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BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

PLENARY ROOM

EIGHTH MEETING OF COMMITTEE 5

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>> CHAIR: Hello, colleagues. Good afternoon. We will be starting in a few minutes. Please be seated. Thank you.

>> Recording in progress.

>> CHAIR: Good afternoon, everyone. We are about to start Com 5. Please be seated.

Good afternoon, everyone. If you wish to take -- if you wish to participate in Com 5, please be seated now. We will start.

Welcome, everyone, to the Seventh Meeting of the Committee 5. Continuing to -- from what we have discussed this morning, we will have our meeting now.

While this morning we finished positive notes, so I expect the same positive sentiments for this afternoon as well.

So, we need to adopt our agenda. It's ADM/39. Do I have any comments on this agenda?

I see no request for the floor. Agenda is approved.

So, now I will talk through document on space policy issue. Mr. Colleagues from the UAE, he's the chair of the group. We have three DTs: DT 62, DT 65 and DT 69. I will asking to brief us on DT 62 first.

UAE, you have the floor. Please give the floor to the UAE.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. Group on space issues have met eight times during last week. Last one was on Saturday afternoon. During these meetings we have worked on and adapted three resolutions without any square brackets. That is something as per your instructions, Madam Chair. And I would like to present them now for your kind -- for the Committee 5 kind approval.

First, let me start with the Document DT/62, which is a draft new resolution regarding the sustainability of radio spectrum and associated satellite orbit resources used by space services.

As this issue or as this matter is becoming of much importance for a lot of member states, we got some contributions to this conference to adopt this new resolution. And after considerable amount of discussions, which started with informal discussions first between opponents and proponents of this topic. And finally, it was approved and our ad hoc group without any square brackets.

I also would like to mention, Madam Chair, that we agreed to -- or some delegations requested to include some statement or some text to be included in your reports to the plenary with regards to this resolution. If you allow me, I can dictate this statement.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, UAE. You can proceed now. Thank you.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you very much. The statement is, while considering the new resolution, ensuring transparency and sustainability and advancing confidence building measures and other space activities, the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau is invited to ensure that the proceeds and work methods of the bureau further continue to support the sustainability of outer space. That's it, Madam Chair. And with this, I would present this resolution for your approval. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, UAE. I ask your indulgence. We do not have the document on the screen. So, please, technicians, help us able to project the document on the screen. We will wait for a moment.

In the meanwhile, I commend you for your tremendous work. It has been really hard job. Like you saying, (muffled audio).

>> CHAIR: We were all in the meeting room for the last two weeks and then you provided documents. I really appreciate your work. Thank you very much.

The UAE, could you please repeat in the dictation, please. Now Secretariat is ready to write it down that your statements that you required. Thank you, please give the floor to the UAE.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you, Madam Chair. This is a statement to be included in your report to the Plenary, while considering the new resolution between quotes, the name of the resolution, which is sustainability of radio spectrum and associated satellite orbit resources used by space services. The director of the Radiocommunication Bureau is invited to ensure that the procedures and work methods of the bureau further continue to support the sustainability of outer space.

Further continue after the bureau. That's it. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you again, UAE. So, with this sentence -- statement will be included in my report to the plenary. With that in your mind and then I open the floor for any comments on this DT 682. I seek to request. So, first please give the floor to the U.S. U.S., you may have the floor now.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, we have absolutely no objections to fully support and adopt the resolution. I think it's a very good resolution. However, Madam Chair, we did not associate ourselves with the statement that is projected here. And we have a question for clarification on whether this statement is on behalf of a number of member states or is it a statement of the entire plenary? So, we will seek that clarification. And if it's on behalf of member states, obviously, they could add their names at a later date. So, thank you very much, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, U.S. I will give the floor to the adopter to clarify this. UAE, you have the floor.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you, Madam Chair. Apologies. I thought I made it clear, but apparently not clear enough. Actually, this is a statement which is brought from some member states. And it was sent to me to present it as well while presenting the resolution.

So, I would like to make that clear, so it is not an agreed text that was agreed in my ad hoc group. It's a statement from some member states. And I would invite these member states to include their names as well in this statement. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, UAE. In that case, you can provide me those member states' names and I will include that in my report to the plenary. Thank you.

So, next is Jordan, you have the floor.

>> JORDAN: Thank you very much. I don't think that this clarification made by my colleague from United Arab Emirates is enough. I mean, I don't know what exactly meant by this statement. Is this statement requested that you put it in your report and ask the plenary of the meeting to adopt that and then plenary decision? And I think only member states have the right to submit statement to the plenary meeting. But why it is in the report of your committee to include such a statement and what exactly is requesting from the plenary meeting to consider on this statement? Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Jordan. It's also just some of the member states, they can request to be included in my report to the Plenary. They are not asking to be adopted by the Plenary, but they can express their view on this new resolution. So, it will be simply recorded in my report to the Plenary, nothing else. Thank you.

