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>> CHAIR: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Please take your seats so we can start our meeting.

Let's start the day on a positive note because we have ‑‑ I think we have reasons. We have strong reason to do so, and first of all, I would like to congratulate all of you for the hard work and very productive work you've done so far. Thank you very much for all of the commitment you've proven so far. Thank you very much. I think you deserve a strong round of applause.

(Applause).

We now have a surprise from the Host Country of Romania for our distinguished ladies, it's going to be a gift that the Host Country will offer, and it's a very special gift, a special object for the Romanian people in general. And I won't give further details, but I will invite Romania to give the special gift prepared for our ladies. Please, Romania, you have the floor.

>> ROMANIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We did want to start the day on a positive note, and we prepared a special gift for all the ladies in the house, delegates, Members of the Secretariat, you are kindly invited to go to the right side of the room as you look at the podium, on the right side of the room, you can go and pick up your gift. It's the Romanian traditional blouse. Oh, so happy! You have seen the Romanian embroidery normally on the PP‑22 logo, but now you will see it and hopefully wear it on the Romanian traditional blouse. I hope you will enjoy this gift and thank you very much.

(Applause).

Our colleagues are prepared to offer you the gift, so please ladies, we won't start the meeting until you take your gift.

>> CHAIR: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm inviting you to take the seats. Of course, after taking your gifts from the host country. I received many, many, many complaints from gentlemen. Yes. (Laughing). But I'm not going to give the floor for this issue. I'm sorry for that, gentlemen. This is the highlight for me of the conference; and over the three weeks, you helped the ITU break glass ceilings and you elected for the first time in history a lady at the leadership of the Union.

(Applause).

You adopted historic resolutions by achieving consensus on some of the most difficult issues. Consensus that will bring the ITU to the next level in the future. As I said, there were many highlights, and ITU's preparing something special for you to make you famous, but before that, you need both the highlight, your highlight, and as I said this is the highlight for me, on your Twitter account. I think we'll have on the screen because we're inviting you to take a selfie or photo of yourself. So may we have the QR codes on the screen, please. The QR code will help you, will suggest a post. You can choose one of them or you can have your own post as you want. Over the coffee break, the ITU will share your post on the Corporate Twitter account, so you will become more famous than you already are. So, thank you. We strongly encourage you to engage with the project that the Team from the ITU prepared for you and to make famous everything that is happening at the PP Conference.

We still don't have the QR codes on the screens, but maybe there will be displayed soon. So, again, just make a selfie, and maybe at the end of the conference, we'll invite all the ladies to take a photo and we'll announce where, maybe here in the Plenary or outside to put on for a few minutes and take a photo. Meanwhile, you can have a photo, a selfie of yourself, post it on Twitter and it will be reposted on the ITU Corporate Twitter Account. Thank you very much.

Okay. I think I can see some gentlemen there. (Laughing). Less complaints, probably. Let's proceed with our working for today. The agenda ‑‑ we have another surprise before proceeding to the agenda. I thought it is part of the agenda, but it is before the agenda.

I would like to invite Canada to take the floor, and I will take the opportunity to congratulate you after you take the floor. Please, Canada. Please give the floor to Canada.

>> ELLEN TAYLOR: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, colleagues. We hope to continue this positive energy this morning. My name is Ellen Taylor and I'm 23 years old and to my right is my colleague and friend Emma Randall and it's an honor to be part of the Canadian part of the conference and Generation Connective, a key component of the ITU Strategy.

Last week you may have noticed some enthusiastic energy, bright signs and new voices in the halls of this beautiful palace of Parliament. This was all part of the Youth at PP‑22 Week where we engaged with 23 incredible Generation Connect Youth Envoys from every region of the world as they led three side events, an inter‑generational dialogue on the future of work, a workshop on meaningful youth engage am, and intergenerational dialogue on bridging the gender digital divide.

We hope you had the opportunity to interact with these professional and innovative young leaders and continue to reflect on how we can meaningfully engage youth in our own regions and in the ITU.

>> EMMA RANDALL: We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to Australia as well as to our amazing Host Country of Romania for their tireless efforts to support the youth at PP‑22 Initiative.

Thank you also to those who were speakers, panelists, facilitators and participants at these events. Several of the Youth Envoys told Ellen and I that last week was the best week of their lives so please note that the work and efforts are having a real impact to young leaders who have so much to give in return. We now have the honor to highlight a video showcasing what took place last week. Just a Click, written and performed by a Generation Connect Youth Enjoy one of the 17 Selected UN leaders of 2022.

We hope that you enjoy this video and as we near the end of this Plenipotentiary Conference we continue to collaborate and meaningful incorporate all youth moving forward. Thank you.

(Applause).

(music).

>> CHAIR: Thank you, young people, for being with us for engaging in what we are doing here. I can say that the biggest smiles I have seen on the faces of delegates were after your events. Everybody was saying I have to go to that because there is the fun part, there is where we enjoy the conference. So, thank you very much for making this possible. Thank you, Canada, and thank you Australia for all of the support that you've done for the young people, young generation. Thank you very much and congratulation.

(Applause).

Now, I think we can start with our agenda, finally. It's a good, a good way to start the day. Very good way. So, the agenda was published, ADM/46. I'm seeking for approval. I can't see, I don't know if it's a mistake or request for the floor from Jordan?

>> JORDAN: Good morning, delegates. I thank you for giving me the floor. I had asked for it for quite some time now, and we had to say which countries had requested the floor, but we greatly value your efforts to ensure the success of our work.

Mr. Chairperson, with regards to the intervention that was presented yesterday by the Honorable Delegate from Iran on the necessity of having guidelines that govern the policies of the conference, it was understood that I was against and I objected the idea, but I only objected to the implementation mechanism. There is no harm in having guidelines in a document that can be prepared by the ITU and published on the link that is designated for members. I think that would be a positive step.

My objection had to do with its official adoption by the Council of the ITU, and I just wanted to refer to this question before we start our work today, and thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Jordan, for this clarification. I kindly ask you to discuss this under Other Business if possible, and if we have time because we have a pretty dense agenda with a lot of topics and documents to approve. And I encourage you to have a discussion on this, but I think it's at the moment maybe at the end of our discussion for today.

So, I'll start with the first point on the agenda, approval of the agenda, if there is any comment on this agenda, please feel free to take the floor. If it's another topic? No? Okay. Thank you, approved.

The second point on our agenda is the Report from the Chairman of the Working Group of Plenary 2, and I invite the Chair of the WG‑PL to present the Report which is Document 188.

>> CHAIR of WG‑PL: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, distinguished delegates to PP‑22. It is my pleasure to report to Plenary the work of the Working Group of the Plenary.

The Working Group of the Plenary was created by the Plenary with the Terms of Reference as in document DT/22 and location of document listed DT/2 Rev. 1. As the Plenary approved Mr. Alireza Darvishi, Islamic Republic of Iran; and Ms. Almira Gataulina, Uzbekistan; Mr. Leonel Zamba of South Sudan; and Mr. Abraao Balbino of Brazil; and Ms. Inga Rimkeviciene of Lithuania; Ms. Muneera Alzayani of Bahrain were vice‑chairs of the Working Group of the Plenary and Secretary of the Working Group of the Plenary Mr. Catalin. The Working Group had 12 sessions all together with a total of close to 22 hours over the past 3 weeks.

In the 89 different proposals that were received from Member States and were considered at the Working Group of the Plenary, they were over broad topics and we could only handle them under the guidance of working methods in DT/10 which was approved.

In this working method, we were to establish ad‑hoc groups that would deal with particular subjects and report back to the WG‑PL in the manner decided and within the period that was set for it. So, every ad‑hoc group had a certain number of hours to work with.

Again, as per the established practice in ITU conferences, if consensus could not be arranged on a specific proposal or was put in square brackets under negotiation, the ad‑hoc groups were encouraged to maintain the existing text.

With this approved by the Working Group of the Plenary, eight ad‑hoc groups were established, and they worked for 228 hours. The groups were as follows, the ad‑hoc group on Internet‑related issues revisions to Resolution 101, 102, 180, 206 and Chaired by Ms. Sharon Bosire of Kenya. The group on cybersecurity Internet‑related issues considering revisions to Resolution 130, 174, 179 Chaired by Mr. Jim Paterson of South Africa. Ad‑hoc Group considering revisions to Resolution 137, 139, 203, and New Resolution Open RAN Chaired by Mr. Roberto Hirayama of Brazil.

Ad‑hoc Group on Innovation, Res. 205 New Resolution for data divide and New Resolution data platforms, Chaired by Ms. Inga Rimkeviciene of Lithuania.

Ad‑hoc Group 197 Chaired by Mr. Leonel Zamba of South Sudan. Ad‑hoc Group on AI to consider a New Resolution on AI Chaired by Mr. Abraao Balbino E Silva of Brazil.

