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>> CHAIR: Good afternoon, everyone. So, thank you very much. This is our third meeting of COM 6, and I want to thank you all for being agile and flexible. I know that we were supposed to have a meeting yesterday. You know, the elections took precedent so we did not have one and we canceled that meeting.

So, today, we are going to meet from 2:00 to 3:00 because we have a hard stop at 3:00 p.m.

So, our agenda is in ADM/10‑4, so I plan to try to get through as many of the documents as we identified in red as much as possible. And for the first 45 minutes. And then for the last 15 minutes, I would like to spend time ‑‑ I would like to get an update from our ad hoc chairs if they're in the room because I do know that a couple of them met yesterday.

Our agenda, again, I would like to approve our agenda ADM/10 Rev. 4. Any objections to approving our agenda?

I see none. Also, you will see ‑‑ I don't see it but similar to what's in Plenary, we still have our 3‑minute time. We all agreed to that on the first meeting and I think that's working very well.

Working with our IT folks, they have put a clock on the front of the screen and it will come on when you click on your mic. So, with that, I would like us to turn to Page 2 under Theme 4. We're going to start with the financial management issues. We're going to try to get through some of the low‑hanging fruit here. What I would like to start with is P2‑22 ‑‑ I'm sorry. No. 24.1, Resolution 94, auditing the accounts of the Union. I have Canadian proposal Contribution 95. Is there someone here from Canada to introduce this document, please. No?

All right. I don't see anyone from Canada to introduce Document 95, so we will move down to T4.2, Resolution 150, approval of the accounts for the years 2018 to 2021. And what I would like to do is ask the report by the Council in Document 54 on the examination of the financial management of the Union for the years 2018 to 2021. So can I please ask the Secretariat to introduce Document 54.

>> SECRETARIAT: Good morning. It is my pleasure to present document PP‑22/54, examination of the financial management by the union by the Plenipotentiary 2018 to 2021. This has been approved by Council.

We have the financial records in accordance with these standards from 2018 to 2021. The present report has information concerning financial management, and lastly a draft resolution dealing with the approval of the accounts of the Union for the years 2018 to 2021.

The part on the financial manage am of the Union provides relevant information to implementation of decisions adopted by Plenipotentiary Conference considering finances of the Union, Decision 5‑35, 45, the 1 and 94 but there is also information concerning the implementation of the budget of the Union compared to the expenditure for the Budget 2018 to 2029 and 2020 to 2021.

Lastly on the report, you will also see a picture of the contributions for the last four years and those related to the external fund to voluntary contributions, especially allocated and the information technology and communication technology development fund.

The Plenipotentiary Conference is invited to take note of this document and to approve the draft resolution that you can find in the Annex to it. That covers the approval of the accounts of the Union for 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Claire. So, the floor is now open for discussion on T4.2, Document 54. Any comments on this document in.

Okay, so I don't see any delegation asking for the floor, so I would like for us to go to Page 47 of Resolution 150, and I would like us to go through and see if we could approve the resolution that is attached to this. It's on the screen. It is. We won't worry about the editorial changes. I don't want to go line by line because I do think these are all editorial changes to correct what we had done in PP‑18.

What I would like to do is take the document as a whole. Any objection to approving this document?

All right. Guess what? We just completed our second document that's going to the Plenary. Yes.

(Applause).

We will leave it to the Editorial Committee to correct editorial changes. Thank you very much.

Moving to T4.3 Resolution 41, arrears and special arrears accounts. We will have a report by the Secretariat on Document 56. Who is going to go from the Secretariat? Claire, you have the floor. Thank you.

>> SECRETARIAT: Thank you, Chairman. On behalf of the Secretary‑General, it is a pleasure for me to introduce to you Document PP‑22/56 concerning the measures taken in relation to arrears, especially arrears accounts and canceled arrears accounts. To recap the management, governed namely by Resolution 41, 512, and Paragraph 169 of the Constitution.