And Iran, you have the floor.

>> IRAN: Yes, Madam, I agree with you that it would not be submitted to Plenary approval. You report to the Plenary that when discussing this document, in fact, it should not be a statement. Views were expressed by some member states, Chairman. Statements should be formal documents. Views were expressed by some member states, so on so forth, our distinguished director here listen to that and it will be in the summary of your discussion in Committee 5 whether you report id to the Plenary or not, that is up to you. But has nothing to do with the Plenary. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Iran. I will reiterate, it's the sentence will be included in my report. So, that will be satisfactory to everyone.

Egypt, you have the floor.

>> EGYPT: Thank you, Madam Chair. We agree with Iran about this as Chair raised this point, we have discussed this sentence a lot in the drafting the resolution and, one, we agreed to have this as a part of your report, not in the Plenary. So, we agreed with what you just said, Madam Chair. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Egypt.

I will repeat again, if there is any objections, you can -- you may take floor now. Otherwise, we will adopt this E-62 with two sentence to be included in my report to the Plenary.

I see no requests for the floor. So, 5016 your resolution.

Okay. Uruguay, you have the floor.

>> URUGUAY: Thank you, Madam Chair. We completely agree with this document and its accomplish version but we would like to say that the Spanish version needs to be revised. It does not correspond to the terms used in the document of the working group. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Uruguay. There can be dealt at the Committee 4 later when we send this document to the Committee 4. With your indulgence, now there is one more question. Russia, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Madam Chair, thank you. We, too, fully support the text drawn up in the ad hoc group. However, we also have brief comments concerning translation into Russian. And in order not to waste your time, I would like to ask we have permission to send our comments on this and other documents concerning translation directly to the drafting committee. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Russia. Please do so. You can send your comments to the Committee 4.

So, I request any members that if it's not the objection, please withdraw your request. So, now 62, the new resolution on sustainability radio spectrum and associated satellite orbit resources is adopted.

Let's turn to the 1865 now. UAE, you can brief us on this. Thank you.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you, Madam Chair. DT 65 contains a new resolution, which is about the ITU'S role in the implementation of the Space2030 Agenda, space as a driver of sustainable development, as well as its follow-up and review process.

Madam Chair, based on the approval of the United Nations General Assembly of the Space2030 Agenda, it was foreseen that there is a major role for the ITU to play with regards to the implementation or this agenda. Therefore, there were contributions -- there was contribution to our conference with regards to new resolution proposing how -- the how would we clarify the ITU's role in implementing the 2030 Agenda. And after discussing and considering all the viewpoints, this resolution has been agreed in the ad hoc group level without any square brackets.

So, I offer this resolution, Madam Chair, for your approval. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. With that explanation I open the floor for any comments on this DT 65.

U.S., you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, at this stage little things in life make me happy. We need to help the Editorial Committee by deleting the blank space between space and 2030 on the title. And I would love to hear the sound of your gavel.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, U.S. We are about to do that. I will leave that to the Com 4's work to do that all editorial changes. We can leave it to the Com 4.

So, now I see no further request. So, DT 65 New Resolution on Space is adopted.

Let's move to the Resolution 186. We have DT 69.

UAE, you may have the floor now.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. At the beginning of our ad hoc group meetings, it was probably decided that all the proposals with regards to Resolution 186 would be merged to a new resolution for space sustainability. However, during the conduction of our work, it was appeared from some proponents that their contribution with regards to the Resolution 186 was not actually included or we have went to a different direction with regards to the work on the space sustainability resolution.

So, we brought back to the requirement of modification to the Resolution 186, and this modification has been discussed and approved as well without any square brackets. And I offer this resolution to you, Madam Chair, for approval. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, UAE. Now I open the floor for any comments. Nigeria, you have the floor.

>> NIGERIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. And very special way I want to thank my ad hoc committee Chairman for bringing out this resolution. He took a lot of work and effort from the group because this is one of the resolutions that the activities were matched or were agreed, also matched to other resolutions. But when we found out I wasn't taking the ad hoc chair was able to use his good offices to listen to us and the reason we had the proposal and we was able -- they were able to capture it accordingly. And bringing it Saturday, this issue was discussed and is resubmitted to without square bracket. We want to say we appreciate that. And thank you for listening to us. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Nigeria also. If there is no objections, we can adopt this resolution and then we can thank our adopter as much as we want.

Let me try again. Is there any objection to adopt this document? I see no request. Revise 186 is approved.

Before anyone takes the floor, I really want to express my gratitude to you, the Chairman of these other groups. You are also one of them who made my two weeks much easier because I can leave it to you and I knew I left it in good hands. So, I really appreciate all the work you have done.

And then everyone who participated in the discussion and then spirit of compromise, I also thank everyone.