And Ad‑hoc Group on WSIS considering Resolution 140 Chaired by Mansour Al‑Qurashi from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Ad‑hoc Group on data and statistics to consider proposals to revised Resolution 131 Chaired by Mr. William Lee of Malaysia.

In addition, a number of contributions for revised new resolutions were addressed through informal consultations, and this brought together a number of interested parties usually with coordinators from the various regions on matters such as revision of Resolution 64 which was coordinated by the Delegation of Sudan; Resolution 70 by Delegation of Brazil; resolution 123 coordinated by the Delegation of Brazil; resolution 175 coordinated by the Delegation of India; resolution 198 coordinated by the Delegation of Romania; revision of Resolution 200 coordinated by the Delegation of Brazil and the Republic of Korea; revision of Resolution 204 coordinated by the Delegation of Uganda; and a proposal for a New Resolution, the role of telecommunication/information and communications technology in mitigating global pandemics coordinated by the Delegation of Republic of Czech Republic. Finally, the proposal for New Resolution Connecting Refugee Shelters to the Internet coordinated by the Delegation of Greece.

WG‑PL agreed to 2 new resolutions and updated 21 resolutions. WG‑PL also agreed to ‑‑ agreed on the proposal for no change on resolutions 206 and 174.

On other issues and recommendations to the Plenary, and Chair at this point I will take it one after the other so that we could consider them.

The first was a proposal to revise Resolution 174. ITU's role with regard to international issues with elicit use of information and communications technology and the contribution was discussed within ad‑hoc group on cybersecurity issues; however, no consensus was reached in Resolution 174 as indicated earlier, was unchanged.

Similarly, for Resolution 206 on OTTs, there were contributions from Africa, Arab and Inter‑America or CITEL discussed at the ad‑hoc group of Internet‑related issues and there were no consensus and the group agreed to no change.

Now, the proposal for a New Resolution on development of disaggregated and networks, this was discussed within a new informal group coordinated by Brazil, and the outcomes were presented to the ad‑hoc group on networks Chaired by Mr. Roberto Hirayama of Brazil, and the group agreed not to proceed with the New Resolution and to take into consideration its contribution into Resolution 139, the use of telecommunications/ICTs to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society.

On the proposal for a New Resolution on ITU's role in building capacity in bridging the digital divide between developed and developing countries, the two proposals that were received were considered at the ad hoc group on innovation. The group agreed not to proceed with the new resolution, but to take into consideration these contributions in Resolution 205.

On the new proposal or proposal for New Resolution ITU role in promoting the development and use of data platform to support digital transformation, this contribution was discussed initially in an informal group coordinated by Viet Nam. It was transferred to the ad‑hoc group on innovation. The group agreed not to proceed with the new resolution and to take into consideration the contribution in Resolution 205.

There was a recommendation to this, and I submit at this point, and it reads as follows. Considering the following regional proposals related to Resolution 205, EUR, ACP and African Proposal, and with respect to the multi‑country contributions submitted by Viet Nam, Laos, and Papua New Guinea, WG‑PL recommends that the Plenipotentiary Conference invites those Member States to make relevant contributions to ITU‑D Study Group 2 on digital transformation, in the context of the mandates of the relevant study questions.

Chair, I pause here for this recommendation to be considered.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. I invite the Plenary to approve the fourth recommendation presented by the Chair of WG‑PL. Any comments on the recommendation, the first recommendation? A request for the floor from Iran.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Hello Mr. Chairman and good morning to all colleagues. Yes, I would like to use this opportunity to thank the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary for his efforts, and also would like to indicate our support for the solution which was just read by the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary on this issue. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Iran. Any other comments? If no, the first recommendation is approved.

(Applause).

Thank you, Chair of Working Group of Plenary. The floor is yours for the second recommendation.

>> CHAIR of WG‑PL: Thank you Chair. Thank you, delegates. The proposal on new resolution on connecting refugee shelters to the Internet, the contribution was discussed within the informal consultations coordinated by Greece. The group agreed not to proceed with a new resolution and to take into consideration the text of the contribution and joint letter between ITU and UNHCR regarding the digital appreciation in support of forcibly displaced stateless people and their hosting communities and to present the recommendation to the Plenipotentiary Conference. And this is how the recommendation reads.

Connecting refugee settlements to the Internet. Instructs the Secretary‑General to continue to collaborate with the UNHCR and other relevant bodies, agencies within the United Nations regarding digital connectivity in support of refugees, taking into account the specific mandates and areas of expertise of the different agencies and within the ITU budgetary constraints as appropriate.

The second instruct is to report to ITU Council meetings over the next period and at the next ITU Plenipotentiary Conference on actions taken in this record.

I pause here, Chair, for consideration of this recommendation.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. We have a request for the floor from Jordan on the second recommendation.

>> JORDAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I would like to add my voice to those who have thanked the Chair of the Working Group and his colleagues for all of the work achieved, and I have a question on the content, which is to invite the Secretary‑General, and I believe that from a legal point of order to start by inviting the conference or instructing then conference when adopting the resolution that when we have recommendations, we call upon Member States or we call upon parties to carry out certain tasks. So, maybe we can instruct the Secretary‑General to look into something. If that case, there is a wish to adopt the recommendation. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Jordan, for your comments. I strongly encourage you to stay with the text that was agreed in the ad‑hocs at the level of the Working Group Plenary, but if the Chair of Committee 4 wants to add something to what was presented by Jordan, you are invited. Otherwise, I'll seek your approval for the second recommendation as it was presented by the Chair of Working Group of Plenary.

Any other comments? No? Thank you. Approved.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Chair, I'll pass back the floor to you for the next recommendation.

>> CHAIR of WG‑PL: Thank you very much to the distinguished delegates. Resolution 130, as usual, was flagship attention with the various contributions to the revisions of this proposal, it was discussed at the ad‑hoc group on cyber‑related issues. The group agreed to proceed with the revision, and there were a number of issues agreed yet some taken the length of resolution, reduced by pages; however, it came with a recommendation and a statement.

The recommendation that I pull out for your attention reads, WG‑PL recommends that the Plenipotentiary Conference invites the Council to consider proposals from Member States regarding GCA Global Cybersecurity Agenda, its use, and possible future elaboration. I pause here, Chair, for consideration.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. I invite Jordan to take the floor for this third recommendation.

>> JORDAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I don't have an observation, but I have a question because in this recommendation, we hear it recommend that the Plenipotentiary Conference invites the Council to consider proposals presented by Member States. Do we mean by that proposals that were presented to this conference, or do we mean any new proposals? It is not quite clear in this text. Thank you, sir.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Jordan. Chair of Working Group of Plenary, can you please clarify the meaning of the text that was proposed by you so it will be clear for everybody? Thank you.

>> CHAIR of WG‑PL: Thank you, Chair. Thanks to the Distinguished delegate from Jordan. The text is inviting the next Council to consider proposals they receive from Member States regarding the GCA, its current use, and possible future elaboration. So, it is not a transfer of the proposals received in this conference; rather, fresh contributions to the next Council meeting for consideration. I hope this makes it clear. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair, for this clarification. I hope this answered the question raised by Jordan. Thank you, Jordan, for your question. If there are no other comments on this third recommendation, I seek for approval. Approved. Thank you.

(Applause).

Chair, you have the floor.

>> CHAIR of WG‑PL: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, distinguished delegates. With this approval and also related to the Global Cybersecurity Agenda, Annex 2 contains statements that were submitted for inclusion in this Report to the Plenary. I, therefore, kindly request the Plenary to note those comments and include them in the summary records of the conference.

Chair, to conclude, I wish to convey my sincerest gratitude to the distinguished delegates who participated and contributed to the work of the WG‑PL for their cooperation, support, discipline, mutual understanding, and their willingness to reach consensus. Bearing in mind that the issues before the group was highly complex, diverse, and sometimes controversial.

I am very convinced that the decisions that we took at WG‑PL will help pave the way forward for the future direction of this Union. I also want to thank my Vice‑chairs, the Chairs of the various ad‑hoc groups, the leaders of the informal consultations, and to you, our Chair of the Conference, you have been generous, supportive, inspiring to our very work. We appreciate your very kind support to WG‑PL.

To our elected officials who supported us, officials of ITU Secretariat, hosts the Administration of Romania, to my Secretary, tirelessly and his team, Mr. Preetam Maloor, Ms. Sulyna Abdullah., the previous Chair the WG‑PL of the last conference so had all the insights of how we could prevail, Mr. Vaggelis Igglesis, Ms. Jeoung‑Hee Kim, Ms. Gitanjali Sah, Vladimir Stankovic, Mr. Christophe Larouer, Mr. Marco Obiso, Mr. Thierry Geiger, Mr. Tiago I Pinto Pereira, Yelitza Mendoza‑Pinto, Joumana Bilani, and Victoria Sukenik.