A Member State whose arrears amounts to more than two years of payment loses the right to vote to sector or associate member. An arrears participatory rights suspended six months after the date of payment after the annual invoice.

Furthermore, in accordance with Paragraph 474 of the Convention arrears of up to 10% on the sums due after the 6th month. In order to recover arrears and in addition to the measures defined by the resolutions I've just mentioned, the Secretariat informs its members regularly on their position by sending out reminders, but as by sending out a financial circular which sums up the complete picture with respect of arrears.

Lastly, it urges members in arrears on their payment to negotiate a special payment plan. In recent years, the arrears' situation has improved as a result of these measures being taken. Since 2015, the total amount of arrears has moved from 51.7 million to 38.5 million on the 30th of June, 2022. In other words, a drop of 27%.

Another index proving the effectiveness of these measures is the amount of recovery of expenditure which was 96% on the 31st of December, 2021. However, the Secretariat needs to underscore the difficulties which have come up in respect of getting some payments made, particularly where arrears had been canceled. The Union urges administrations to continue to provide steady support to the recovery of our standing debts experience. The action taken by administration, vis‑a‑vis the bodies on tare payment. Annex, A, B, C, D, E, you find the situation on the developments on arrears of the special arrears’ accounts and special canceled arrears accounts over the last few years. The Plenipotentiary Conference is asked to confirm conclusions of Council to revise and especially payments wish to draw up and measures of temporary reduction of a grace period to speed up the recovery of arrears and also to confirm the decision and not to open new accounts at this Plenipotentiary Conference. The Secretary‑General is authorized to open new accounts in accordance with the directive approves by Council. Thank you very much, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Claire. So with that, I've put this report to the floor. Any questions, comments on Resolution 41, Document 56?

All right, so what I propose that we do here, I don't see anyone asking to take the floor. In this document in the Recommendation Section, there is based on the readout from the Secretariat, Claire, we're asking to add the adjustment of the amount of annual payments, and so I want to take the Recommendations and I want to include that in my Report from Committee 6 so that that will provide direction to the Secretariat. Any objection to that path forward?

All right. I don't see anyone asking to take the floor, so that is what we will do. We will take the recommendation and that will become part of my report and that will provide the Secretariat direction. Thank you very much.

Moving on now to Theme 6, digital inclusion. I have T6.1, Resolution 30 on special measures for the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries, and countries with economies in transition. I have one regional proposal, APT Common Proposals and that is in Document 80. Is there someone ‑‑ is there a representative from the APT that could introduce their proposal regarding Resolution 30?

Australia, you have the floor. Thank you very much.

>> AUSTRALIA: Madam Chair. Thank you for giving me the floor. I'm speaking on behalf of APT, so our proposal ‑‑ we are appropriating to ‑‑ our changes are including addressing concerns with limited representation of academia from the developing countries, and under resolves to instruct the Secretary‑General and the Director of the TBD to create to a network for academia, LDCs, LLDCs, and CI Ds. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Australia, for introducing the APT Common Proposal. Can I have this proposal on the screen, please. Document 80.3.

So, I would like to get through this proposal in the ‑‑ if we could go through and see how far we can get with this proposal, I think we can finish.

So, in previous documents, we're going to leave the editorial changes to the Editorial Committee. So, I think the next change is on, yep, Paging 2. Under Concerned, we have a new Concerned (d), that there is a very limited representation in sector academia membership from the industry academia of these countries, in particular in Telecommunication Standardization and Radiocommunication Sectors. Any objection to including a new Concern (d)? Saudi Arabia, you have the floor. Please.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you very much, Chairman. I'm grateful for the submission of this proposal. As far as this part is concerned, we would like a little clarification. One point, please, the point which was submitted by the Director of the Standardization Bureau to Plenary, made it clear that there were more members in ITU, and therefore the Standardization Sector is concerned. However, this paragraph does not actually seem to reflect what was said in the TSB Director's Report. It's just a point for clarification, and I'll be brief, so if someone could give me some. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Is there a ‑‑ United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. It was just an editorial ‑‑ it should be industry and academia instead of with a comma. I think the question, just to clarify from Saudi Arabia, that in the TSB there is not limited representation from sector members and academia of LDCs.