Then UAE, you have the floor.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. With the adoption of this resolution, I think this is all the work that I had was concluded and adopted in your committee. With this, I would like to first express my appreciation to you, Madam Chair, for entrusting me in this work with regards to the space issues. I would like to thank really and appreciate all the delegates who participated in the ad hoc group meetings, especially the delegates who worked in the informal discussions who were really handful in finding compromises and understandings between the different sides of the discussions.

Also, would like to ask my -- thank my dear colleague, who was really helpful as well in finding compromises in all of these resolutions. So, I would like to thank him as well.

I would like to thank Madam Chair and all the staff who are supporting us in this work, especially Mr. Alex Bala, who was with me all the time and who did tremendous work with regards to moving this work further.

Finally, Madam Chair, I would like to thank my delegation who also provided me with this opportunity and support throughout all of this time at the conference. So, thank you very much, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Now I will give the floor to Egypt. Egypt, you have the floor.

>> EGYPT: Thank you, Madam Chair and as we said in the morning session, you are lucky, Madam Chair to have these chairs. Guiding us through this meeting in a very good manner and he helped with us a lot, even though we put a lot of pushing in him and pressure, but he get our comments in the document. Not easy as it looks that you have the three document without square bracket, without good Chair with us and also the BR assessment Alexander belly and also I have a lot of member states for participating in this with all goodwill to have these three resolutions and also as I mentioned by the Chair, the assistance of through the three resolutions is hemming with us a lot. I would like to thank our member states participating in it and, again, you are lucky to have the chairs. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: I know I'm very lucky to have all the ad hoc chairs.

And then, Rwanda, you have the floor.

>> RWANDA: Thank you, Madam Chairwoman. Join our -- to previous speaker. On behalf of the Africa Telecommunication Union, to really appreciate the work done by my colleague. Did a tremendous job. When adopting it, seems simple, but this was really a result of huge discussions and also where colleagues showed spirit of compromise, we managed to get all the three documents without any square bracket. And also, we really appreciate the help of, of course, Mr. (?) who is there to make sure we get the right text when the debate heated up.

And also, of course, the staff of BR Alexander, who is very helpful in all the discussions. And everyone as a whole participated. I think probably one of those few plenipots where we have a big number of persons and maybe we get used to plenipot, and come back in future plenipot. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Rwanda. Now I would like to give the floor to Brazil.

>> BRAZIL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you for the guidance, all the work that you are done chairing Com 5. It was a pleasure and very good to see all the results that we are achieving.

And also, I would like to thank Mr. Khalid, that he did in the other group, did a great job. And I thank as well our Distinguished Colleagues of -- from other delegations that contribute and make it possible. So, thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Brazil.

Russia, you have the floor now.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I don't think that a single Plenipotentiary conference there were so many questions linked to satellite topics. It's true that space is starting to surprise us and inspire us and requires very close attention.

The work done by your Chairman merits very high praise and evaluation because he was very professional and consistent in his work. And together with our administrations and with the wise advice of our friend, Mr. -- our friend and you all remember who I am referring to, of course. We have achieved many good results. Many questions we considered were raised by developing states. Space is part of each person's life now and we are not evenly surprised by the achievements made and the resolutions that have been adopted.

Third, it seems we are so easy to adopt. In fact, required a lot of work and a lot of work still needs to be done. This is a great burden on the R. This means that many satellites are appearing on the R beds and the issue of access to these resources acquires great importance. And I think that at the next Plenipotentiary Conference we will be talking about this from another perspective.

Nonetheless, these resolutions give a strong impetus to the work that will be of great importance for all administrations and for all of us.

Therefore, we must think about how we can increase the BR capacity and develop new software because of the constellations now involve hundreds of thousands of satellites. It's a very difficult, complicated process, considering these filings and the issue raised by these resolutions is extremely important for all of us.

I would like to thank all the participants for having shown resistance and patience and having approved this these very important documents. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Russia. Now I would like to give the floor to the U.S.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Madam Chair, before the next plenipot, we have a WRC next year in Dubai. We have always found Mr. Khalid Al Awadi, a rising star and especially leadership and friendship to all sides. We are confident to the success of WRC 23 next year in Dubai. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Before we move to the next agenda, I want to give a big round of applause, including ad hoc chairs and all the other members who were in this discussion.

And last, not the least, your director, you have the floor now. Thank you.

>> DIRECTOR: Thank you, Madam Chair. I thought you had forgotten me. It was not the case. I would like to join the previous speakers in thanking Khalid for his hard work during these days. We can say there was a portion of the DT, which was to space policy, which is not usual, as highlighted in his remarks. But it probably will become -- we will become accustomed to it in the future.

Obviously, we are transiting through a new era of development in space. That pose a big challenge for the ITU, for the international community at large because there are other UN organizations that also look at this from other perspectives, as you know. And we have to walk a fine line between the mandates of each of those organizations, which is not easy. We have a technical constituency and some of these organizations have a totally different constituency. And it's -- the dialogue is fruitful but is not easy. We don't speak the same language. Although, we have the same objectives. So, I think we would be able to progress in this.