Finally, and not the least, to the team who made it all happen with our work, the many interpreters that were also generous to offer us extra time for our work, the translators, the document‑control team, the room management team, the technicians, the camera men, video men, mixers, editors, logistics team, security, kind hosts, young men and women around the corridors, glaring at us for our long hours of work and without whom our work couldn't have been completed, we appreciate them all. Thank you, Chair. This is the end of the Report of WG‑PL. Thank you.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Chair. Your report will be noted and included in the records of the Plenary. I would like to thank you for your exceptional leadership. I saw in all the meetings that you led, the spirit, the true spirit of the ITU, and thank you for that. Thank you for following the working methods, thank you for being open for compromise. Thank you for listing all the names, thank you to your team and all the people that made this possible, and thank you for the output of the Working Group of Plenary and thank you to all delegates that worked more than 200 hours in order to have a great list of contributions related to the Plenary meeting. Thank you very much, again. Congratulations, Chair, for your exceptional work. Thanks.

(Applause).

There is a request for the floor from Brazil.

>> BRAZIL: Thank you. Brazil wanted to thank the Chair and on his behalf of the team in the ITU and of the members who have contributed to this tremendous work, and especially want to thank him for his leadership and his spirit of commitment and compromise. And Brazil was all the way in supporting these efforts. You can see by the positions that Brazil had in the WG‑PL and other groups, and we thank again for his leadership and his excellent results. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. South Sudan?

>> SOUTH SUDAN: Thank you, distinguished Chairman. In this period, we would like to take our period to add our voice in recognizing the outstanding leadership that was demonstrated by the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary, Mr. Kwame at this conference. The volume of contributions assigned to the Working Group of the Plenary at this conference needed someone with utmost wisdom, patience, dedication, and tenacity, and the conference found all of that in the Distinguished Chair Mr. Kwame. Chair from the Delegation of South Sudan, which of course remains to this day the youngest member of the ITU, it was our privilege to serve under him as one of the Vice‑chairs in the course of this meeting and of course our first time to assume any leadership at all at the ITU. Chair, I'm just sitting at the meetings and listening to deliberations from the various knowledgeable but very wise members of the Union, and of course observing how the Chair was maneuvering the discussions also wisely.

We're, of course, grateful to the Vice‑secretariat of the Union who formed a very great resource that enabled the Union to progress through all of the activities and tireless interpreters that we have. We believe that the Union is really very resource of the entity through the delegates, through the Staff of the Secretariat, and able people that enable it to achieve objectives at conferences like this. Chair, thank you for giving us this opportunity.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, South Africa.

>> SOUTH AFRICA: Thank you, Chairperson. We would also like to join those in thanking Kwame of Ghana for the excellent leadership of the Working Group of the Plenary and it was a very challenging assignment but the Chair was able to deliver with diplomacy, tact, insight, wisdom, and also with the demand that we should all deliver. I would also just like to thank all the colleagues and Secretariat for the excellent work done that's been able to bring us to this point where we have successful outcomes from the Working Group of the Plenary being presented, Chair, in the Plenipotentiary Conference. Thank you very much, Chairperson, and thank you colleagues.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for the work that you did and the leadership under the ad hoc, and thank you to all the chairs of the ad‑hocs for the work you have done during this Plenipotentiary Conference.

Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I think it's indeed a pleasure to join other colleagues in thanking Mr. Kwame. We have had the pleasure and honor to work with Kwame for quite some time now, and I firmly believe that he's invaluable to our Union. He brings unity to our discussions. He brings results, consensus, and agreements to our meetings, and he deserves a big thank you from all of us.

Mr. Chairman, let me also use this opportunity to thank his entire team, the chairs of the ad‑hocs, informal groups, Secretariat and others who made it possible for us to make progress and achieve results that are excellent, in my view.

Thank you, Kwame, for your excellent work, and we wish you all the best. Thank you.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Iran. Romania?

>> ROMANIA: Thank you, Chairman. Also, I want to add my voice to those thanking Kwame for his able leadership on behalf of CEPT, you have our thanks. We acknowledge the fact that the Working Group of Plenary is always a hard job to do. We thank you. We thank the Secretariat, the ad‑hoc chairs, and everyone involved in the discussions. Thank you for your able leadership, and I hope we see you again and again in this position. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Romania. Kenya in.

>> KENYA: Thank you very much, Chair. On behalf of the chairs of the ad‑hoc group and the WG‑PL and also on behalf of Kenya, I would like to thank Mr. Kwame for his wise leadership, for allowing us to have the wonderful discussions that we did have so long, and also for the spirit of compromise that prevailed through his wise leadership and also through the various ad‑hoc groups. Thank you very much, Kwame and we're proud of you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Egypt in.

>> EGYPT: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. On behalf of the Egyptian delegation, I would like to thank Mr. Kwame of Ghana for his wise and able leadership of the WG‑PL. He has led a very brilliant and represented the African group in this position and through his able leadership was able to work with all the ad‑hoc chairpersons and Member States in a manner that pleased everyone on an equal footing. Thank you, Mr. Kwame, and we look forward to carrying on our collaboration in the future through the African Group. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Trinidad and Tobago?

>> TRINIDAD and TOBAGO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and colleagues. We wish to commend the Working Group of the Plenary. He executes duties with calm words in a strong hour when required and thank him for his stewardship. We also thank the chairs of the ad‑hoc groups and Secretariat for the wonderful support. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Czech Republic?

>> CZECH REPUBLIC: Thank you for the floor, Mr. Chair. Very briefly, I align myself with the previous speakers. Many thanks to the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary. Thank you for the trust you put in me, and many thanks to the team and being the chair of all the informal groups. Without the cooperation in the room, the New Draft Resolution could not be approved. My thanks be for your cooperation and wise leadership of the Working Group of the Plenary. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Tunisia?

>> TUNISIA: Thank you, Mr. chairperson. We thank Mr. Kwame for the successful efforts that he has undertaken in setting up these proposals. I would like to thank him for his fortitude and his wisdom and having taken all the opinions and sought consensus among them.

I would like to also thank all the ad‑hoc chairpersons and who have assisted him in this task. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. UAE?

>> UAE: Thank you very much, indeed, Mr. Chairperson. On behalf of the UAE, we would like to also join the previous speakers in congratulating Mr. Kwame for his able leadership of the WG‑PL. Also, our thanks go to the heads of ad hoc teams and subcommittees who collaborated with him, and who enabled the success of all the tasks given to them, pertaining to many important resolutions of importance to Member States.

I would also like to thank the Secretariat of the ITU for having supported the process of all of those meetings over the past few days of the conference. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Saudi Arabia?

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, everyone. We would like to on behalf of Saudi Arabia, we would like to thank the Chair of the Working Group Plenary Mr. Kwame for his great leadership of such many, many, many resolutions and very hard resolutions. We would like to thank his vice‑chairs as well, and the Chairs of the ad‑hocs and Secretariat for their very, very hard work throughout this past three weeks. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. India in.

>> INDIA: Thank you, Chair. India would also like to join all the previous speakers to extend our sincere thanks to the Chair, Mr. Kwame, who has led the entire team very effectively recently and would conclude in very positive environment where everybody was laughing and making jokes and still, we could come out with the excellent output. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to all the vice‑chairs of the Working Group Plenary as well as the ad‑hoc chairs and the informal group chairs, focal points, especially the Secretariat which has extended even beyond the office to make all the work happen and to make things presentable before the Plenary. Thanks again to chairs, vice‑chairs, ad hoc group chairs, informal focal points and the Secretariat. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Papua New Guinea.

>> PAPUA NEW GUINEA: We would like to appreciate the Working Group of the Plenary. We would like to agree with a lot of issues with the Working Group had to deal with and saw Mr. Kwame’s wisdom and grace in dealing with those issues. We would also like to appreciate the work of the Chairs of the ad‑hoc group, the vice‑chairs, many of them taking on those roles, and the leaders of the informal discussions. It was not an easy task, so we really appreciate having come to this conclusion. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Rwanda.

>> RWANDA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to thank the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary for his wise and able leadership. Resolutions are tough process and require the experience to deliver. Also, the Secretariat and participants, thank you for taking part in various discussions. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Cote d'Ivoire?

>> COTE d'IVOIRE: Thank you, Chair. On behalf of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, we would like to congratulate Mr. Kwame, Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary, for his leadership. Work in this Working Group was complex, and he was able to demonstrate flexibility, patience, and impartiality, allowing us to complete all of that work. We would also like to thank all of the chairs and vice‑chairs of the Working Group of the Plenary who contributed to achieving the group's objectives. Thank you once again, and congratulations.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I have to close the list of well‑deserved thanks for our Chair, but now I give the floor to Algeria.