>> CHAIR: Saudi Arabia, would you please ask your question again, please.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Chairman. Perhaps it's only the LDCs here and not all countries. The wording is accurate, but I wonder if it would be possible to replace these countries with LDCs or least‑developed countries. I think that would make it clear and avoid any ambiguity or misunderstanding of the wording. There are countries who participate and who are not, for example, least‑developed countries. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, U.S., for your editorial change. Yes. That has been made. Saudi Arabia, can I take you back to academia of these countries. When I look at the title of Resolution 30, we're not expanding here. We're only talking about least‑developed countries, small island‑developing states and landlocked developing countries. I don't see an issue of deleting of these countries because, again, the statement was ‑‑ it's about in this resolution, we're talking about these countries and this category. However, I would like to turn to Australia on behalf of APT. Any objection to deleting of these countries? Australia?

>> AUSTRALIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. We don't have any ‑‑ on behalf of APT, we don't have any objections to that, I'll completely agree with your proposed solution that this particular resolution deals with all developing countries, and these are listed in the title. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Okay. Thank you very much. Saudi Arabia, with that, we would delete these countries and I think that will resolve the concern that you have regarding this text. Yes?

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Chairman. We have no problem with the deletion of the words of these countries. Maybe there are countries, however, who prefer to keep this term in the text. If you think that these words should be retained and it's clear and better to leave it that way with the original wording, then we wouldn't stand against that. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Saudi Arabia. I think that from my perspective, it's very clear that we're talking about the countries in this resolution and there is ‑‑ you wouldn't lose anything by deleting, and since it's okay with the APT, we can do that. Right?

Canada, you have the floor, and I also have United States. I have Canada, United States, Algeria. Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I had taken the floor previously simply to apologize for arriving late because I understand T.4.1 which is a Canadian contribution and whenever you want to, I would be happy to introduce it. Again, I apologize for being late.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Canada. No problem. I just moved this to the bottom of my agenda and I appreciate you coming to the meeting.

If we could get through the agenda and then come back. Thank you so much. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I just want to say that in my view, it makes more sense to retain of these countries. I think because the resolution is about LDCs, it doesn't need to be repeated here, but I think if you don't see these countries -- it makes it seem to be a much more broad statement. So, the original APT language is probably preferred. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: All right. So, if you would allow me to ‑‑ Algeria, is it on this point? Algeria?

>> ALGERIA: Yes, thank you, Madam Chair. It's on this paragraph. I suggest to simplify the paragraph, to delete sector and academia membership because I don't think that ‑‑ yes, we say direct representation from the industry and academia directly for simplification. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Algeria. So, from Concern (d), there is a question from Algeria that in seconder and academia membership is redundant, since we have ‑‑ so, Algeria, do you insist? I'm sorry. Algeria, do you insist on deleting this text? I don't think that there is a problem with keeping it, actually.

>> ALGERIA: I am not insisting, Madam Chair. Just helping to simplify. If you do for the wish to take it, of course we support.

>> CHAIR: All right. What I would like to do, United States, of these countries, Saudi Arabia or APT, they were okay if we deleted since it was the original text of APT, if there was an agreement from all three to retain that, then that's fine. Okay. All right. Thank you.

Moving down now to Aware. Aware (b). Any concern with this new addition of Aware (b)? The floor is open. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: It's a simple editorial that I think it should be ICT ecosystems. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, United States. Just a question and then this is maybe an editorial something that I've noticed. Is there normally when we use ICTs, we put telecommunications in front of it. I do believe that that may be just something that the Editorial Committee automatically does. Any objection to the Editorial Committee going through and making sure that Telecommunications/ICT is corrected throughout? Okay. I will make sure that we communicate that to the Editorial Committee. Yes. I think that there is no objection to this editorial change. We can approve that in Aware (b).