I see having an extended mandate sooner or later. We already have it as it was mentioned, receiving thousands -- filings with thousands of satellites. I mean, this is something that never happened before in history. And having to deal with all those with the same rules that we use before, it is a real change. But we are ready to face it. I know we will have your support when it comes to fulfilling new or renewed requirements in order to be able to deliver.

But we are enthusiastic about this new developments that will bring to humanity, hopefully, more means of communications and more comprehensive way of using the space for the benefit of humanity, for the benefit of the planet. And then I count on all of you to support this work and continue working for it, as it was the case in this Plenipotentiary and thanks again to all involved.

I really join my friend from the U.S.A. in congratulating Khalid, and it's reassuring to see somebody like him as it is the next generation that will be taking over when the old masters and others are retiring. I think it is reassuring to see that we have really a replacement team that will be coming and joining us. Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. So, now I will turn to Agenda Item 4, it's 208 and drafting new resolutions on elections. We have DT 58 on this agenda item. Now I will give the floor to Japan. Ms. Memiko Otsuki, you have the floor now.

>> MEMIKO OTSUKI: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good afternoon to everyone. Madam Chair, this ad hoc group was given the responsibility for draft new resolution on terms of office for elected officials, a draft new decision on election campaign and proposals to modify Resolution 208.

We met five times and considered all three items. I will explain one by one briefly. First, with regard to the draft new resolution on terms of office for elected officials of the union, which was proposed by RCC with Document number 68, addendum 16. It was agreed not to adopt this proposal.

And second, regarding the proposal of new decision on election campaign arrangements and procedures for elected officials, that was proposed by RCC was document number 68 addendum 17. It was also agreed not to adapt the draft new decision.

But instead, however, we reached a consensus to include some text in the Committee 5 Chair's report to the Plenary on the subject of election campaign and procedures. And you can find the specific text here in this document. And I submit this for your approval.

And finally, with regard to the Resolution 208, we received proposals from three regions and we spent four sessions and several informal consultations to discuss this resolution.

Thanks to our members' effort and spirit of compromise, many issues were resolved in the discussion. But, unfortunately, I have to report to you that there are five square brackets left in this draft. One of those brackets is related with reference of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in recalling part. In other four brackets are related to the inclusion of new mechanism using regional organization for the nomination of vice chairs.

So, Madam Chair, as there was a strong request from the proposal that this issue be discussed at the committee level, I respectfully request that this resolution be addressed in this Committee 5 meeting.

Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Japan, for your hard work. I know you worked hard to remove all those square brackets. But that's okay. We can deal with in Com 5. I will deal with the same manner I did during this morning.

Before but before we discuss Resolution 208, so you can see on this screen these will be included in my report, Committee 5 Chair's report to the Plenary. So, there is a sentence, with this citizen RCC agreed to withdraw the drafted new resolution and then draft new decisions.

So, do we have any objections to not have any new draft resolutions on the elections? I see no request. So, Com 5 we are going to not have new draft resolutions on terms of face for elected officials of the union.

And one second. With this text to be included to the Plenary, do we have any objections to not draft a new decision on the campaigning? I see none. So, we agreed on these points. And then these texts will be included in my report to the Plenary.

Let's move to the Resolution 208. Like the adopter explained there are several skill records so we will go one by one. First, recalling A. Togo, you have the floor.

>> TOGO: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I think Togo asked for the floor before you moved to this Resolution 208. Togo wanted to take the floor on the statement that you are going to include in your report to the Plenary. So, on the previous page. On the first page it says that the Council would examine the matter of the conduct election campaigns and procedures and the new procedures and that this will be done during the last session of 2025. We know that the next BP will take place in 2026 and we also know that the WATDC and (?) will take place in 2025.

And pains will take place during the conferences. Togo would like to suggest that recommendations of the Council concerning campaigns, that they should not be adopted at the last session of 2025. That, rather, in that 2024, before the conferences, that would assure us that there would be no campaigns during the consulate principal and the BP before 2026. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, toga. Europe doesn't appear on the screen but before I give to the floor, it disappears. That's what had happened.

Well, before we take note of your -- we took note of your request, but I would like to ask, is there any support on this? Russia, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Madam Chair. We would like to support the proposal of Togo. It is very wise. It's true that if this is not the case, we could miss the campaign during the WTDC. So, yes, we would like to replace 2025 with 2024. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Russia. So, Secretariat, please revise it as of 2024 Council.

If I am right, when we drafted this text, the agreement was that we will complete the discussion of this and we wanted this guideline to be implemented before next Plenipotentiary Conference. So, with that, I assume there will be no objection to this. So, I now open the floor for any comments on these changes. Please take the floor if you have any objections.

UK, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: As I read the statement it refers to elected officials and members of the RRB and that take place at plenipot. But perhaps I'm mistaken. Perhaps we can have some clarification on that point. Because it's going to take some time to resolve this. And it would be better if it is only for elected officials and members of the RRB that we leave it until 2025. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, UK. Like pointed out, it was our next Plenipotentiary Conference that would take place, correction take place.