>> ALGERIA: Good morning. Thank you, Mr. Chair, for giving Algeria the floor. Algeria would like to add the voice to the previous speakers and we would like to thank the Working Group of the Plenary, the Chairman of the Working Group of the Plenary, Mr. Kwame for his great achievement for this very tough Working Group and leadership in bringing different views in the round. We're so proud of you, Mr. Kwame. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. We have three more countries invited to take the floor. The first one is Bahamas.

>> BAHAMAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair, good morning to all. Mr. Kwame, we thank you because it was your patience, your guidance, and your willingness to always push just a little further for compromise that caused and resulted in the great results that we see before us in your report today. It was your appreciation for the diverging views, your calm that kept the calm in the room, and even during serious discussions and tense sessions, it was your calm that led us to achieve and to remain focused on the objectives.

We would also like to thank the vice‑chairs, the Secretariat, the ad‑hoc group leaders and all the facilitators. We appreciate the hard work and we thank you and look forward to working with you again at other PPs. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Russian Federation?

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Chair. As coordinator for our region, the RCC for the Plenipotentiary, I would also like to join all of those who spoke previously in expressing gratitude to Mr. Kwame, and also on behalf of our telecommunications administrations, I wish to thank all of the heads of the ad‑hoc groups who were so patient and wise as was Mr. Kwame. This is not the first time that Mr. Kwame has taken on the responsibility of being a leader in our work, and we are grateful to him for that dedication and hard work. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. The last contributor to the floor is China.

>> CHINA: Thank you, Chair. Good morning to you all. The Chinese Delegation also would like to express its gratitude to the Chair, Mr. Kwame of the Working Group of the Plenary. He has resolved many difficult problems through his patience and full consultations, as well as his rich experience of leadership and with the help of the chairs of ad‑hoc groups, he helpfully resolved many issues. We would like to congratulate him. And also, we would like to thank all Member States for their consultations and spirit of compromise in the process. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Chair Kwame, there are other countries waiting to express their thanks for the work you've done, but your Colleagues from Committee 6 and 5 are waiting to present their reports, so thank you again to all the countries and sorry to the others waiting, but we need time to approve the documents and allow the chairs to present the other reports.

On the third point of our agenda, we have the Report from the Chairman ‑‑ not chairman, but the Chairwoman of the Committee 6 to the Plenary. Chairwoman, please, you have the floor.

>> VERNITA HARRIS: Thank you very much, Chairman. The Committee 6 establishment was established by the Plenary with terms of reference set out in Document 103 and the general rules of procedure from the collection of our basic text. The allocation of documents is set and revision 2 to Document DT/3. The following management team was appointed, myself, my vice‑chairmen, Mr. Keiji, Mr. Umida, Mr. Christopher, Ms. Keiji from Japan, Ms. Umida from Uzbekistan, Mr. Christopher from Kenya, Mr. Renata from Brazil, Ms. Blanca from Spain and Mr. Abdullah from Saudi Arabia, and ITU Secretariat Mr. Alassane and Mr. Diego and Claire, Marian, Maurice, Marel, Jude, Kathryn, Chris, Efran, Hughs, Dell, Voeglei, John‑Paul, Diego, Efran, Taylor, and Morriah. And without them, Committee 6 would not as been successful and we were extremely successful in our jobs.

We had 12 meeting and established 5 ad‑hoc groups and two drafting groups and informal groups to facilitate our work and coordinate various proposals from the Member States. We had an ad‑hoc group on Decision 5, revenue and expenses for the Union for the period 2024‑2027 chaired by Mr. Dirk from Switzerland. We had another ad‑hoc group on Resolution 25, strengthening the regional presence, Resolution 148 task and functions of the Deputy Secretary‑General, Resolution 191, strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three sectors of the Union Chaired by Ms. Stella from Nigeria.

Ad‑hoc group on resolution 71 Chaired by Mr. Frederic from France and ad‑hoc group on Resolution 48 chaired by ‑‑ human resources management and development chaired by Blanca from Spain and an additional ad‑hoc group on Resolution 77, scheduling a duration of conferences, which was also Chaired by Blanca from Spain as well as the Resolution 2 on World Telecommunications Information and Communications Technology Policy Forum, WTPF for short.

We had a drafting group on Resolution 157, strengthening of the project execution and project monitoring functions in ITU Chaired by Dominique from Kenya. We had a drafting group on Resolution 212 on Union future headquarters premises and that was done informally and then formal ad‑hoc group drafting group was chaired by myself. We had a drafting group on Resolution 11 that was Chaired by myself, and a drafting group on 162 that was chaired by myself.

We exhausted our agenda and thanks to the support and dedication of all of you, the delegates and the Secretariat, we were able to deal with proposed modifications to 19 resolutions, 2 decisions, and 2 New Proposed Resolutions. We have a Strategic Plan of the Union and that document while in peril in the very beginning, we all recognized as COM6 and as Members of the Union that we needed to find a way to have compromise and consensus and we did that, and we adopted Resolution 71.

We approved the revenue and expenses for the Union for the period of 2024 and 2027 in Decision 5. We have in Resolution 151, improvement of results‑based budget in the ITU. We have, we approved special measures for least‑developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition in Resolution 30. Arrears and special arrears accounts, we approved in Resolution 41. We also approved the accounts from 2018 to 2021 in Resolution 150. We approved auditing of the accounts of the Union in Resolution 94. Strengthening of the project execution and project monitoring functions in Resolution 157. We also improved Independent Management Advisory Committee and in Resolution 162, and we also approved edits to Resolution 212 on the headquarter premises. And we also reached compromise on Resolution 48, the use of official ‑‑ six official languages, Resolution 154 and the creation of Council management working groups in decision 11.

So now, Chair, there are a couple of issues that we are presenting to the Plenary that would need to be inserted into the summary record of the Plenary that relates to ITU telecom events, Resolution 11. COM 6 decided to aggregate Resolution 11. This decision was based on the 2020 independent external audit management consultant report and 2021 external auditor's report, both identified ITU telecom events were not in line in accordance with Resolution 11 from Dubai where Resolve 7 states that each ITU telecom event shall be financially viable and have no negative impact on the ITU budget on the basis of the existing cost allocation system as determined by the Council.

As a result of abrogating Resolution 11, we recommend the following be placed in the Plenary. COM 6 recommends the Plenary instructs the Council at the ordinary session to transfer the remaining balance of the composition working capital fund EWCF to the ICT development fund, ICT‑DF, and COM 6 also recommends that the Plenary instructs the Secretary‑General and Directors of the bureau to continue to develop initiatives to encourage growth and foster the participation of all medium and small enterprise SMEs and all other stakeholders in the context of ITU major events and forums.

I will pause here, Chairman, and I will note that these two points were approved in Committee 6, so I will pause here. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. Any comments on these recommendations? Seeing none, the recommendations are approved. Thank you.

I'm giving back the floor to you, Chair.

>> CHAIR of COM 6: In resolution of approve of 191, strategy among the three sectors, the Committee, COM 6 agreed to recommend that the Plenary instructs the Secretary‑General coordinating with the Directors of the Bureau to submit to the 2024 session of council of One ITU. The council is instructed to evaluate the Secretary‑General's report and report to the next Plenipotentiary Conference on the implementation of the One ITU Concept inter alia the activities of regional and area offices. I will pause here. I will note that this was approved in Committee 6. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Any comments on this recommendation? Seeing none. Approved. Thank you.

(Applause).

Chairwoman, the floor is yours.

>> CHAIR of COM 6: Thank you very much. We also approved regional presence, Resolution 25, documents and publications of the Union and Resolution 66 and strengthening the ITU financial resource mobilizations. A new Resolution was sent to COM 6 however we all decided that the best place for the text was in Decision 5 and that was done.

One new Resolution that Committee 6 could not reach consensus on; however, on having a new resolution; however, we were able to reach consensus on a carefully crafted statement that we request that Plenary adopt in its minutes, and I will read that statement.

The Plenary adopts the following text, the potential reference of side event output document, if any, in the outputs of ITU conferences, assemblies, or meetings shall be the subject to the agreement or adoption by Member States attending these conferences, assemblies, and meetings. Chairman, I would say that this is a very carefully‑crafted statement, and I would recommend that we not open any parts of it. Thank you very much. It was agreed in COM 6. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. I fully support you on this. Anything that was approved at the level of the committees will not be opened again in the Plenary. Thank you, Member States for staying with us on this rule. Seeking the approval for this, any comments? No? Approved. Thank you.

(Applause).

Chair, the floor is yours back.

>> CHAIR of COM 6: Thank you, Chairman. There are two items which COM 6 could not achieve consensus. The two resolutions were Resolution 2 and Resolution 77, and they are connected. While all delegations agreed to the value of the WTPF, delegations had different perspectives regarding the definitive date between Plenipotentiary Conferences versus convening the WTPF on an ad hoc basis; so unfortunately, Chair, Resolution 77 and Resolution 2 come to the Plenary with square brackets.

