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BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

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COMMITTEE 6

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>> CHAIR: Good morning, everyone. We are ready to start Committee 6; so if everyone would please take your seats, we will get started with COM 6.

All right. The agenda for COM 6, the 12th Meeting of Committee 6 is in Document ADM/10 Rev. 14. And what I would like to start with, so perhaps I can give a few words. We have two meetings today of COM 6. We have one, and this meeting is from 11:00 to 12:30, and then we have another meeting at 4:00. And so that today's meetings will be the last meetings of COM 6 and the goal is to get through all of our documents and present them to COM 4 so they can be prepared for the Plenary. So, I would like to thank all of you in advance for helping advance the few documents that we have on the agenda today, and if there are for comments regarding the approval of the agenda, the agenda is up for approval. Any objections?

Thank you. The agenda is approved. So, starting with Agenda item number 2, decision 11, creation and management of Council Working Groups. If we would all turn to DT/28 Rev. 2, please.

So, if you recall, there was a request to ask the legal advisor considering Considering (e) that's in square brackets. We did ask the legal advisor regarding considering (e) and the text in the square brackets is correct so I request that we remove the square brackets around Considering (e). Any objection to removing the square brackets?

I do not see any objections to removing the square brackets, so Considering (e) we remove the square brackets and that text is approved.

The next text that we have in the Decision 11 Document DT/28 Rev. 2 is the Decides 8, after consultation in the room and as well as offline, the text that involves 8 has been agreed to all involved. This text is posted in DT/28 Rev. 2. So, the text will read that Council Working Group chairmen and vice‑chairmen, can serve up to two successive terms of office where a term of office is the interval between two consecutive Plenipotentiary Conferences. This is the text that I would like ‑‑ that I put forward to you. Any objection to this text? Thank you.

Thank you. I don't see any objection to this text, so we had already looked at the other text in Decision 11, DT/28. So, any objection to the entire text, to the entire document? Thank you. DT/28 Rev. 2 is approved. Thank you.

(Applause).

Now, if we could turn to Agenda Item 3, Resolution 2, World Telecommunication/information and communication technology policy forum, in DT/37 Rev. 3. I understand that discussions have not moved on the date for Resolution 2. I would like to make a proposal that I hope is accepted. I know that there is no agreement on the dates in this document, but in looking at the calendar for scheduling of events, and I'm wondering if the COM 6, can we all accept a date noting that in 2024 ‑‑ in 2023 we have WRC 2024 and WTSA in 2025, a WTDC ‑‑ yes, a WTDC. And then in 2026 we have a Plenipotentiary Conference. My proposal is that we hold a WTPF between January and June of 2027. That is my proposal. Any comments? Thank you.

The floor is open. For now, I have Kuwait. Anyone else that would like to take the floor? United States, China.

All right. I'm closing the list now. I have Kuwait, United States, China, Saudi Arabia, UK, United Kingdom, Russian Federation, and Australia ‑‑ I have now Brazil. Brazil and I'm closing the list. I'm closing the list, so if you would like to get in the queue, please do so now. Otherwise, Brazil is the last speaker in the queue. Brazil is the last speaker on this topic. I'm sorry, the system is slow. I now see Cuba. Cuba will be the last speaker on this topic. Thank you. The list is closed.

Kuwait, you have the floor.

>> KUWAIT: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good morning, everyone. The date proposed by yourself for this forum is outside of the interval separating the two PPs as the Arab Group had proposed; therefore, we cannot accept holding this forum in 2027. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: United States?

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair and thank you for continuing to try to find a way forward on this matter. I think part of the conversations that we've been having is that I think from 2018, the decision to put a date in this Resolution 2 was an anomaly that was different from past practice. For us, we believe that WTPF should not be included on a similar level as the other statutory conferences. We have WTSA, WTDC and WRC and Plenipotentiary. And for WTPF, in the past we had this as an ad‑hoc meeting in response to emerging issues and not to having a date agreed on every four years, and our preference is to not specify a date in Resolution 2. Thank you.

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

>> CHINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good morning to all the delegates. In our point of view, it's preferably before the next Plenipotentiary. It will be too late in 2027 because it's well after the next Plenipotentiary. And we do think it will not be a big difficulty for the ITU to host two conferences in one year. We have already successfully done so this year, and as I mentioned that the Member States will support ITU and will support the new Management Team to overcome all of the difficulties. Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, China. Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Honorable delegates, good morning. The Arab Group had presented ‑‑ so we had proposed to delete Decides 1 ‑‑ Resolves 1, rather. And we had also proposed to have the same initial version with regard to Resolves 7.