Now we have contributes 2025 and 2024. So, currently as you can see on the screen, it's 2024 Council. Is there any strong objections to change it to 2024? Jordan, you have the floor.

>> JORDAN: Thank you very much. Indeed, there is no objection. But I think both these are (muffled audio) because sentence start with examination of this matter should be completed by. So, should be is highly recommended. It's not a must. But it should be. So, I think with this, it is therefore the Council to accelerate this and the target date is by the end of 2025, but they can do it before. So, I think the text is there simple enough. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Jordan. You pointed out. So, in my view also saying three -- say that by the end of 2025 Council we still have a time that we can consider the examination done before the Council 2025. So, let me try again.

'Do we have agreements on this to the leave it as the end of 2024 as it is?

Okay. No objections to that. So, we change to the 2024. And then it will be included, my report to the Plenary. Thank you, everyone.

Now let's move to the Resolution 208. We have a records here. There is square brackets. So, I encourage everyone to agree with me. Feel like the sentence inside the squared brackets. Please take the floor if you have only objections to this.

I see no request for the floor. So, this sentence has been removed now. Please reflect it, Secretariat. Thank you. Thank you for your understanding.

Now let's move to the taking into account, C. There is the squared brackets among member states in the regional organizations.

So, may I ask any -- is there any objections to remove those square brackets with the sentence in it? Thank you. It is agreed. Now it's removed. The sentence is removed. Not the square brackets. All the sentence within the square brackets has been removed. Thank you.

Russia, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I take the floor as the person responsible for preparing proposals in our region. We needed additional time to coordinate our position concerning these paragraphs. We are proposing to delete them one by one. So, as not to delay this, not to waste time, especially since Committee 6 Chair said that you're completing. Who will have your square brackets at the Plenary. So, thus, we would like to put your considerable. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Russia. You expect me to complete the com 6 so I can -- now I can ask all the square brackets within the text will be deleted. Is there any objections to that?

I see no request. So, this Resolution 208, all the square brackets has been removed.

And then inside the text square brackets is removed. With that, we will adopt this 208. Is there any comments on this? Togo, you have the floor.

>> TOGO: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. We would like to really understand here, have all the text within square brackets been removed? Is that correct? Can you please clarify?

>> CHAIR: Yes. Since RCC representative expressed they are willing to agree with us to remove all the text inside the square brackets. Now all the texts within the square bracket has been removed. With that, is there any comments on this text revised 208, Resolution 208?

I see no request. So, this revised 208 is approved.

Thank you, everyone. Now we can move to the next agenda item. We have discussed about the new resolution about the industry participation. There was this agreement on the new resolution. So, I gave the documents to discuss in informal discussion until this meeting. So, now I will ask Chima Okorie, Chair, to briefly update us the regional from the consultation.

>> CHIMA OKORIE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good afternoon, Distinguished Delegates. Stemming from the report of the ad hoc presenter this morning, this committee director, the ad hoc to do more work towards removing the two square brackets in the DT/51. Madam Chair, I regret to report that will have not been successful so far.

On the contrary, during the ad hoc we had for the interventions on the text, beyond two square brackets. Some of these interventions appear to have soaps to reopen discussions on the entire text. And I dare say to shift from previously agreed positions. In DT in that regard has been exposed, especially because we need to work with the language interpretation and, of course, we need to be properly guided.

Accordingly, we receive guidance to publish the output from the informal session as DL. And on a final note of optimism, members have expressed commitment to continue work on the text of the new draft resolution, if time and this committee permit. That's our report, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair, of the ad hoc group. Before I give you further guidance, could you please clarify why you published as DL? Is there any new sentence, a compromise sentence? In that case, we can, of course, post as the DLs. Please clarify that. Thank you.

>> CHIMA OKORIE: Thanks, Madam Chair. Yes, there be new texts and draft work.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Chima. I know I put you in difficult position this morning. So, I only ask to discuss about those two squared brackets. But if the group is willing to compromise, I open the discussion for the old text.

But please be in mind that we have -- our last meeting is tomorrow, 4:00 p.m. So, if you provide a text until tonight, we can translate in six languages and then we can post as a DT. So, I will give you another timeline to the 9:00 p.m., you have until today, 9:00 p.m., you can discuss as much as you want. Only 9:00 p.m. And then it's not only up to those two square brackets. So, you can compromise the text.

>> CHIMA OKORIE: Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. And I -- well, I ask all the participants who involved within this discussion, please show us more spirit of compromise, that I want to clean text without square brackets tomorrow. Thank you.

Our next agenda item is ad hoc on discussion of the revised -- revision of the Resolution 146. This is one of the most hard topic issue among the Com 5. I will give the floor to the PNG to update on this.