So, I present those two documents to you. And then I would just like to thank the vice‑chairs again and my ad‑hoc and drafting group chairpersons. Let us take the opportunity also to thank the Government of Romania for the outstanding organization of this conference. Our work wouldn't have been possible without the assistance of the Secretariat, and I read their names out earlier. It was a truly and amazing experience. I want to thank everyone for their professionalism, integrity, and allowing me to send, and please allow me to send a shout out to my family who has allowed me to be here for three weeks and understood that I will be home soon. Thank you very much. Thank you to the Plenary for trusting me and Committee of for trusting me to get the work done. Thank you. Over to you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Chairwoman. After such work, I encourage you to bring your family here and stay one more week and vacation in Romania. This is an option maybe you will consider in the future.

Thank you. Thank you very much for your work and determination. Thank you to your team as well. Thank you for doing so far and indeed we have two resolutions here in the Plenary, but you've done so much so we have just a bit here to work on. Thank you very much for the way you led this process and for everything that you did for COM 6 challenging topics as well, but you did very, very well. Thank you very much.

Your Report will be included ‑‑ it is noted and included in the summary records. Now I open the floor for any other comments. I'm inviting the Russian Federation to take the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Chair. We would like to thank Ms. Vernita for the work she has done. We have some general comments, more as a request to the Secretariat. At the Plenipotentiary we have carefully studied all of the three reports of the Committees 5 and 6 and WG‑PL, and we noted that in the COM 6 Report, there is no reference to the documents which we reviewed.

We believe it would be a good idea to include that in the report, and could our request be conveyed to the Secretariat. This is just an editorial change, but it would be good to be able to see the report like that after the Plenipotentiary. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Russian Federation. I think as the report was noted, the report is not approved but noted in the summary records of the Plenary. Your request can be noted as well, and we will have this in the summary records of the Plenary. Thank you.

I'm now inviting Papua New Guinea to take the floor.

>> PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Thank you very much to Ms. Harris for the great leadership of this Committee dealing with so many hard issues. I heard so many comments about her leadership, so many complements, and finding a way through in situations where consensus was so difficult to achieve. I would also say there would be very few people to equal Ms. Harris' knowledge of the issues in the administration and finances of the ITU.

So, once again, very much congratulations and thank you very much for what you have achieved.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Iran?

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I would like to also express my deep frat attitude and appreciation to the Chair of Committee 6 for her excellent leadership and for guiding us to achieve excellent results.

I had the privilege and honor to assist in some of the topics that were considered in Committee 6, and I can testify that without her leadership, without her guidance, without her patience, it would have been impossible to achieve results. So, thank you very much, Madam Chair of Committee 6, and we wish you all the best. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you for the way you worked together on some of the most challenging topics. United States of America?

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I want to first of all congratulate Ms. Vernita Harris, who has been an outstanding Chair of Committee 6. We appreciate her commitment to the work of the Union, her commitment to finding and always fostering the spirit of consensus on which this organization is built and on which it depends. We appreciate her bringing her knowledge, her energy, her work ethic, and her integrity to this job. I think that she has shown what the next generation of leaders in this organization can and should look like, and we are very proud that she is an American and representing us as well in this leadership position. We hope that the future will look very much like Ms. Harris, and we know that she is fostering the next generation of leaders behind her. We thank her for her service, not only to the Union, but to the United States. Thank you.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Thank you USA. I have a long list of countries that requested the floor. We won't be able to take all of them because of the time constraints. Now I invite Saudi Arabia to take the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once again, we would like to also thank Ms. Vernita, Madam Chair of Committee 6, for her hard work, patience, and commitment and always fostering the good spirit and compromising. Also, we would like to thank the vice‑chairs of her committee and the ad‑hoc chairs as well as the Secretary. Thank you, again.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. The last country invited to take the floor is Algeria. Now, I invite UAE to take the floor.

>> UAE: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, all. On behalf of the Arab Group, we would like to express our whole‑hearted thanks and gratitude to Ms. Vernita Harris for her outstanding leadership of the work of Committee 6.

Over this period, Ms. Harris really has worked hard and closely with all administrations it seeks consensus and consensus to solutions to very thorny issues. We have seen that Ms. Harris has been extremely patient and devoted to her work to lead us to consensus. We thank you very much.

Ms. Harris and wish you the fullest success in your future endeavors. We reiterate our support to Ms. Harris. We will have the pleasure of working with her going forward, and we express our full support to see a success in any group that you might chair in the future. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Israel?

>> ISREAL: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I wish to thank and congratulate Ms. Vernita Harris. Ms. Harris, you have shown your excellent skills and abilities. Thank you for your outstanding leadership, dedication to the Union and to the work of the ITU in COM 6. You have been doing great work and all of this in a very good spirit. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Israel. Brazil?

>> BRAZIL: Hi. Good morning. I would like to express my gratitude to Ms. Harris. It was a privilege being here under her guidance and leadership. Thank you again to teach us to deal with all of these challenges. It was very tough, but it was very bright. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Korea?

>> REPUBLIC OF KOREA: Thank you, Chair. The Republic of Korea would also thank Ms. Harris for her able leadership and insight. We notice that effect COM 6 should have to tackle the important challenges of this PP. Ms. Harris, we believe that our patience, your guidance, and your able to compromise and kindness make the COM 6 successful. We thank you very much. Our thanks also go to the vice‑chairs and the ad‑hoc chairs, the Secretariat, and everyone involved in the discussions on COM 6. Thank you for your able leadership and I hope to see you again in the future conferences. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. South Africa?

>> SOUTH AFRICA: Thank you, Chairperson. We would also like to join with colleagues in congratulating the Chair of COM 6, Ms. Vernita Harris for excellent and skillful leadership and skill she was able to bring to bear to a very difficult assignment. I would also like to quickly mention as well the Chair of the ad hoc dealing with the strategic and financial plan, Frederic of France and Dr. Sharafat of Egypt for helping navigate what was a really difficult assignment, and as well of course the Secretariat team. Thank you very much, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Bahamas?

>> BAHAMAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The Bahamas would like to echo and align itself with the comments made about the Chair Ms. Vernita Harris of COM 6. She navigated the thorny parts to deliver a strategic plan in other thorny resolutions. She was professional, patient, and provided outstanding leadership. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Zimbabwe?

>> ZIMBABWE: Zimbabwe also joins the rest of the nations in congratulating, saluting the Chairperson of COM 6, Ms. Harris for her able leadership in steering the work of this Committee. The issues that she expertly worked on, we take note in revenue and expenses for the region, strengthening regional presence and strategic plan of the Union which also borrow from Zimbabwe.

We also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Kwame because we didn't have an opportunity to do so, for ably steering WG‑PL and we hope them well this the future endeavors. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. UK?

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chair. On behalf of the European Region, I would like to add our thanks to Vernita for her great leadership and also to all of her ad‑hoc chairs. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Cote d'Ivoire?

>> COTE d'IVOIRE: Thank you. Cote d'Ivoire would also like to join all other delegations who have already congratulated Ms. Vernita to once again extend our warm congratulations. We congratulate her and team for excellent leadership, exceptional leadership, given delicacy and sensitivity to tackle issues. She has shown impartiality, professionalism, patience, and results are more than satisfactory. Once again, our whole‑hearted congratulations. Thanks. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Burkina Faso?

>> BURKINA FASO: Thank you, Chair. Burkina Faso would like to join other delegations in thanking and congratulating Ms. Vernita and her vice‑chairs for the excellent work that they have undertaken leading the work in Committee 6. Your patience, your expertise, and your devotion as well as your personal qualities have contributed to the outcomes that we have achieved and have led to excellent leadership of our meeting. We reiterate the constant support you have from Burkina Faso. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Tunisia?

>> TUNISIA: On behalf of the delegation of the Tunisia and the Government, I would like to thank Ms. Harris for the excellent work that she has done leading Committee 6, and for her outstanding leadership of that Committee despite the many challenges that it posed. We have managed to achieve significant results, and we hope that we will continue to work with her going forward for the good of the International Telecommunications Union. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. China?

>> CHINA: Thank you, Chair. China would like to congratulate Ms. Harris and the vice‑chairs and ad‑hoc group chairs and Mr. Sharafat and the excellent work of the Secretariat. Their efforts have contributed for the Strategic Plan, human resources management, and many or important issues have helped us contribute to the agreement and provided guidance for work in the next four years. Thank you for all of your efforts. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. The last country is Algeria.

>> ALGERIA: Thank you, Chairman. Good morning all colleagues. We would like on behalf of the African Group to express our gratitude to Ms. Vernita Harris for her excellent leadership in this very important Committee, and also thanks to the ITU Secretariat and all vice‑chairs who also supported her in her activity. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chairman. I sent you congratulations and thank you on behalf of the countries that do not have a chance to take the floor. Thank you, again, for the wonderful work that you did in the leadership of Committee 6.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: The next topic on the agenda, item number 4, report of the Chairwoman of Committee 5 to the Plenary. Chairwoman, please, you have the floor. Document 189.