Now, with regard to a proposal, Madam Chair, we think that it does not align with the objectives of this conference. It goes beyond the period of this Plenipotentiary, so therefore we cannot ‑‑ this is something that goes beyond the Plenipotentiary Conference, for example, 2027. Therefore, we suggest to keep it like 2025, maybe Q1. Or during the WSIS Forum as the Distinguished delegates from China mentioned that we had three successful conferences this year. Therefore, Madam Chair, I would ask you to reflect the Arab proposal made yesterday and delete number 1 and original 7 from Draft Resolution and 2025 to be in bracket. Thank you so much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Saudi Arabia. The reason it wasn't deleted when we went back to review the transcripts is that it wasn't clear that that proposal ‑‑ so we will do that. We will now delete Resolves 1. We will revert back to the original text in Resolve 7. And the only square bracket in this document will be 2025. Thank you. United Kingdom, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you very much, Chair. We greatly appreciate the efforts that you continue to make to try to find a way forward on this. Regarding the remaining square bracket of the date, of holding it in 2025; unfortunately, this raises the same fundamental concern that we voiced about the inability to be consistent on WTPF remain on an ad hoc basis so we would need to echo the points raised by the United States and we cannot accept this proposal. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, United Kingdom. I now have Russian Federation; you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you, Madam Chair. We support the idea of the date of 2025 because we think that including this date in the resolution will allow the ITU and Member States to prepare this event despite of their busy schedule. We have experienced a quite positive experience and this year we managed to hold three events despite all the difficulties; therefore, we think that the date of 2025 is quite an appropriate option. Thank you.

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

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I would like to voice our support for not including the date because it contradicts the whole spirit of the resolution. I'd also want to say that we would not like to narrow ourselves, given the situation that how quickly the policies change and we might want to have something a little later. So, we really want this event to actually respond to the needs of the Member States.

So, in this case, we would support not mentioning the date. Thank you very much.

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

>> BRAZIL: Thank you very much, Chair. We do appreciate you in trying to find a solution for this. Yet, we do believe that we should keep what's in the WTPF within the framework within the next PP. It is in line with what we're doing with the review of the WSIS, so 2025 makes a lot of sense because up to now is what is envisioned for the whole process of reviewing WSIS, so it will be basically our last moment together and discuss these issues. So, it seems to us to be very reasonable that it's right before the year of the next Plenipotentiary Conference, so we would very much like to have 2025. Thank you.

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

>> CUBA: Thank you, Chair, for giving us the floor. As previous speakers have said, I consider that the date that you have proposed trying to seek a solution is not included in the interval that appears in Resolves 1. We therefore do not agree with the date. It would be past the date covered by the conference, the new period.

I would also like to put out a call because we continue to insist that will forum is necessary for all of us. I think there will be consensus around that the forum is necessary for all of us. In the guide appears, we see this as an ad‑hoc group, but some might suggest to not hold this forum. The developing countries think we do need this. We consider that for the development of technologies, it would be difficult to have a conference past this date. Perhaps it would need to happen before. Day by day technologies are evolving and developing and becoming more present in our daily life. I therefore consider that this forum should be held, and we should therefore ask ourselves one question. In the previous PP, if we saw a need to do this, why would we not decide on a date within the conference? I think it's the countries that have to take this forward for the discussion and achieve consensus among all of the Member States of this organization, so I'm putting out a call to please look into this issue that is so important for us. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Cuba. So, colleagues, as you can see there is no consensus on the date. I would like to thank the Arab group for removing the square brackets and deleting Resolves 1 and reverting back to the text in Decides 2.

What I would like to do is we have another session this afternoon and I will just roll this agenda item to the afternoon, and ask if there has been discussions that everyone can agree on and reach a consensus. So, I will add this to our agenda for the afternoon discussion.

Agenda Item 4, the issue in Agenda Item 4, Resolution 77, is the WTPF is in square brackets. Item 4 related to taking into consideration the possibility of virtual events, we agreed to delete the text within square brackets and stay within the existing text, so that is no longer in square brackets. The only square brackets we have in Resolution 77 has to do with the policy forum, the WTPF and the date. So, as Resolution 2 and Resolution 77 continue to be discussed, we will move on now to Decision 5.

I will turn to Dirk from Switzerland to introduce our work that occurred on Decision 5 in DT/59. Dirk, you have the floor. Can we please give Switzerland the floor?