Now, moving down to Regarding (b), which is new text. Is there any objection to Recalling (b)? The floor is open.

All right. I don't see any objection to Recalling (b), so that's approved.

Recalling (c)?

Algeria, you have the floor.

>> ALGERIA: Yes. Thank you, Madam Chair. I think there is an LDC 5 Conference. This is the 4th I think recently, the LDC Conference has been held, and I think maybe we should think about updating the paragraph with the latest conference outcomes. That's my comment, Madam Chair. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. This is what I love about Committee 6 is that we all have diverse experience in participating in the United Nations and we're able to make sure that we have the correct text in our documents. So, can I ‑‑ will you entrust in me to work with the Editorial Committee to make sure that the references for the United Nations are all correct? Okay. Thank you.

So, Recalling (b) and (c) are approved and I will work with the Editorial Committee to make sure that we have the correct references to the number of meetings. Thank you so much.

Moving down now to the next page, so this is under Resolves to instruct the Secretary‑General and Director of the Telecommunications Development Bureau, Item number 2, so any opposition to approving Item 2? United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you. I wanted to just go back to the reference of the 4th UN Conference on LDC. LDC 5 to my understanding is held in two phases. One was held in 2022 and part of it will be held next year.

Part of my point is that it's not necessarily just an editorial because it's citing text from an agreement that came out of it, so if maybe when you come back you can ‑‑ we can assess the specific reference came from what was adopted in 2011. So, if the same text is not in there or if it's different text, we might have a different view. That's all. I do have changes to the next paragraph that you were talking about, Number 2.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, United States. Secretariat, can you put this in red, please. Thank you. This is not an editorial change as I thought.

All right. I also have Saudi Arabia asking for the floor. Is it on this point, Saudi Arabia? Or is it on Resolves to Instruct Item 2? Okay. Resolves to Instruct Item 2, Saudi Arabia and then the United States. Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. We would simply like to know what is understood by country‑wide plans? Might we be able to clarify that, please. The item is a drafting point, and we note that we have used country with a capital letter but we don't need countries to have a capital here. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. So, I have a suggested rewording of this that might help with the question raised by Saudi Arabia because we had the same question, and we thought also that it sounds like what typically the BDT or ITU does is support countries as they develop these plans, as opposed to necessarily developing plans per se. So, I thought we could rephrase this to provide support ‑‑ I'll read it quickly and then do a dictation speed if you would like.

Provide support to LDCs, LLDCs, SIDs, countries with economies in transition in developing plans for enhanced engagement in the ITU by academia and industry in their countries.

That might help. Essentially what we're requesting, as far as I can tell, and we can seek clarification from APT, is that we want support provided to these countries on how they can develop plans if enhancing their engagement.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, United States. I'm sure that I was typing and I couldn't get that at the speed, so if you would please read it in dictation speed. Thank you.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: To provide support to LDCs, LLDCs ‑‑ that language is in there for what it's worth ‑‑ SIDS and countries with economies in transition. So, it's with economies in transition in developing plans. And then for enhanced engagement in the ITU.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, United States. I do think that this changes the meaning slightly and one of my questions is to the ‑‑ how would the BDT implement this? Or is this something that they do today? The way that it's being proposed to be redrafted?

So, what I would like to do is to put this in red and square brackets and come back to that as well.

Okay. I want to move on to ‑‑ just so you know that for transparency, I do have a timer myself as to how long an issue will take on the floor so that if we start really getting into a protracted discussion, I'm going to turn this into a DT and then bring it back to the plenary.

Any concerns with Instructs number 3? Russia, Federation of Russia, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Chairman. Good afternoon, everybody. We have no objection, first of all, to the text in red after the clarification provided by the United States Delegation. We think that questions relating to assistance to developing countries, particularly countries which are listed in its resolution, is important. Therefore, we think the necessary measures should be taken so that we instruct the Secretary‑General and Director on that. We don't see any particular problem with any of that.