>> CHAIR of COM 5.: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, distinguished delegates. Committee 5 held 9 meetings and completed its work on October 11, and work was guided by the Terms of Reference and working methods described in DT/8. Committee 5 examined proposals allocated by the Plenary and examine the wide range of topics and set up a number of ad‑hoc groups and informal groups as listed in ADM/17 Rev. 7. Those group met for a total of 142 hours in 80 sessions. So, in terms of output, Committee 5 recommends the adoption of 4 new resolutions and 17 revised resolutions as listed under Section 2.

17 revised resolutions can be found at the Section 2.2.2 of this report and with respect to these revisions Committee 5 submits Recommendation on Resolution 19 and Recommendation 2 on Resolution 167 to the Plenary for consideration.

With regards to the Resolution 182, I encourage the delegation presented the next Plenipotentiary Conference to continue streamlining in the text in view of the length of all resolutions. So, for Resolution 188, the title has been changed. So, Committee 5 decided not to modify Resolution 100 and then decided to adopt 2 new resolutions in relation to the adoption of the Draft New Resolution COM/5/4 the Member States of the Arab region submitted the staples and you can find under Section 2.4.

Furthermore, Committee 5 did not reach consensus with respect to the proposals submitted in relation to the revision of Resolution 146. Chairman, I will report on this issue later under agenda item 6 of this Plenary. Also, Committee 5 decided not to adopt a New Resolution on ITU participation in MOU, but submits the recommendation 3 to Plenary for the consideration.

Also, the Committee 5 decided not to adopt a New Resolution in terms of office for elected officials of the Union and a new decision on conduct of the election campaigns. In deciding so, Committee 5 submits the recommendations to the Plenary for its consideration.

Also, Committee 5 discussed and reviewed both decided not to adopt a new Resolution on encouraging the participation of industry, but send recommendation 5 to the Plenary.

Also, there is one Draft New Resolution on respect for the rights of the Member States and Sector Members in ITU, but this resolution has been withdrawn.

In relation to the matter, the Russian Federation submitted the statements, and it is under the 2.6.5 of this Report.

Mr. Chairman, this is the summary of the work done by the COM 5 and as I explained Committee 5 submits the five recommendations.

If you allow me, I will read one by one for Plenary approval. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Ms. Chair, I propose the next working methods so let's if through all the recommendations and if there are comments on the recommendation, please request for the floor. If there is a comment on the report, you can have the comment at the end of the report.

Chairwoman, please the floor is yours for the first recommendation.

>> CHAIR of COM 5: Thank you, Chair. If you allow me to hear from the members on this summary report before I go into the recommendations if you allow us. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Okay then so I invite the Democratic Republic of Congo to take the floor. I think it was a mistake so I give the floor to Czech Republic.

>> CZECH REPUBLIC: Thank you very much for the floor, Mr. Chair. We would like here to make an intervention on behalf of the 27 Member States of the European Union, Ukraine, Australia, Canada, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. The intervention pertains to the Russian statement included in the Report of Committee 5 and which concerns the now withdrawn contribution Number 88.

We ask for this intervention to be included in the Minutes of the Plenary. Contribution Number 88 presented a safeguard in the rights of Member States, would in fact undermine Member State's rights and ability to decide at sectoral conferences and assemblies on the chairmanships and vice‑chairmanships of sectors, study groups, and advisory groups.

As such, Contribution Number 88 would not only be against the ITU Constitution, but it also would set a dangerous precedent for undermining of the decisions made by Member States according to established rules and procedures.

In addition, Contribution Number 88 was based on the false premise that the human rights of candidates for chairs and vice‑chairs of the ITU study groups and advisory groups have been violated.

This is not the case. Getting a nomination for being elected as chair or vice‑chair is not a human right. It is a sovereign right of ITU Member States to decide which candidates are best placed to conduct the work of study groups efficiently and in the spirit of trust and consensus.

It is for these reasons which puts in question both its merit and its legal basis that Contribution Number 88 was strongly rejected by the majority of delegations and did not go forward.

Finally, we would like to thank the Chair of the Committee 5 for her excellent leadership conducted in the spirit of transparency and inclusiveness. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Russian Federation?

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Chair. We have taken the floor to respond to the statement made by the distinguished colleague from the Czech Republic who spoke on behalf of several Member States. So that our colleagues have no more doubt about the legal basis and to have a reminder of how this was supported by several Member States, the states who made this reservation did not look at the text. We are making a counter‑statement as the Russian Delegation which we also request be included in the minutes. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Both declarations will be noted in the Minutes of the Plenary.

As there are no other comments, I invite the Chair of Committee 5 to proceed with their recommendations.

>> CHAIR of COM 5: Thank you, Chair. In relation to the Resolution 119, Committee 5 recommends that the Plenary adopt the following text.

In adopting modification to the Resolution 119, it was considered that the decisions of the radio regulation board, especially pertaining to interference defined in Radio Regulations may be of the interest of the general public. This is the recommendation we submitted to you. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. Any comments on this recommendation? Seeing none, approved. Thank you. I see a request for the floor from Republic of Korea. It is mistake. Thank you. Chair of Committee 5, the floor is yours.

>> CHAIR of COM 5: Thank you, Chair. Adopted modification to Resolution 167, Committee 5 made the following recommendation to the Plenary. In acknowledging the limitation imposed by the current requirements in Recognizing (e) of Resolution 167 the 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference recognized the importance of the ITU Members as well as chairmen of study group meetings that help remote participation by considering proposals and remote participants in regard to the issues being discussed in the meeting and importance of the stable technical facilities. This is the recommendation that we submit to the Plenary. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. Any comments? No? I seek your approval on the second recommendation. Approved. Thank you.

(Applause).

Chairman, the floor is yours.

>> CHAIR of COM 6: Regarding participation in MOU regarding the financial implications, Committee 5 recommends that this Plenipotentiary Conference adopt and maintaining the decision of the Plenipotentiary Conference 2018, contained in the Minutes of the 16th Plenary meeting as 173 on memoranda of the understanding with substantial financial and strategic implications. This is the third recommendation we submit to the Plenary. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Any comments on this recommendation? No? Approved. Chair, you have the floor.

>> CHAIR of COM 5: We had conversations on campaigns and procedures for elected officials and that Committee 5 recommends that the Plenary instructs the Council to examine the manner of the conducted election campaigns and procedures for electing the Secretary‑General, directs of bureaus of sectors, and members of the radio regulation board while ensuring that all candidates have the opportunity to participate in accordance of the principles of fairness, transparency, integrity, and impartiality in the conduct of the election campaigns.

The examination of this manner should be completed by the end of 2024 Council, and changes on this matter, if any, should be implemented before the next Plenipotentiary Conference. The Council should report to the next Plenipotentiary Conference on what has been implemented. This is the first recommendation to the Plenary. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. Any comments? Seeing none. The recommendation is approved. Chair, you have the floor.

>> CHAIR of COM 5: With respect to the proposal made on industry participation, Committee 5 recommends the following text. The Secretary‑General and the Directors of the Bureaus continue to encourage the enhanced participation of entities and organizations in the activities of the Union in accordance with all relevant provisions of the ITU, Constitutions and Convention. Excuse me.

The Plenipotentiary Conference further invites the Director of Bureaus to bring this topic to the attention of the respective advisory groups as appropriate. This is the last recommendation that we submit to the Plenary. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. Any comments on recommendation from Committee 5? No comments? It is approved. Thank you very much for your work.

Chair, please, the floor.

>> CHAIR of COM 5: Thank you, Chair. Since I hurried to finish my work within the time limit that you have given, I didn't trust to thank all the vice‑chairs and then if you please allow me to convey my sincere thanks to them. First of all, I really want to thank all my vice‑chairs, Mr. William Lee, Mr. Bedard and Mr. Gross and Mr. Bessi and Mr. Okorie, I ask them all the work for the ad hoc and asked them to coordination issues for the regions, and whenever they were needed, they were very efficient and everything was done in a really good manner, so I really thank all the vice‑chairs very much.

And then I also want to thank that we had created 11 ad‑hoc groups and 5 informal groups, but I was really lucky to have all of those great knowledgeable and able chairs for my groups, so all of them have done the great work and I consider this to be a successful for all of them.

I also would like to express my sincere thanks to the Secretariat who is here and his team behind. They have done all the work, and some of them told me that I made it look very easy to chair in COM 5, but it was all thanks to those people who were behind. And then to make my comment short, I will join the comments made by the Working Group Plenary of the Chair to thank everyone, the interpreters, translators, the groups and captioners, all the people involved in the conference. And last thanks to the Chair, whenever I needed your guidance, you were always very helpful and here for us whenever we needed it. I really appreciate all the work that you've done for all of us.