>> SWITZERLAND: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for giving me the floor. The ad‑hoc group on Decision 5 met three times last week and has concluded its work, and did so on Friday evening at around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m. The discussions were very constructive, they were undertaken in a very good atmosphere and spirit.

Allow me to introduce the document. Would you like me to go paragraph by paragraph? Perhaps the simplest because there has been no major changes in this document. The modifications are largely modifications or amendments that bring greater clarity in Decision 5. We have adopted terminology. For example, we have replaced the term "objectives" by "thematic priorities" as specified in Resolution 71. As for the rest, we have also moved paragraphs. These are existing paragraphs, particularly in Annex 2 where they have been moved to make the text more coherent.

I should mention here that there are still some square brackets in the text, particularly with regard to the reference of resolutions, where resolutions are yet to be adopted by the Plenipotentiary, we have left square brackets around the reference, Bucharest 2022.

I think I can leave there for now and not go into detail word by word of the amendments that have been made. I think I have given the general context. The document was published, I believe, yesterday. Delegates have had the time to study it, and so I will remain at your disposal for any further questions that there might be. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Dirk. Thank you very much to all that participated in the Decision 5 ad‑hoc group. I sat in on a couple of the groups and it was, as you said, very collegial and we all wanted to find a path forward.

Before we start discussing Decision 5, I would also like to turn to Algeria. My understanding is that there is a possible solution to the New Resolution strengthening ITU financial resources standardization mobile functions, and that would involve taking some of the text and including it in Decision 5. So, Algeria, you have the floor to discuss your discussions with colleagues on Resolution strengthening ITU financial resources and mobilization functions in AD/3 document 78. Algeria, you have the floor.

>> ALGERIA: Thank you, Chair. Our colleague charged with this resolution is not here. Maybe we will call him just right now to provide some orientation. Thank you.

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

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. So, we have been working with Algeria as well as with the Chair of the ad‑hoc group of Decision 5 to see how we can add in some language to Decision 5 that captures the intention of the New Resolution on Financial Resource Mobilization Strategy. I think we're very close to agreeing on language, but we had because of our understanding that Decision 5 could not be fully agreed until the financial plan was finalized, we anticipated being able to issue perhaps an updated DT for the 4:00 meeting with the language that's agreed on the Financial Resources Mobilization. That was what my last conversation with Algeria on this matter was. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, U.S. Let me make sure I understand. You're very close on taking the New Resolution ‑‑ parts of the New Resolution text and including them in Decision 5 that's in Document DT/59. I see you shaking your head.

So, you would like to postpone this discussion until 4:00? Okay. If there are no objections to that, we will do that. And what we would mostly leave this document ‑‑ hold on one second.

Thank you, United States. In talking to get the most transparent way to make sure we all have the most transparent information, it would be helpful to have a discussion here on what are the points that we want to include in Decision 5 so that when we issue a DT, no one will be surprised at the points that are being added and that we've had a discussion in COM 6 Plenary before we issue the DT. Thank you. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Would you like me to read the text? I don't want to necessarily present the Africa or Arab Group proposal but I can present the text we're looking at and its intention.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, United States. Saudi Arabia?

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. In my opinion, before we publish the document, it is important it align the opinions of all groups. We do not know what will happen during the discussions between the Honorable Delegate from Algeria and the Honorable Delegate from the USA. Let's give them some time in order to agree on the document and then present it. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Saudi Arabia. As the 4:00 meeting is our last meeting and the advice of the Secretariat is that we at least need to have this discussion in this Plenary so that when we come back to the Plenary this afternoon, it will not be a surprise.

So, what I would like to do is we will defer this document until Algeria can return to the Plenary; in the meantime, we will move on to Resolution 71. I would like to have Frederic introduce DT/14 Rev. 6 and provide us with an update of where we are on our strategic plan, which I would remind delegates that we really need to ‑‑ we have to have a new strategic plan for the final as required by the CS of Constitution and Convention. France, Frederic, you have the floor. Thank you.

>> FRANCE: Thank you, Madam Chair for giving me the floor. I ask you for my indulgence. If I exceed three minutes because this is one of the main deliverables of the conference, I would like to draw your attention to the complicated situation which we find ourselves in in terms of the text of this resolution. I would like to recall the delegations for drafting the Draft Strategic Plan initiated by the 2021 Council, it was a long process. It required a lot of work and investment by delegations.