>> CAROLINE GREENWAY: Thank you, Chair. And I'm very sorry to have to bring you not good news for your last discussion this afternoon. After four meetings of the ad hoc group and several quite intense informal meetings, unfortunately, Chair, I have to report that the group reached no consensus on Resolution 146 at our final meeting on Saturday. I think that participants can see in DL 107 Rev 4 the very stark reminder of how far apart the positions remain.

The conference had initially received four contributions from the Arab states, from R2, CTEL and CEPT. A fifth contribution was then received from the Russian Federation.

The ad hoc initially reviewed a combined document of regional proposals. In an effort to find a way forward, members then discussed texts provided by the chair containing elements of all proposals as a potential compromise. The Arab states R2 and the Russian Federation then submitted a combined proposal which was further considered along with the detailed CEPT and chairs' proposals.

Despite considerable efforts and intents at compromise by all parties, including agreement to focus discussion on the Chair's proposal that had previously been considered, members were not able to reach consensus on a mechanism for continuing discussion about the ITRs. A continuation of the expert group, a Council working, a member state advisory group, also the scope of any discussions where and how it would take place, the role as the Council and particularly about any texts that suggested revisions to the ITRs, as well as any text presuming a specific outcome. This result mirrors the lack of consensus within the expert group ITR on the way forward with respect to the ITRs that was reflected in its final report.

The current DL 107 Rev 4 based on the Chair's proposal has the entire resolve in square brackets. Chair, I present this report and request your guidance on a way forward. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: I appreciate your hard work. We know this would be a complicated issue, but you -- excuse me. And I appreciate all of the hard work done by you.

And as you can see on the text DL 107, we see very diverse view on this Resolution 146. But I am also aware that there will be a discussion initiated by the Chair of this Plenary, this conference, will discuss all the -- are all the regional representatives not only this ITRs, but then other important issues.

But before I give any project guidance, I do like to hear the room on this issue. So, now I open the floor for any comment on this. Jordan, you have the floor.

>> JORDAN: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I would also like to thank the Chair of the ad hoc group for all the work undertaken trying to strike a consensus on this resolution. However, I would also like to recall that the lack of consensus is not the best approach to address this question, because in the current version of resolution, will also bring about divergence on a legal footing. Consequently, the best approach would be to reach consensus, to try to find the best solution, because we have three regional groups who have members who represent the majority of member states who have signed the ITRs and who feel it is important to review these ITRs periodically.

One would not presuppose that the document prepared by the chair of ad hoc group should not be the starting point exchanges of view in plenary. Perhaps that might be the best way forward to move forward on this issue. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Jordan. Sudan, you have the floor.

>> SUDAN: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. Sudan would like to align itself with our Jordanian brothers to discuss this resolution. It is crucial that we try to reach consensus on the ITRs. We have one more opportunity until Tuesday in order to try to achieve this objective. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Sudan.

Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I would like to start by thanking the chair of the ad hoc group, Madam Caroline from Papua New Guinea, for outstanding job during this ad hoc. Madam Chair as she mentioned started her intervention. We tried our best. In the same token, we have tried our best during the last eight years. I have had the privilege and the opportunity of being part of this exercise for the last eight years. And after a thorough and hard work of the expert group, twice we have reached the same conclusion. There is no consensus on the need to continue discussing this issue. Neither there is any empirical evidence or a legal opinion, for that matter, that there is any problem in the development of telecommunications and ICTs, resulting from the existing of two versions of the ITRs.

If I recall correctly, our previous legal advisor clearly articulated that in a previous meeting. So, Madam Chair, I thought it would be, obviously, an intervention by the spokesperson from -- it is Canada's view that the no change is this case a spectacle juncture merely suitable option. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Canada. Egypt, you have the floor.

>> EGYPT: Thank you. Similar to my colleague from Canada I would like to start by thanking Caroline for her outstanding job as well as the Secretariat for all their hard work on this ad hoc group. It was difficult to reach consensus during the ad hoc group, as well as during the informals.

But we managed to find some common ground. If we look at the provisions of the ITRs, Madam Chair, we will agree that the concepts are harmless. In fact, they are beneficial to all member states. The ITRs promote international cooperation and with the global harmonization of related challenges that may affect the provision of international Telecommunication services.

We are tackling issues related to quality of service, consumer protection, transparency of international (?), issues related to emergency telecommunications and accessibility to persons with disabilities.

Many member states try to facilitate global interconnection and interoperability by cooperating to combat counterfeit devices. These are all issues, among others, that are important and that are being discussed in the ITRs.

The main challenge, Madam Chair, in the ITRs is the difference only in direct approach between developed and developing countries. This makes it sometimes difficult to be able to agree on one particular regulatory approach.

This is no different from any other decision-making process here at ITU. And we have always succeeded in reaching consensus. I am confident that we would be able to reach consensus if we had more time.