And then to whom participated in Committee 5, for those for the last three weeks, I really appreciate all of your spirit of compromise and then cooperations. It was really great experience and then I will look forward to seeing you continuously in the future. Thank you.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Chairwoman. Your report will be noted, and I would like to thank you for your leadership, for your resilience, for your determination. I think that the fact that the leadership of the two out of three substantive committees who have women, it's a strong message delivered by the Union and congratulations for that. This is a fact and not just the work and congratulations for this.

(Applause).

Thank you very much, Chairwoman, again. I would now open the floor for the countries that would like to express their thanks or messages. Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would like to express my deep gratitude and thanks to the Chair of Committee 5, and her entire team for their work, dedication, commitment, kindness, leadership, and guidance, and also for achieving excellent results.

Mr. Chairman, I had the privilege and honor to work with the Chair of Committee 5 on many, many ITU and APT meetings, and I'm grateful to her for her leadership, for her guidance, for her generosity and for her kindness. These are qualities that we, of course, are sometimes rare in today's world, but we are very fortunate in Asia Pacific to have a Chair in the person of Ms. Mina Jun to guide us in this very important Committee. Thank you, Mina for all of your work and wish you all the best and look forward to working with you in the future conferences. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I have a long list of countries so I have to announce the last one is Tunisia because we don't have that much time so I'm sorry for the other countries, and try if possible, to be brief, even if our chairs deserve all of the kind words you're expressing. Republic of Korea is the next country invited to take the floor.

>> REPUBLIC OF KOREA: Thank you, Chair for the floor. On behalf of the Republic of Korea we express our sincere gratitude for COM 5 Chair for successful accomplishing the work of COM 5. Considering the most challenging agenda which she should have to deal with, we would like to extend special appreciation for her insight, flexibility, and patience throughout our discussion.

We are confident that young leaders like COM 5 Chair for her fresh and forward‑looking vision, and competence and substantive experience and knowledge will be great asset for the ITU.

I look forward to working again with her in the future. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Brazil?

>> BRAZIL: Thank you, Chair for giving me the floor. Thank you, everyone. Brazil would like to thank Madam Mina for challenge of leading COM 5, in efficient and leadership and great spired of compromise and achieved great excellent results presented at the Plenary. We also thank the Secretariat in Mr. Daniels and Nicols for the support team and assistance if the work of COM 5. Brazil is glad we had an opportunity to some of this work leading ad hocs and contribute to the outcomes of COM 5 and hope that we can continue to work at the next conference. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. USA?

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Chair. I would like to join with others in thanking Ms. Seonmin Jun for excellent leadership of COM 5 as stated. She was dealing with very, very difficult issues, she has approached with a spirit of compromise, patience, diligence, inclusiveness, and integrity and I appreciate her hard work to make this Committee successful and bring to this Plenipotentiary more of a closed agenda of solutions rather than series of problems which it could have been. We very much appreciate your work and look forward to working with you in the future and look forward to your future leadership in this Union. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Romania.

>> ROMANIA: Thank you, Chairman. On behalf of Europe, I would also like to thank the distinguished chairwoman for her leadership. The balance between a firm and kind hand is extremely hard to achieve, but you did it, Mina, and you are amazing. We know we didn't make it easy for you, but you can certainly take on a good challenge, so congratulations for the fantastic grad and congratulations to the Secretariat and vice‑chairs, and Chairwoman Mina, I hope that we can all be like you, Ms. Chairwoman Mina. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Thailand?

>> THAILAND: Thank you very much, Chair. I will be very brief. Thailand would like to extend our appreciating to Madam Chair of COM 5. In one word. Mina, you are phenomenon. You worked tirelessly 24/7 behind the scenes but this front of the scenes you make it look so easy, comfortable, and you always appear to be fresh. So, as a delegate of the ITU, Mina, we thank you. As a fellow delegates of the Asia Pacific, we are proud of you. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Nigeria.

>> NIGERIA: Nigeria would like to extend voice present leadership for outstanding leadership and management of Chair of COM 5, her open, supportive, innovative, firm, an insightful approach to issues is an attestation to a bright future for the Union. And like the Chair already observed to gender agenda.

Nigeria served as chair and drew inspiration from your strength and faith in the power of compromise of inclusiveness, and teamwork. We thank you and we wish you a great future. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I invite Papua New Guinea to take the floor.

>> PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Thank you, Chair. We would like to express our pride in having one of our very own regions so ably performing in this very challenging role. We know Mina well and we know her capacity and skills, and we were glad it could be shared with everyone at this conference. I know how difficult many of the issues that she dealt with so efficiently, so hard, and with such clear and decisive leadership, so congratulations, Mina, congratulations vice‑chairs, chairs of the ad‑hocs and informal groups, and I know how hard the Secretariat worked on this from the firsthand experience. Thank you all.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. UAE?

>> UAE: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. On behalf of the UAE, I in turn would like to add my voice to those voices of brothers and sisters who have taken the floor before me in thanking Madam Chair Mina, and her leading the Committee 5, and we appreciate her approach and her achievement in completing the work.

I may be have participated for the first time in working with Ms. Mina and maybe we are working in different sectors of ITU, however, I felt a unique way of leading Committee 5 in her personality, and share what some have said in that Mrs. Mina is present, determined, great experience and modern approach in dealing with topics of Committee 5. And I in my capacity as a Chair of one of the groups working under Committee 5, I would like to thank her profusely for her leadership and for her continuous guidance which contributed greatly in ensuring the success of the tasks of all the groups that were working under Committee 5. I would like to thank her on behalf of the UAE and also personally for her guidance and her leadership. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Japan?

>> JAPAN: Mr. Chairman, as one of the ad‑hoc group chairs under Committee 5, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our Chair Ms. Mina. She not only just waited for a report, but actively participated in the discussion and helped us progress our work. She's strong and at the same time very kind and thoughtful at heart. Thank you very much, again, for your guidance, efforts, and generosity. We look forward to working with you again. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Saudi Arabia?

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Mr. Chairman, we would like to echo what our colleagues from different regions have expressed about Madam Chairman of Committee 5. We would also like to thank Ms. Mina for her great work and always trying to find a common ground between different regions and trying to always reach an agreement and satisfying all regions. We thank her for her hard work and commitment. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. India?

>> INDIA: Thank you, Chair. India would also like to join all the previous speakers in extending very hard work carried out by Ms. Mina, the Chair for the COM 5 for an excellent work done by her. We are extending our congratulations to her, along with all the entire team of the vice‑chairs, the Secretariat from the ITU for hard work. She did have very difficult task before her on many aspects with the diverging views that were there, but she has ably led the group and could conclude to the final conclusions in such a manner which are acceptable to most of us, and that's the reason we are finding so many recommendations coming from the Committee 5. There has been an agreement for disagreement on certain things, but very good work in excellent manner in very able way to conduct the meetings. Thank you, Ms. Mina.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Russian Federation?

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Chair. We also wish to echo all of these kind words to Mina, our Chair. On behalf of the ‑‑ or we thank the Republic of Korea Administration for the bright example of all of the wonderful staff from this country and we note the contribution to our Union by Dr. Chaesub Lee and now Mina and many, many others from the Republic of Korea who are active in all of these sectors of our Union.

I wish to highlight her outstanding knowledge of the rules of procedure for holding meetings and her subtle understanding of how to achieve consensus, and her strict adherence to the spirit of cooperation, and her commitment to impartiality as Chair. Thank you very much, Mina. I thank her administration as well and all of our colleagues from the Republic of Korea. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. The last country invited to take the floor is Tunisia.

>> TUNISIA: Thank you, Chair. We would also like to thank Ms. Mina the Chairperson of Committee 5 for her wise leadership and for the efforts she has made during the work of the Committee and for being open in order to achieve consensus on very difficult topics that were studied.

We also would like to thank all the vice‑chairs and the Secretariat and the heads of different groups in order to achieve these results. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, and Chairwoman on behalf of the countries that requested the floor but because of the time constraints, we cannot allow them to take the floor to congratulate you, I say for them thank you and congratulations for your work.

(Applause).

Now we have another special moment, so please don't believe the Plenary. We'll take a 10‑minute break because we have a special moment for our chairs and I invite the Head of the protocol to take the floor. We reconvene here back at 5 minutes past 12:00 because we have some documents that we need to approve.

>> HEAD of PROTOCOL: Thank you very much, Chair. ITU would like to recognize the valuable contribution of the Chairs of the different Committees towards a successful outcome of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2022.

I invite the Secretary‑General to join me for Certificate of Appreciation. First, I would like to invite the Chair of Committee 2 Mr. Al‑Ansari Al‑Mashagbah of Jordan to come to the podium.

Mr. are Bakhtyar Mammadov of Azerbaijan is unable to be with us and will receive his certificate at a later stage.

I now invite the Chair of Committee 4 the editorial Committee, Mr. Christian Rissone of France to come to the podium.