As an application of the Constitution Convention, the ITU Draft Strategic Plan is drafted by the Council and submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference for examination and agreement. The Working Group of the Council that I chaired was able to submit the results to Council 2022 March which went on to drafting. The drafting brackets are only on two items. I will provide you with some factual information, first of all. Five meeting of the ad hoc group were organized as well as several informal discussions, including yesterday afternoon. During the first meeting, I recalled firstly the process for drafting the Draft Strategic Plan by reviewing the Guiding Principles on which we agreed; namely, the Streamlining and Clarity Principle. The focused strategic plan on the principal of One ITU and importance of regional presence.

Regions put forward their detailed proposals, and DT/14 prepared compiling the various proposals in order to facilitate discussions. Then we started to discuss the strategic framework and we discussed all of the aspects of the strategic plan Annex 1 to Resolution 71 including the proposal of the African Group and Arab Group on the framework for strategic risk management, which will be included in the Committee 6 Report. The Secretariat is invited to take these proposals into consideration for the presentation of the Risk Management Framework to the Council. The group also discussed Annex 2 and 3 where all points were resolved. The proposals of African and Arab Groups will also be reflected in the Committee 6 Report, according to a similar approach as that for the Strategic Risk Management.

With regard to unresolved issues in the main text of Resolution 71, delegations did not manage to agree on the proposal aimed at adding a reference to the UN Common Agenda, and in Annex 1 the discussion was not conclusive either on the issue of knowing whether cybersecurity should be made a thematic priority in its own right or one as supporting other thematic priorities. Informal discussions were held under the helm of Mr. Sharafat and thank him for precious assistance in helping to understand the regions and way cybersecurity should be reflected and the new strategic framework.

Unfortunately, we did not reach an agreement at this stage, despite the fact that proposed compromises were looked at, and this brought us to today's situation where all the resolutions were in square brackets at the end of the last ad‑hoc group meeting on Saturday evening. Then I organized another informal meeting yesterday to get the support of contributors and representatives of various regions with regard to the possibility of continued discussions, not only on the basis of Options 1 and 2 but as by including other possible proposals at this stage in addition to Options 1 and 2 and other proposals are being considered following the informal meeting of yesterday, including a proposal in the informing meeting yesterday that was sent to me following that meeting.

My proposal would be for us to use the time we have during the lunch break and beginning of the afternoon to see if we can start to draw up a text on the basis of these proposals and come back to you in Committee 6 this afternoon with a new text, which I hope will be acceptable to all. I would ask for your instructions as the Chair of Committee 6 to know if I have your agreement for us to proceed as mentioned above, keeping in mind the need for this conference to produce a new Strategic Plan for the period of 2024 to 2027. I thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Frederic. In COM 6 as Frederic indicated, we had five meetings and several informal meetings on Resolution 71. It is a requirement for that every four years that the Plenipotentiary Conference adopt a new Strategic Plan. So, we can't go back to our old Strategic Plan. So, this has been an enormous amount of work and enormous amount of hours put into making sure that we have a strategic plan for the next four years.

We have a few ‑‑ it's 11:30, so I would like for delegates to please take the floor and provide your comments on the Draft Strategic Plan that's in DT/14 Rev. 6, and then I will grant the request from the Chair, Frederic to grant a meeting during lunch time and bring a result back at 4:00 for the last COM 6 meeting. So, if you would like to make general comments on the Strategic Plan, then that's outlined in DT/14 Rev. 6, please take the floor now.

I would also, I understand that there are square brackets around the entire document, so I would encourage delegations to please remove the square brackets around the entire text and only square bracket that text where there is no agreement. I find it difficult to understand that an entire document is square bracketed and that there is no agreement on this document. So, with that, if you would like to take the floor on Resolution 71, the New strategic Plan in DT/14 Rev. 6. The floor is open. Saudi Arabia and United Kingdom. Are there any other delegations that wish to take the floor? Okay. The last speaker will be United Kingdom. Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you very much, Madam Chairperson. To start with, in the name of the Arabic Group, I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Frederic for all of his efforts. The Arabic Group has participated actively if the preparatory work of the Strategic Plan, and we participate with the purpose of reaching a consensus.

Madam Chairperson, we know that Mr. Sharafat was entrusted with a task which was to try and find a consensus once again. And we thought it was appropriate for Mr. Sharafat to continue his efforts in order to reach a solution after the bunch break period. I do not believe that reorganizing the meeting we had yesterday with Mr. Frederic now is positive. Let's be honest.

