sector Members of ITU, so who report to whom?

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Iran. At present, I have no more requests for the floor. I have the Document DT/13, with one proposed addition, which is, as I understood it, to be under "invites Member States," to report to the ITU any lessons learned in ICT activity days.

Do I have any comments on this proposal? I have no requests for the floor. Can we approve DT/13, with the additional text? Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I was not properly express myself, when we say invites Member States and Sector Members to report to ITU, perhaps we need not refer to the ITU, invite Member States, Member States and Sector Members to report on something, but we don't need ITU. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: The proposed text I have now is, to report lessons learned in ICT activity days. Guyana, you have the floor.

>> GUYANA: Just to clarify, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the comment from the Delegate from Iran. The ITU usually requests updates or reports from countries that organize Girls in ICT Day activities, so as it stands right now, Member States are required to report their activities to the ITU. So we were just following that course of action when we said, "to report to the ITU the lessons learned," which is an additional bit of information that could be utilized by everyone who are actually following the updates to the Girls in ICT Day portal, so that they can also benefit from the lessons learned by each Member State and Sector Member that would report this bit of information. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Guyana, for that clarification. I would like to propose that the text read, "invites Member States and Sector Members to inform the ITU of any lessons ‑‑ of any lessons learned in ICT activity days. Dominican Republic, you have the floor.

>> DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I simply wanted to confirm that the language in brackets referring to Resolution 48 is definitely not objected to by anybody. We are indeed only awaiting the approval of the Document by Com 6. There's no problem with it at all.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Dominican Republic. I put forward for your approval DT/13, with the additional text, "invites Member States and Sector Members to inform the ITU of any lessons learned from Girls in ICT days activities."

Guyana, you have the floor.

>> GUYANA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The suggestion could be if not ITU, maybe the ITU Secretariat, if that makes it better. If not, well, we leave it as it is. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: As I have a request from Iran. Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. Perhaps maybe, to report to the relevant organ of the Union, whatever organ would be ITU‑D, ITU‑T, ITU‑R, so on and so forth. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Iran. As ITU is the broadest term here, I would propose that we keep "ITU" as is, to avoid complicating the text.

If this will be acceptable, we could proceed. Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't want to delay this discussion, but we would associate ourselves with the observations made by our colleague from Iran. Bearing in mind that the core of the activities associated with gender, equity, and mainstreaming are within the BDT, we would suggest invites Member States and Sector Members to report lessons learned to the BDT. That would basically clarify the issue, because leaving the ITU at large, the ITU is all of us, none of us, or every one of us. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Canada. Since this may need a little bit more discussion, I would ask the Dominican Republic to take DT/13 and address this particular piece of text. Guyana, you have the floor.

>> GUYANA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Based on the comments from the various Delegations, we do not have a problem if we delete "ITU" from the text already proposed.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your comment, Guyana. However, to ensure that all comments are taken on board, I would like to continue to request the Dominican Republic to consult with those who have made comments, and come back with a final text by tomorrow. With that, we conclude all proposals. I will now hand over to the Secretariat to give us a summary of the ad hocs and consolidation activities created today as well as the meeting schedule for some ad hocs, Secretariat has the floor.

>> SECRETARY OF WGPL: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, and just one minute, apologies.

So just an update on the ad hocs and created today and when they will be suggested to meet.

We just want to inform all the Delegates and we would like to remind all the Delegates to follow all the announcements on the screen in the PP‑14 app where you can find the latest information.

So in terms of Ad Hoc Groups, today the meeting has created Ad Hoc Group on Resolution 176. It will meet tomorrow from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Room G. And it will be also expected to report on Thursday to the Plenary session.

Ad Hoc Group on WSIS related Resolution will meet on Thursday, 30th October, at 5:30 p.m. Ad Hoc Group for new Resolution on harnessing the benefits of convergence through the utilization of ICT Applications will meet on Thursday 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in room G. Ad Hoc Group on Resolution 64 will meet on Thursday, 5:30 p.m., room B.

And we already have just noting the Ad Hoc Group on it's, successfully concluding its work today and its DT produced by this Ad Hoc Group is being translated and will be published for the discussion tomorrow.