As far as 3 is concerned, the one that's being proposed now, there we would like to ask for clarification from the Office and perhaps also from the Secretariat. It concerns the financial consequences, the financial implementations of setting up such a network. If we understand by this something similar to the Network for Women, then there are obviously going to be financial implementations and consequences. Basically, what we'd like to know is exactly what funds are going to be required and where they're going to be taken from to cover this? Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Russian Federation. United States, is this an old request or a new request? Okay. You have the floor on this point. Thank you.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. It was just to get some clarification on the wording around "One ITU engagement" part of the sentence. And then the focus, and I think the similar question with the Russian Federation in terms of the financial impact, and I could suggest some alternative wording but I know you may want to take it offline.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, United States. If I could have the APT address the questions on ‑‑ under One ITU engagement and what that means? Then I will ask Mr. Baah to give us from their perspective on if there are any financial implications for this. APT, Australia, you have the floor.

>> AUSTRALIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I would like to pass the clarification bit to our colleagues from India. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: India, you have the floor.

>> INDIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thanks to my colleagues who have raised the points. If we go into the analysis of this entire presentation, representation of the academia, the small industries in the sectors, effectively, we'll find we hardly have any academic institutions in the ITU as a member.

The students, the professors, the academics in the small nations do not know what the ITU is doing. They are not able to reach to the various activities in their areas. So, when we think of the inclusiveness, our aspect is that everyone among us should have the privilege and the entitlement with due consideration to have the similar information and approach available. Since they have the financial constraints, that is true, they are not able to become the members, they are not able to access the information available on ITU, so we cannot call One ITU Engagement, unless every country in situations are connected too. That is the part that we said that under the One ITU Engagement. So, all of these LDCs, LLDCs, SIDs, all have along with the industry, can have a single network where information can be exchanged, where it's the technologies, declarations, or best practices. Thank you, Madam Chair. I hope I clarified.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, India. Yes, you did clarify, and I would like to say that I think there may be some misunderstanding of how this is being executed.

So, I have Canada and I have the Federation of Russia. I'm closing the list, so if you would like to take the floor on this issue, please do so now. I have Algeria. So, I have Canada, Russian Federation, United States, and I have Algeria. So, the list is closed on this topic. Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Madam Chair. This is, of course, a very interesting proposal but it is unclear as to whether or not this is already a function of the regional and area offices of the ITU in terms of promoting a meaningful dissemination of an information on ITU activities and provide the necessary support towards achieving national objectives related to the SDGs and to telecoms and ICTs. So, it's probably an issue of rewording this paragraph because it may also entail to clarify whether or not this is something that is already happening and should continue to happen or be strengthened, but of course take into consideration that this should not imply additional resources or technical decisions that would imply having financial implications. I'm pretty sure that Mr. Baah could provide us further guidance on the implementations of this matter. Thank you.

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

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Chairman. We'd like to offer support to what was said concerning the fact that after the explanation, the fact of the examination is done through regional and national bodies and bearing in mind that you, Chairman, said to us to leave the last 15 minutes of this meeting for the ad hoc and informal group reports, we think that since there are still some problems and a bit of a lack of clarity in this document, maybe it might be better to have the authors of the proposal get together a little informal group which could sort out all the problems and come back with the result in their output to you at the next meeting. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Russian Federation. United States?

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I think the clarification from India was helpful, and I think I agree that maybe a small informal group is helpful because I think we agree with the sentiment, but finding some language to give some attention to encouraging more participation or sharing information, but it might just need a little wordsmithing. And while I have the microphone, just one quick thought is before you do the ad hoc chair reports, I do think that auditor document from Canada might be very quickly approved if we do that and then do the other. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, United States. Algeria.

>> ALGERIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I think we support the, in principle the purposes of this paragraph, and particularly on the ITU engagement, the One ITU Engagement, this concept needs to be defined somewhere. Yes, it is an important aspect for organizations to engage stakeholders. We discussed at some point the industry engagement in Committee 5 and I think the discussion on industry engagement is important, but this open door to other stakeholders LDCs and LLDCs and so I think the discussion can also be replicated in the Strategic Plan. So, I think the One ITU Engagement or stakeholder engagement needs to be defined if strategy to include the LDCs and LLDCs and SIDs and including industry and other stakeholders. But what I want to say is the One ITU Engagement is the concept introduced but not really defined in ITU and maybe can be defined maybe in the next sessions or elsewhere. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Algeria. Here is what I propose that we do. I ask that the APT please work with ‑‑ well first I'm going to ask the Secretariat to issue a DT on this because there is broad support to the concept in Res. 30 that is outlined; however, the text in this document needs a little more finessing. At the same time, Mr. Baah and I had a sidebar and we're going to check internally to make sure we're not duplicating efforts by adding this here. We will issue a DT and outside of our meeting if you have concerns and questions on how to improve the text, please work with the APT and we'll come back to our next meeting and discuss.

So, recognizing that we only have about 12 minutes left, I would like to ‑‑ I thought we would move back to T4.1, Resolution 94, auditing of the Council of the Union and that's Canada, you have the floor to introduce your document. Thank you very much.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I think this is quite simple and not going to take us a long time. It's just updating this resolution for the obvious reason that we need to recognize the excellent work done over the last 11 years by the Accounting and of course recognize and congratulate the United Kingdom for the appointment of the Natural Audit Office as role of the External Auditor and I think it's just a matter of, I hope that there is not going to be an ad hoc on this contribution from Canada. And on that note, now that I'm taking the floor for your consideration, Madam Chair, we would be keenly interested in finding out when the information document number 2, which is the Staff Council, why is it going to remain as an information document? Because as you recall at Council, we always ask the document to be brought to the attention either of the plenary, or in this particular case of your Committee. So, we would like to ask for your advice as to whether that document will be ‑‑ or giving the Staff Council the opportunity to present it here or at Plenary the relevance of the staff in a matter related to the future of the ITU. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: So, one second. Okay. Thank you very much. So, let me address I think the easy question. I asked Mr. Baah how we treated the Staff Council input last time, what we will do is that will become an Annex to my Committee Report and that will be presented to the Plenary. Okay. Thank you.

And then so if we could go through and look at Resolution 94, I'm going to open it up for comments. I do think that this is fairly straightforward. We have a new auditor coming on board, and this document is basically updating the external auditors of the Union, as well as identifying that we have a new auditor. The document is open for discussion. Any objections or concerns? I have Algeria and Brazil. If you would like to take the floor on Document 94, please do so now; otherwise, I'm closing the list. All right. So, the list is closed for Document 94. I have Algeria first. Algeria, you have the floor.

>> ALGERIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I would like first to thank Canada for taking care of drafting the resolution. Thank you. Maybe, Madam Chair, one thing that deserves to be reflected in this resolution is the transition between the outgoing and the incoming auditors, right. So, I think the ‑‑ so there has to be a smooth process between the two auditors in terms of the new one can consider the recommendations or the pending recommendations that have been developed in 10‑year's timeframe. I think this is the only point I wanted to raise. I think in my opinion, it deserves to be reflected at some point between the two auditors and how they make sure to guarantee that. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. I'll give the floor to Brazil and then we'll turn to Mr. Baah. Brazil, you have the floor.

>> BRAZIL: Thank you, Madam Chair. Algeria thanks Canada for updating resolution 94 and just remind how important it is to stress this transition and it's very aligned with our discussion if the latest of the Council because we hope that it could have new inputs from the new auditors. Then just remind of the importance of these kind of resolution of being updated to support the ITU Council. Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Brazil. I turn to Mr. Baah for any comments relating to the transition between the two auditors. Mr. Baah in thank you.