We fully trust Mr. Sharafat and we will be waiting for the outcomes presented today. For the brackets, we believe it's better to keep them for the time being until we've listened to Dr. Sharafat. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Saudi Arabia. United Kingdom, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair, for giving me the floor. I'm speaking on behalf of CEPT. As you said, Chair, we must indeed have a new Strategic Plan for the Union. It would be a failure for us all if we can't do this and we regret the entire resolution is placed between square brackets and linked to the outcomes of other negotiations. We don't believe this is the excellent progress made in the ad hoc or the spirit in which our work should be conducted.

We have attended and engaged constructively with every meeting of the ad hoc and every informal discussion. We have consistently argued that we need to come together and find a creative drafting solution to the difficult outstanding issue of how to reflect cybersecurity in the plan.

Unfortunately for us, this means recognizing that our preferred approach of Option 2 in the document discussed at Council is not acceptable to everyone. This also means that we must also agree on not proceeding with Option 1, that in a standalone thematic priority for cybersecurity. Chair, we must all have a starting point if we are to progress today. We remain ready to work on drafting, the DT Rev. 6 reflects an initial suggestion by Dr. Sharafat and also a suggestion from the Arab Group which we believe is merely a restatement of the standalone cyber thematic priority.

We have another drafting suggestion which is to amend the enabling environment part to reflect the consensus reached at WTDC around the Kigali Action Plan. We believe this offers the best starting point for the discussions, since it reflects a consensus already recently achieved. But we're hopeful of progress today, Chair, and we'll join the meeting. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, United Kingdom. So, I'm going to close the list now. If you would like to take the floor, I have Iran asking the floor. Any other delegations? Otherwise, the list is closed. Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I would like to thank my distinguished colleague from France for chairing the ad‑hoc group, and also, I would like to thank my other distinguished colleagues; namely the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for trusting me in moving forward to find a solution which would be agreeable to all.

Madam Chair, I'm sure that you recognize that this is an extremely difficult topic and nevertheless, we must have a solution because a Plenipotentiary Conference without a Strategic Plan is meaningless.

Madam Chair, I just wanted to assure you that we continue our efforts throughout today with the view to finding a good solution which will be acceptable to all. This is something that I'm aiming for, and I do this under the guidance and leadership under my distinguished colleague from France who is Chairing the ad hoc Group on Resolution 71. Madam Chair, if the meeting is agreeable, we can continue our informal discussions as well. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Iran. So here is where my understanding of where we stand is. The discussion being convened at 1:00 would include Dr. Sharafat as he has been entrusted to work with the colleagues in COM 6 to come to a solution. So, I would encourage being everyone to participate in that 1:00 meeting from 1:00 to 3:30 with the ad hoc Chair, Frederic, as well as Dr. Sharafat where the optioned related to Resolution 71 will be discussed.

So with that, I look forward to the text coming back into COM 6 at 4:00. Thank you very much.

Now, if we can turn to agenda item 7, results of informal discussion on the Draft New Resolution organizing side events alongside major ITU conferences or assemblies. This is in the outcome of the discussions or DT/22. I Chaired an informal discussion on the Draft New Resolution of organizing side events where there were a number of delegates that were present from the six regional telecommunication regions for the Union, as well as other Member States. There was no agreement on the document; however, at the end of the meeting, Brazil offered and presented text to revise the original contribution from the Arab State to addendum 28 and this is DT/22, but I will note that there were a number of delegates that did not support this New Resolution going forward.

This is where we are, and I understand that discussions have continued but there is still no consensus on how to proceed. So, therefore, the floor is open on the new side event resolution represented in DT ‑‑ revisions from the meeting is in DT/82. Thank you. If you would like to take the floor on this, the New Resolution on side events, please do so now.

All right, so I have ‑‑ I'm closing the list now. I have UK, Turkiye, United States, Russian Federation, Canada. Any other delegates? Brazil. Any other delegations wishing to take the floor? Czech Republic. Okay, so the system is a little slow. The last speaker on my list is the Czech Republic. Thank you. United Kingdom, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you very much, Chair. It's clear that we do not have consensus on whether to take this topic forward as a resolution as you stated in your recapitulation. However, on behalf of CEPT, we really tried to listen to the core of the concerns of our colleagues from the Arab Region over the course of the several discussions we've had on this matter. In the spirit of compromise, we have some tech that we wish to propose as a plenary statement. We believe that this may be a suitable way forward that takes into account all of the concerns that have been raised over the last several days. So, if you'll permit me, Chair, I can read out the text.