The 1988 version of the ITRs was the main driver to support privatization. Article 6 of the treaty opened the doors for commercial organizations between international service providers. We believe that future ITRs can also be main drivers for many issues, including issues related to IoT, cloud-based technologies, trust, safety, inclusion.

Since wicked 2012, things have evolved and changes. Recently member states have agreed at the world trait organization, Article 7 in the ITRs refers to spam as unsolicited electronic communications, uses very mild language. And what better place will they have an article on spam than the ITRs, as I have said, it is being negotiated -- it has been negotiated and has been agreed than upon at the WCO.

Similarly, members of the comprehensive and proceed Griff agreement for the trans-Pacific partnership has agreed on article on spam as well as on articles on internal (?). These articles are so detailed that they are covering about a page or even more.

The CPTPP is signed by many member states that have build against continuing the group on ITRs, Madam Chair. We can see most of the content of the ITRs is actually agreeable to member states. In fact, there has not been one single contribution proposed to suppress the treaty. There have been five contributions as the chair of the ad hoc has explained. None of them propose to suppress the treaty. It means it is important to everyone.

Yes, I agree with my colleague from Canada that the legal advisor has clarified that there is no legal conflict between two versions of the ITRs. This does not, however, mean that the treaty is practical. As colleagues have also said, we cannot use it alone. We need our colleagues and we need our other member states to be able to utilize the treaty. A treaty with two versions is practically dead, Madam Chair.

All member states have agreed that the 1988 ITRs are obsolete. And this is why we propose to have wicked 2012. Madam Chair, we agree to work together, interview, we need to have an experts group or a Council Working Group or an N sap but we need to have a group to discuss the way forward on having 12 ITRs. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I still have four requests for the floor. Russia, Czech Republic and U.S., the list is closed because we only have six minutes left. So, please take the floor to be concise and brief. Cote D'Ivoire, you have the floor.

>> COTE D'IVOIRE: Thank you, Madam Chair. On behalf of the African Group, we would like to commend the work of the chair of the ad hoc group, while she tried to break her consensus on Resolution 146. The ITRs are of interest for the African Region. We are of the view that as one of the key instruments of the Union, this treaty should be able to address issues in step with the evolution of the Telecommunication ICT ecosystem.

As has been said, we have examined a number of contributions which were divergent in view, but during the work of this review, those also -- there is also an agreement that the discussions on the ITRs shouldn't end here. Therefore, for the ad hoc group, which was a question of defining the appropriate mechanism so that the discussions could continue.

So, I think it is at this level that we have not yet broken consensus. Yet, if additional time is afforded to the ad hoc group, we might yet reach consensus on the mechanism because it is a question of whether discussions should continue, the cancel level of ITU or the way we should create a specific group to carry on the discussions of the ITRs. We think that with a little bit more effort and understanding of one another, we might be able to eventually reach an agreement on this resolution, which is absolutely fundamental, particularly for the African Region.

While I have the floor, I would also like to take this opportunity to request a clarification, if I may, pertaining to the question of no change. So, no change of Resolution 146. I would like to seek a legal view on if we choose no change of Resolution 146, would this concretely mean that in this resolution, we would have a dates which might not be updated yet. There might be provisions in this resolution which are still valid. In particular those which refer to the review -- periodic review of the ITRs.

So, if we choose no change, what would the legal status be of this resolution? That is what I would like to raise with you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Cote D'Ivoire, we will get back to your question after we listen to the Russia and Czech Republic and U.S. Russia, you have the floor now.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I would like to thank our Chair of our ad hoc group, Caroline. And yesterday she didn't seem so pessimistic to me. I was sure that we have started very close to finding a way forward, because we took the document proposed by the Chair and we did some good work with it. And I left the meeting with a feeling that we were moving forward.

But today I heard, Madam Chair and my colleague from Canada, Santiago, and I understood that I must have missed something.

Well, in this case, I would like to express our opinion, although I was convinced that we had taken a step forward already and all that is left is to agree on certain details.

We all know very well that ITRs are one of the four binding agreements in the ITU together with the constitution convention and the radio regulations. Our obligation as member states is to work on ensuring that ITRs are up to date, operational and that they help with the work on international telecommunications.

So, we cannot simply leave this issue unresolved.

My colleague, Santiago, from Canada said that we do not have a problem and there was a conclusion by the legal advisor. But the legal advisor deals with issues of legal consequences, obligations for the organization itself, rather than for the member states. And if you remember the first meeting of the expert group of the -- on the ITRs, there were several contributions made by several regions that their practical problems involved in using two versions of the ITRs.

Moreover, it was said, and this is included in the chair of the -- first expert ITR that the terminology used in ITRs do not correspond to the constitution. This is also leading to contradictions in the application of the convention and the constitution. This issue must also be resolved.

My colleague from Egypt mentioned work linked to the world conference on international telecommunications. We know that our colleagues have been trying to update the fourth -- Article 4 in order to include provisions which should be included in the radio regulations. So, we don't understand whether -- why this is needed in that agreement.