>> SECRETARIAT: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. As has been indicated during the final session of Council which took place last Saturday, the two auditors have agreed to have a transition of services. If you recall what was presented on Saturday, I mentioned that the transition had already began since November 2021 when there was meeting in New York. The two auditors met in New York from the week of the 23rd of October, the English auditor was going to have a meeting in Rome to have an official transition between the two auditors. It is clear that the recommendations are still open for the Italian auditors and will be followed up by the UK auditors, and as you know the Council Working Group in charge of the financial and human resources matters, will following these meetings, following the implementation of these recommendations coming out of the external auditor, I feel that you shouldn't be concerned over this transition and you will have a report which will be presented to the Council at its 2023 Session, but as during the month of January or February when the Council Working Group on Financial Human Resource matters will meet.

So, that proposal by Canada is really focusing on the gratitude to be conveyed over the last 10 years for looking at the ITU accounts and of course welcoming the UK auditor. So, it is not ‑‑ from the point of view of the Secretariat, we don't really need to add this transitional period, which is a routine and normal procedure. So, when we have a new external auditor, when this person is engaged, there is a transitional period. But of course, there is a follow up of the implementation of the recommendations from the outgoing auditor. So, I hope these clarifications are helpful. Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

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

>> CANADA: Thank you, Madam Chair. If necessary, we would be in a position to provide some text that would address the interventions of Algeria and Brazil. And if you allow me, I could read it at dictation speed to see if that would help. Although the explanation by Mr. Baah suffices, but if there is a need to have that done, I can. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Canada. What I was going to propose is that it doesn't appear that there are any objections to the text in this resolution, and my recommendation would be to place the comments regarding transition of the auditors in my report which will be the same effect as being on the record and will provide that direction to the Secretariat and Council will see it as well. So, there are two things.

Are there any objections to approving Resolution 94 as drafted? Are there any objections to putting the comments regarding transition between the two auditors in my Chair's Report that will get forwarded on to the plenary?

There are no objections to that approach so Resolution 94 is approved as drafted as we see on the screen, so that is approved. We will ‑‑ you will get a chance to see the text regarding the transition of the auditor in my COM 6 Report.

So, with that if we would please give me 5 more minutes, or let's say 7 more minutes, I'm sorry.

Okay, so I would like to get an update from my ‑‑ I would like to get an update from my coach ‑‑ I mean from my ad hoc chairs related to Resolution 48.

>> Chair: Good after it is noon. We had the ad‑hoc group on Resolution 48. We have put forward a text which is almost, if you like, finalized apart from some paragraphs which are still in square brackets because we weren't able to reach agreement on these, and also on the Annexes. Therefore, the proposal we would like to suggest is the following, to hold a drafting group meeting on Resolution 48 next week. Perhaps following the elections if the room is in agreement with that proposal. Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Blanca on update on Res. 48. If we could have an ad hoc group meeting on Monday after the elections that would be good. I do think you have made considerable progress and congratulations on that. I would really ask that the Member States to take a look because Blanca has done an amazing job here and what she is recommending, the Chair is recommending is really innovative and moving us forward so that we don't have as many long resolutions in our basic text. Do I think that that text could live in the Council Working Group on FHR somewhere as a framework. So, please take that into consideration.

And then can I have an update from Frederic on Resolution 71, please.

>> CHAIR: India, you have a point of order?

>> INDIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I requested for the floor when you were closing the discussion on the auditing of records and got ignored, so just to bring to your attention if you can consider.

>> CHAIR: So, India, I will ‑‑ is it on updating the Resolution 94 and providing edits or on my summary in.

>> INDIA: Regarding the editing.

>> CHAIR: So, you have an edit to Res. 94.

>> INDIA: Yes.

>> CHAIR: What I would like to do that is put it in a DT then and bring it back.

>> INDIA: Thank you, Ma'am. Thanks a lot.

>> CHAIR: Please work with Canada on that.

>> INDIA: We will. Surely, Ma'am. Thanks for your consideration.