The text reads as the following, Committee 6 recommends that the Plenary adopts the following text. The outputs and outcomes of non‑statutory events, convened or sponsored by the ITU, are not endorsed by ITU conferences, assemblies or meetings, unless explicitly endorsed in outputs and outcomes agreed to or adopted by Member States at these conferences, assemblies, or meetings. I'm happy to repeat that again if that's required, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, United Kingdom. We have captured this statement and we will go through the list of speakers and then come back.

United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I thank you also for organizing the informal meeting over the weekend. I think it was actually a very useful conversation where we were able to listen to one another and understand some of the concerns raised by the proponents and also share why we feel at that a resolution is not an appropriate way forward on this matter. We would support the text read out by CEPT and think that having a statement in the Plenary text that gives some view about how to deal with the outputs coming out of such events is a way forward. Thank you.

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

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. We would like to thank you personally and all of those who took part in this discussion. Yes, indeed, as the USA said, this was a very useful discussion. We managed to discuss quite a lot. In fact, at this Plenipotentiary Conference, we are very optimistic and we think that we can have such a resolution as well. At the same time, we feel the need to reach consensus. Overall, we just now saw the proposal to include certain wording in the Report of the meeting and we would like to have time to look at it in depth. But in general, we would like to support the idea as such, the idea set out in the proposal of the Arab States and what was just mentioned, the main problem and the solution. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I do thank you also for your hard work on this important issue. We fully associate ourselves with the statement, that language suggested by the United Kingdom, and we hope that that goes forward because Canada will not support any resolution on this issue. Thank you.

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

>> BRAZIL: Thank you, Madam Chair. First of all, we would like to thank you for all the efforts during this matter. We are able to support the suggestion of the UK that addressed all the concerns that we are raising. This is a good solution for now and Brazil supports this issue. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Brazil. Turkiye, you have the floor. I'm sorry, I read the screen wrong. Czech Republic, you have the floor.

>> CZECH REPUBLIC: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. The Czech Republic speaking on behalf of the 27 EU countries and we thank very much the UK for preparing the proposed statement. We would like to align with the wording; and thank you once more for the great engagement that you provided supporting this informal discussion and thank you very much for having this fruitful discussion, but really EU cannot support adopting the proposed resolution, so therefore we would like to proceed as the UK proposed. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, colleagues. I do think that from all the speakers that have spoken that we have coalesced around a solution that would be submitted to Plenary to be inserted in the Plenary minutes regarding side events.

If I could ask the UK to please read out the proposed text at dictation speed, we could then have some time to review that during the break and come back at 4:00.

UK, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you very much, Chair. Happy to read the text again. As follows, Committee 6 recommend that the Plenary adopt the following text. The outputs and outcomes of non‑statutory events, convened or sponsored by the ITU are not endorsed by ITU conferences, assemblies, or meetings unless explicitly endorsed in outputs and outcomes agreed to or adopted by Member States at these conferences, assemblies, or meetings.

Chair, I'm happy to read that again. I wasn't able to see whether that was captured on the screen, but I'm happy to read it out a second time if that would be helpful.

>> CHAIR: Hold on one second. Thank you, United Kingdom. Yes, we were able to capture it and we are seeing if there are no objections ‑‑ there doesn't appear to be any objections to posting the text, so we will try to do that. Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you very much, Madam Chairperson. We do not oppose, but before putting any text on the screen, we would rather it was reviewed by all the countries. Would it be possible to make a few modifications to the text suggested by the colleagues of the UK?

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Saudi Arabia. Yes, and that is ‑‑ this is a consensus resolution to not having a standalone resolution on side events. I believe and based on the comments that were received previously, I do not believe that there will be any objection to having or looking at the wording of the text and making or suggesting edits since this will be a consensus from COM 6.