However, in the regulations, where all 193 member states have party to (muffled audio) of course my colleague also mentioned spam. This is an important aspect which includes -- is included in ITRs of 2012.

My colleague from -- also mentioned a no change method. We would like to ask what it would mean in practice because the Canadian colleague said this is a good method of resolving the problem.

So, I would like to ask what this will mean in practice. If it's a good way of resolving the issue, maybe we don't need to spend additional time at the ad hoc. Maybe everything is simple. We can update the dates and move forward, given that Resolution 146 contains a direct instruct to reach a consensus concerning future steps on ITRs.

And we cannot agree that Resolution 146 has been implemented. Because in this whole, we had used express so there is no consensus. If there's no consensus, we must continue our work. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Russia. Before we proceed, I would like to ask interpreters to give us 10 more minutes to finish our ad hoc.

>> Yes, certainly, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you so much. Next is Czech Republic. You have the floor now.

>> CZECH REPUBLIC: Thank you very much, Madam Chair and I speak on behalf of CEPT and I would also like to start by thanking to the ad hoc chair, our distinguished colleague from Papua New Guinea and for our efforts she has been discussing with us.

I don't believe that the more we say, the closer we get to the target. So, you have just heard that there have been some particular cases where ITRs have been or used to be used for reconciling or solving some disputes. I personally am not too (muffled audio) does not mean that it does not exist. I can't remember everything, like nobody can. But CEPT fully concurs with what has been said by Canada. The two versions of ITRs in practice do not create any problems, practically or legally for the organization, of course, but for the member states and operate -- network operators in our region. So, we see no reason why to follow work on this. And if there is any such need, please let it be put forward.

The final point I wanted to mention, I don't think there have been made any steps forward. I think that bearing in mind the initial opinion and proposition of CEPT, we have made quite a huge step forward towards a possible compromise and it was only not accepted, but I do not agree that steps forward have not been made over a discussion at the ad hoc level. So, the compromise on our side was offered to continue the discussion within Council and still if we would like to discuss it further, it is an offer from our side, we can accept this and that's precisely that kind of case study that can appear within the Council structures.

And if this is not acceptable, well, if there is no consensus, we know what is the outcome on every opened document, outcome of the Plenipotentiary Conference. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, CEPT.

Now U.S., you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Chair. And we would also like to just echo the thanks of other delegates for Caroline Greenway's able assistance in trying to steer this group towards a consensus.

We have heard over and over today that we must have consensus. For sure, consensus is the goal. But the truth is, sometimes we just can't achieve it. And this is one of those rare cases. We have heard that we must have a group to continue the discussion of the ITRs within Council and we have heard that we must in that group discuss revisions to the ITRs and mechanisms for combining the two versions that are out there.

But we have been clear in CTEL that we cannot accept continuing with an experts group or any other similar group. And we have been clear as well that we cannot accept a presumption that any discussions would lead to a revision of the ITRs.

We do, however, recognize that it is important to many, many member states to continue this discussion. And so in an effort to compromise and to continue the discussion, CTEL would forward a proposal that discussions on the ITRs should continue at the study group level, the advisory group level and be reported to the Council.

CEPT has moved off of its position to accept that compromise, but what we hear is that is not a compromise. There must be a group and there must be a discussion of a unified treaty. And those are preconditions that we just cannot at this point accept. So, we would recommend that we acknowledge that in this case there is no consensus, but for the next four years we continue to discuss the issue. In four years we can come back to it. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, U.S.

To the point made by the Cote D'Ivoire, we will ask the regional advisor to address that matter next, in next our meeting tomorrow, meeting. We will ask view on address to be the next meeting, our next meeting.

Well, like the doctor explained, the views are very diverse. So, we cannot reach an agreement right now, unfortunately. But, like I said, there is a negotiation tonight by the chair of this conference and then there will be a representative from each groups. So, I expect them to make some magic for us on this matter, hopefully. So, we will expect their research on that discussion tonight. But in the meantime, if you want to negotiate continue, you can continue, if only.

So, we heard CEPT still offering their compromise. So, that can be your way forward. So, you can continue offering consultations, but I encourage everyone to wait for the research of the tonight's negotiation including this issue and then some other delegate issues. And we can maybe try to solve this problem until our meeting tomorrow 4:00 p.m. I think that's the only option we can have right now.

So, I will leave this to the offering consultation but not like ad hocs, but informal consultations.

With that, our last agenda item is other business. Will Secretary please make her necessary announcement.

>> SECRETARIAT: Thank you very much. It's announcements to meetings that are starting now at 5:30. Steering committee’s meeting at Britano, and we already have a room for the draft resolution on industry engagement starting immediately after the end of Committee 5 in room Mihai. Again, Room Mihai, thank you so much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, everyone, and thank you, Secretariat, to the interpreters and captioners. The meeting is adjourned.

>> Recording stopped.

(Session was concluded at 1741 EEST)

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