>> CHAIR: I have France, you have the floor.

>> FRANCE: Thank you, Chairman. We organized the first meeting of our ad hoc group the day before yesterday and it made it possible for us to return to the process of preparation of the strategic plan in the Council Working Group. It was an introductory meeting really. It was only with the various regions and various contributors to make the detailed presentation of the contributions. Furthermore, we had the BDT there and they were able to go back to the Kigali Action Plan and do the contribution of the development sector to the Union's Draft Strategic Plan. So, we've set a framework and some rules for the work we're going to do on the basis of a temporary document that compiles the various contributions which have been submitted.

A second meeting is scheduled to take place tomorrow morning at 9:30, and from that meeting we will be discussing the temporary document just referred. For the time being we'll be setting aside the matter of cybersecurity which will be taken later in the course of the process. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Fredric. I know during the meeting you indicated you would need about five meetings, and I would encourage delegates to please work together to reach a consensus on the text, and that there were questions regarding when we were going to take up on Decision 5, and so for you we plan to take that up next week. We now have the contributory unit identified, so we were able to move to looking at Decision 5 as well.

Okay.

Resolution 25, I was having a moment. Stella? T2.2 Resolution 25, Resolution 148, and Resolution 191. I don't think Stella is in the room. She's planning to have her meeting tomorrow. Mr. Baah, please?

>> SECRETARIAT: Thank you, Chairman. Just to say that the Secretariat had a quick meeting with Stella. She's going to be Chairing this ad‑hoc group and the suggestion is meeting be held tomorrow beginning at 14:30. We have DT 40 which has already been prepared so we'll be working on the basis of that. I repeat, meeting scheduled tomorrow. We'll let you know exactly where in which meeting room via the screens. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Baah. United States and Algeria, I see you have requested the floor. Please note that we have asked the ad hoc chairs to hold their meetings on Saturday. There will be no meetings on Sunday. No meetings on Sunday. We really do recognize that delegates need time to rest and recuperate from the very long week that we've had, and so all ad hoc meetings will be on Saturday and there will be none on Sunday. I do think that's going to happen across the board with all of the committees.

So, with that, United States, you have a minute. Thank you.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: I just wanted to say for Resolution 48 if there could be an updated DT or DL posted, it would help facilitate the request that you gave to us to get some regional support for the Annex review, but I haven't seen a revision document posted.

>> CHAIR: Okay. Diego, do we have a DT?

>> SECRETARIAT: Chairman, thank you. The Secretariat will have a ready in the next couple of minutes. Thank you.

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

>> ALGERIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I was asking for the floor when 48 was discussed, so just I was wondering, Madam Chair why we didn't consider the four‑year report of the implementation of the HR strategic plan? We didn't see such report in this conference, so would be better for us to see the implementation and what is needed for the next cycle.

Another request, kindly Madam Chair, I would kindly ask the Chair of the ad hoc Res. 71, Mr. Fredric, if kindly there is possibility to reschedule, because we have cybersecurity ad hoc at the same time tomorrow so if there is possibility, this would be much appreciated, Madam Chair. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: So, we have to close the meeting, and I'm going to step in and provide some cover for our ad hoc chairs here. I recognize that there are multiple ad hocs across the Committee 6, Committee 5 and Working Group of the Plenary and I do not believe ‑‑ we've tried to deconflict as much as we can and we understand that some of these conversations will come back into our plenaries. So, if you would please bear with us, I do not think it's possible to change the schedule for tomorrow. But going forward, we'll really continue to work with the other committee chairs to make sure that we try not to have those ad‑hoc groups that are priority for many delegations at the same time. So, I'm sorry for that. Thank you.

I really have to close the meeting because we have to go to Plenary for the second vote on the BDT Director. Thank you very much. I appreciate your cooperation. We will see you on Monday. Have a good weekend, everyone. Bye‑bye.

(session completed at 15:10 a.m. CST)

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