I believe the text is on the screen. Yes, the text is on the screen. Canada, you have the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Maybe I could ask our distinguished colleague from the United Kingdom, the extent of the thorough consultations done in regards to the text that we already have on the screen? We would appreciate moving this forward with no further delay, because the other option, Madam Chair, is the non‑adoption of a resolution. We believe that the text that was carefully crafted and was shared to my knowledge was the right one in this particular issue. My suggestion and recommendation, Madam Chair, is to adopt this text right here and right now. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I have Saudi Arabia. You have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Madam Chair. If I may add some modification on the text. So, the output and outcomes, if any, side event. Because we speak about side event and delete non‑statutory events. Delete of non‑statutory. Convened or sponsored by the ITU are not endorsed, unless ‑‑ are not endorsed, unless. I mean delete conferences, assembly, or meetings because those are side events that sudden not come into conferences or assemblies because delete ITU ‑‑ delete unless. Yes, delete unless. And then delete "by ITU conferences, assemblies, or meetings" unless explicitly endorsed. This I don't understand. Unless explicitly endorsed and outputs and outcomes agreed to or adopted by Member States at these conferences. I believe we have an issue here.

We don't mind having side event. We participated in side event at the conference. The issue is those side event produce outcome that come into the Plenipotentiary Conference. Again, we don't want to micromanage the SG, the DSG and elected officials to organize their own side event around any conference or meeting, but those side events should not produce any outcomes. This is the first time I see this language and I believe this requires another session of massaging. Just to reflect they have flexibility of side event, but those side events should not produce any conversational outcome. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, so I see that there is going to be some comments on the text, but generally the path forward here is to provide text in the Plenary minutes. What I would like to do is, UK, could I please ask that you work with colleagues to bring back text to COM 6 that we can submit to Plenary. And with that, we would not need to adopt the new resolution on side events. That is the path forward. United Kingdom, you have the floor.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair. Well, we'll do our best.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I appreciate you taking that on. So that will come back to our committee at 4:00.

Now, can we, Algeria, can we turn back to Item 5, the New Resolution strengthening ITU resources mobilizing functions. Can we come back to this text and can you provide a summary of your discussions and a path forward, that was my understanding, would include some text from this proposal that is included into Decision 5 for COM 6 to review. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I know you're trying to move through your work and make sure this is all done transparently. I just wanted to recall the intervention from Saudi Arabia noting that we have had some offline conversations with Algeria but I know their representative is not in the room and I don't think we're at a point where the text is ready to be shared, but we will work through the break to make sure that we coordinate with different regional group leads to make sure that the meeting goes as cleanly as possible. I couldn't read the text out, but again, it has not been necessarily agreed with Algeria as of yet. Thank you for your patience.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, United States. All right. So, we can move on to Agenda item 8 now of other business. So, I indicated during our last Committee 6 meeting that the square brackets in Resolution 191, I would include in my report, the COM 6 Report, and the text that I am proposing to include is in the first box that says COM 6 Report One ITU Concept Resolution 191. 191 ITU Concept, the Secretary‑General coordinating with the Director of the Bureaux with input from the Sector Advisory Groups is instructed to submit to having square brackets here, 2023, 2024, and the reason for the square brackets, I believe that 2023 was too soon and would propose that we ask that this text be submitted to the 2024 Session of Council, but I didn't want to assume that so that's why the square brackets are there.

A report that has recommendations on the implementation of the concept of One ITU. The Council is to evaluate the outcomes of the Secretary‑General's Report on the One Concept of One ITU and report to the next Plenipotentiary Conference on the applicability of a One ITU Concept. That is my proposed text that I would include in the COM 6 Report. Any comments? The floor is open. The floor is open on this first COM 6 Report summary. I have China, United States, so if you would like to take the floor on the Summary for One ITU Concept, please do so now; otherwise, I'm closing the list. China, United States. United States will be the last speaker on this. The list is closed. China, you have the floor.

>> CHINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you for your efforts to draft this text you're providing to us. I think it's very important issue, and we have some slightly modification proposed. I will read my proposal for the modification. Committee 6 recommend that the Plenary instructs the Secretary‑General coordinating with the Directors of the Bureaux with input from the Sector Advisory groups to submit to ‑‑ I would like to prefer the earliest date, but if the meeting has difficulties and we can also be flexible for that in 2024 ‑‑ I will move on. There are some other slight changes.

There is a second sentence that the Council is instructed to evaluate the Secretary‑General's report on One Concept of One ITU on the report of the Secretary‑General's report on the concept of Union ITU concept. Those are some editorial changes to make it more clear. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I have the United States. Folks, I have noticed that the Internet is kind of slow in the room and has latency, so I have latency on my screen as well. So, I did not see the Russian Federation requested the floor. So, again, if you are requesting the floor on the first topic of One ITU concept, please do so now so that I can close the list.