Also just to remind the Chairman's decisions, so the meeting requested on 5 topics, some additional reports, so on Resolution 182, and taking into account Resolution 35, the meeting requested Egypt to consolidate the proposals and come back to the meeting with a consolidated version.

On Resolution 137, together with Draft New Resolution on software‑defined networks, the meeting requested Belarus to consolidate all the proposals and come back with one or two texts of Resolutions. On Resolution 139, the meeting requested Egypt to consolidate their proposals.

On new Resolution on mobile broadband, the meeting requested Canada to reflect the comments provided, and to come back again with a new text.

And just now, on Resolution 70, the meeting also requested Dominican Republic to come back with the adjusted version.

Today we also were very productive in terms of adopting Resolutions. So it's the first meeting where Working Group of Plenary adopted Resolutions.

So it is revised Resolution 183 with some adjustments from the meeting. Revised Resolution 30, as presented. Revised Resolution 135, with adjustments from the meeting.

Revised Resolution ‑‑ sorry for that, new Resolution on implementation of SMART Africa Manifesto with some adjustments from the meeting. And revised Resolution 136, as developed by Ad Hoc Group, with some adjustments from the meeting.

So these all documents will be now sent to the Editorial Committee for further processing and for sending them for the Plenary Meeting.

We would also like to remind distinguished Delegates that tonight at 6:30 p.m., in Room B, there will be Ad Hoc Group on Resolution 130, and that tomorrow night, at 5:30 p.m. in Room B will be Ad Hoc Group on internet related Resolutions. The final reminder is that ‑‑ the final reminder on GEM Tech dinner tonight is I would like to remind all the Delegates, invite all the Delegates, that the GEM‑Tech gala dinner tonight will be held in the APEC House at 7:00 p.m. and shuttle buses will leave BEXCO at 6:30 for the APEC House and will drop participants back at their house around 9:15 p.m. The buses will have signs they're for the GEM‑Tech gala dinner.

And also another reminder that tomorrow morning there will be a side event on ICTs and the UN Sustainable Agenda from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. in Room G, and that also on Wednesday, so also tomorrow, the Connect 2020 roundtable series will kick off with the first session on growth from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Room D. We have a busy agenda what with the official agenda and with the side events. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Secretariat. With regards to the consolidation leads, I would just like to ask that Egypt on 182, Belarus on 137, and Canada on the new Resolution report back to the Plenary on Thursday, and I would like to ask that Egypt on 139 and the Dominican Republic on 70 report back tomorrow.

I have two requests for the floor. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Chairman, and I want to compliment you and all Delegates for the progress that we've made today. It's been very significant.

I have a request, and that is that we not hold the Ad Hoc Groups on Internet related Resolutions, WSIS Resolutions 130, or Resolution 146 at the same time, because the experts on these issues are largely the same.

And I would add to that request that we not hold Resolution 130 and Resolution 174 ad hocs at the same time, either, for the same reasons.

My understanding of the schedule right now is that that's the case. None of these are held at the same time. And so I very much appreciate that, and hope we can continue in that vein. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, United States. Korea, you have the floor.

>> KOREA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman this afternoon we form an Ad Hoc Group related to harnessing the benefit of convergence through the utilization of ICT Applications. Even though this meeting agreed to form an Ad Hoc Group, there is no specific comment on this Document, so if there are people who have comments, please give us in advance. Then we can prepare consolidated Document so if we have comments already, then we may have a number of Ad Hoc Group meetings smaller, so we really appreciate advance comments before the Thursday meeting. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Korea. I will take a final comment from the floor, as we really need to close because of interpretation. We've kept them far beyond what we agreed with them. Côte d'Ivoire, you have the floor.

>> CÔTE D'IVOIRE: Thank you, Chairman. We are asking for the floor in order to have some further information as to the work programme, particularly regarding Resolution 179. You've asked for the establishment of an Ad Hoc Group with Vietnam. We may have missed it but could you tell us when that group is going to be meeting?

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Côte d'Ivoire. 179 is not an ad hoc. 179 is the child online protection Resolution which is the consolidation effort is being led by the U.K. We expect an update from them in tomorrow's meeting.

With that, thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you to the interpreters who have indulged us as we went beyond our time, and please enjoy your evening as much as possible with the ad hocs running.

Best of luck with the work, and we will see you tomorrow. Thank you.

[ End of meeting ]

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