So, I have the list will end with Kenya. Kenya will be the last speaker on this point. Russian Federation, you have the floor. Excuse me. United States, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I think when we had the conversation in the meeting, one of the points we raised is a concern of having the sector advisory groups involved. We think this is maybe a matter more simply for the Secretary‑General to work with the directors to report on the concept of One ITU. I think having the different advisory groups might add a complexity or time or confusion with how we interpret it into any interpretation of it. I think the One ITU notion has been around for quite some time and we should simplify to the best extent possible so it's not a big undertaking that's hard to manage. Our preference is to remove the input of the sector advisory groups. Thank you.

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

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. Yes. We would also like to make it, this wording more specific. Because as you highlighted in the last statement on the topic, the One ITU Concept was formulated very clearly in the Constitution and in the Convention, we have the three sectors, the General Secretariat, the concept of not duplicating the work of the three sectors, we have specific working bodies for this and we do not believe there is a problem at the highest level. The problem exists at the level of regional offices. This is where there should be the representation of ITU as one ITU. We see that this is not always the case. In some cases, the R Sector is better represented. In some others it's the R Sector, the T Sector, so here we would like to see the implementation of the One ITU Concept in regional offices at that level. This would be much more useful to us. So, yes, this is our proposal.

And to react to the proposal of the USA, indeed, involving directors is a very advisable approach, but we think we should have a compromise here together with the Directors of the Bureau, who act on the basis of consultations with advisory groups. This would be a good addition. We worked like this in the expert group, once the director submitted their reports and took into consideration the recommendation of the advisory groups. Thank you very much.

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

>> KENYA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair for giving us the floor. We just wanted to agree with the previous speakers that the concept of One ITU is really not a new one, and we believe that we are at the stage of implementation of this concept. So, to that extent, we would like to propose to change the word applicability to implementation of a One ITU Concept. To us at the end of the text, rather than use the word "applicability" we use "implementation of the One ITU Concept." Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Kenya. Colleagues, what I would like to do is if I could ask China if they could coordinate with the COM 6 colleagues on this text that will go into my COM 6 Report and bring it back to the 4:00 meeting. China, is that acceptable? China, you have the floor.

>> CHINA: Yes, thank you Madam Chair. I would be happy to assist you in this aspect. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Colleagues, if you have comments and would like to provide text, please take with China and come back at 6:00. Thank you very much.

Now the next one the text involved the Resolution 11 of ITU Telecom events. It's the other text that I said I would bring back to the COM 6 for input. So, it's in the agenda as the second box, as the second row of our table under Other Business. Resolution 1, ITU Telecom Events.

COM 6 decided to SUP Resolution 11 devised in Dubai 2018, ITU telecom events. This decision was based on the 2020 independent external management consultancy report and the 2021 external auditor's report which both identified that ITU telecom events were not in line/in accordance with Resolution 11. Resolve 7 states that each ITU telecom event shall be financially viable and shall have no negative impact on the ITU Budget on the basis of the existing cost allocation system as determined by the Council.

Additionally, COM 6 recommends that Plenary instructs the Council at its ordinary session to transfer the remaining balance of the Exhibition Working Capital Fund EWCF to the ICT development fund.

Finally, COM 6 recommends the Plenary instruct the Secretary‑General and the Director of the Bureaux to continue to develop initiatives to encourage, grow, and foster the participation of all of small and medium enterprises, SMEs and other stakeholders within the context of the ITU major events and forums. That would be the text that would go in my COM 6 Report.

If there are no objections to that text, this was what we will include. Thank you. I see no one objecting. We will adopt this text and it will go into my COM 6 Report.

With that we have come to the end of our agenda thus far, and I will see you at 4:00. But I would like to express and please encourage you to work together to find a solution to Resolution 2 and Resolution 77. I encourage colleagues to look at Decision 5 and the New Resolution proposed by Africa and Arab group to find text to really work to incorporate some of those ideas that are already there, but incorporate any new ideas.

And then, please, Resolution 71 under the Strategy Plan. We have no choice; we have to agree to a Strategic Plan at this conference and I'm encouraging to please participate in the 1:00 to 3:30 meeting. I do not know the room, but that will include the ad hoc Chair and Dr. Sharafat to continue discussing the square brackets on the options. I'm hoping that welcome back to COM 6 with a document, with all of these documents without square brackets and that we can move forward to the Plenary.

China, I'm relying on you to come back to COM 6 on the One ITU Concept. With that, I believe we have completed all of the work that was on our agenda today. Thank you very much. I will see you at 4:00. Thank you.

(session completed at 4:16 a.m. CST).

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