I now invite the Chair of Committee 5, policy and legal, Ms. Mina Seonmin Jun to come to the podium.

I now invite the Chair of Committee 6 of Administration and management, Ms. Vernita Harris of United States of America to please come to the podium.

And I now invite the Chair of the Working Group of the Plenary Mr. Kwame Baah‑Acheamfour of Ghana to come to the podium.

Before we conclude, we have a special word of appreciation to the vice‑chairs of the conference for their hard work and dedication to successful outcome of the Plenipotentiary Conference 2022, vice‑chairs Ms. Caroline Greenway of Papua New Guinea, Mr. Orozobek Kaiykov of Kyrgyzstan, Mohammad Amine Benziane of Algeria, and Erica Barks‑Ruggles of USA, and Oli Bird of UK and Tariq Al‑Awadhi, UAE.

And we now take the photo and invite the chairs to join the Chair of the PP‑22 and elected officials and Chair of the Conference and group photo of the Vice‑Chair of the Conference who I invite to make the way to the front of the podium. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Ladies and gentlemen, please take your seats. We need to start our Plenary, continue our Plenary because we're a little behind schedule and need to be efficient. On the next item on our agenda, we have a series of texts from Editorial Committee, 193, 194, 196, 166, 197, 198, and 195. I invite now the Chair of Committee 4 to present the first series for today, which is the twenty‑third series, actually.

>> CHAIR of COM 4: Thank you very much, Chair. Good afternoon to all. I would present the twenty‑third series of text submitted by the Editorial Committee. This is a decision from Committee 6 and a proposal with regard to Resolution 11. Decision 5 instructs the Union for the period of 2024‑2027, and Resolution 11 deals with an event known as ITU Telecom. I, therefore, submit these two documents for approval at first reading, drawing your attention in particular for the fact for Resolution 11 we are looking at suppression. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. I like to invite the document reading of 193, page by page, resolution by resolution and I start with Decision 5 Page 1, so first reading of document in blue, Page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4? Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Page 8? Page 9? Page 10? And page 11? Any comments? No? Document approved in blue.

The second reading, the document in pink, Decision 5. Seeing no comments. Approved. Thank you.

Now the Resolution 11, the suppression of the resolution. A single page, Page 12 first reading, Document in blue. Any comments? None? The document is approved in blue.

With the pink glasses, the second reading of the document for your approval? No comments? The document is approved. Thank you.

(Applause).

Chair, you have the floor for the next series.

>> CHAIR of COM 4: Thank you, Chair. The next series and next document is Document 194, which is the twenty‑fourth series of documents submitted by the Editorial Committee. This contains two resolutions coming from the Working Group of the Plenary. The first resolution is 102 on ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and to the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses. The second resolution is Resolution 205 on ITU's role in fostering telecommunication as ICT innovation to support the digital economy and society. I submit these two resolutions for approval at first reading. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. We proceed for the first reading of the Resolution 102 and 205. Document 194, page by page, resolution by resolution. First resolution, first reading, document in blue, page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4? Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Page 8? Page 9? Page 10?

Seeing no comments, the resolution is approved in blue. Now the second reading of the resolution 102, the document in pink. Any comments? Seeing none, it's approved. Thank you very much for this.

(Applause).

The second resolution 205, the first reading document in blue, Page 11? Page 12? Page 13? Page 14? Page 15? Page 16? Seeing no comments, the resolution is approved it blue. The second reading, Resolution 205, document in pink, any comments? No? The Resolution is approved. Thank you.

(Applause).

Chair, you have the floor for the next document.

>> CHAIR of COM 4: Thank you, Chair. The next document is Document 196 which sets out resolution from Committee 6, a very important resolution, because this is the Strategic Plan for the Union for the period 2024‑2027 as well as the three Annexes in attachment. I submit this for approval at first reading. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. This is a very important resolution for the Union and one of the resolutions that got a lot of effort on this, and thank you. Thank you very much for working so hard in order to achieve consensus on this resolution.

I proceed to the first reading of the Document 196 which is Resolution 71 and three 3 Annexes and we have page by page.

First reading, the document in blue. Page 1? I have to go faster because there are 43 pages. Page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4? Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Page 8? Page 9? Page 10? Page 11? Page 12? Page 13? Page 14? Page 15? Page 16? Page 17? Page 18? Page 19? Page 20? Page 21? Page 22? Page 23? Page 24? Page 25? Page 26? Page 27? Page 28? Page 29? Page 30? Page 31? Page 32? Page 33? Page 34? Page 35? Page 36? Page 37? Page 38? Page 39? Page 40? Page 41? Page 42? And this is the last page. Any comments? None? The Resolution is approved in blue. Second reading with pink glasses. The Resolution 71, any comments? No? Approved. Thank you very, very much.

(Applause).

Chair, you have the floor for the next document.

>> CHAIR of COM 4: Thank you, Chair. The next document is Document 166, the 15th series of text from the Editorial Committee. Here we have two resolutions coming from the Working Group of the Plenary. The first is Resolution 137 on the deployment of future networks in developing countries.

The second Resolution is 203 on connectivity to broadband networks. I submit these two resolutions for approval at first reading. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair. We proceed with the first reading of these two Resolutions, page by page and resolution by resolution. I start by Resolution 137. Page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4? Page 5? Any comments? No? The resolution is approved in blue. The second reading of Resolution 137, the document in pink. Any comments? No? Approved. Thank you.

(Applause).

The second resolution from this document, first reading from Resolution 203, Page 6? Page 7? Page 8? And page 9? Seeing no comments, the Resolution 203 is approved in blue. The second reading with the pink glasses, Resolution 203. Any comments? Seeing none, the Resolution is approved. Thank you.

Chair, you have the floor for the next document.

>> CHAIR of COM 4: Thank you, Chair. The next document is theoretically Document 187, but unfortunately it is not yet available on the website in French, so if you agree, Chair, I can introduce instead Document 198 which is available in the six languages.

>> CHAIR: Yes, please, introduce the next document which is available in the all six languages.

>> CHAIR of COM 4: Thank you, Chair. The next document is Document 198, which is Resolution 167 from Committee 5. The title is strengthening and developing ITU capacity for entirely virtual meetings and physical meetings with remote participation and electronic means allowing to progress the work of the Union. I submit this Resolution for approval at first reading. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Let's proceed for the first reading of Document 198, which is Resolution 167. First reading in blue, Page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4? Page 5? And Page 6? Any comments? None? There is a request from Jordan. Please, Jordan.

>> JORDAN: Thank you, Chair. I apologize. With regard to Page 3, at Resolves, the second paragraph reads that the ITU should make guidance, high‑level guidance, and I think it would be better worded to say that the ITU should develop high‑level guidance, rather than should, the ITU could develop, and I think it's a matter of using the right verb here. I was reading from Arabic. It was not accurate interpretation to what I was seeing, so Resolve, I think Article 2. In Arabic it says a different verb and it should be modified in Arabic to use a more appropriate verb in Arabic. Not in English.

>> CHAIR: Okay. That would not be my question, if it's right in the English version. So, Chair of Committee 4, please consider the remarks from Jordan in line with the text requested in the Arabic version if it's more appropriate. Thank you, Jordan.

So, there is a request from Iran as well. Please, Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. Let me read the Resolves that the ITU should develop. The term should ‑‑ is more or less of optional nature. We have similar situation in other resolution which was approved and also in one recommendation, so it is suggested to delete the word, "should," that ITU develop high‑level. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Iran for the discussion, I agree online due to the course of the text and different languages but I ask you to keep the rule for all the resolutions and keep in the Plenary the text as it came from the Working Group Plenary or from the Committees from respect of your hard work you all did in those committees and ad‑hocs to negotiate the final version of the text. For the English version, I will not take any or discuss here in the Plenary any other modification on the text that has already been agreed before. Jordan, please you have the floor.

>> JORDAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I do agree with the statement made by Mr. Arasti from Iran, if the point of overviewing these documents without discussion, so why do we even open up these documents for discussion here? I think there is a major issue with the drafting in Arabic, the translation a verb of translation of "should"; however, I agree with Mr. Arasti that the text itself should be reconsidered, and that's not ‑‑ that does not affect the content of the agreement in the ad‑hocs and the committees, but this is a matter that is rather the prerogative of the Plenary Session, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Jordan, again. So, I'll enforce my message that I already said. For the Arab Version I can kindly request Chair of Committee 4 to consider any request or recommendation from Jordan or Iran or another country that is having the resolution in their language, in Arabic language. In the last year I've seen a lot of conferences where you spent half an hour for a word or even more than that. And if the version that came from the Committee, it's the one that is presented here, I again kindly ask you to try to stay with the form that we received. Otherwise, any other Member States, it's entitled to, and I will not request reopening discussion on any other resolution. So, I appreciate the work that you've done in the committees and working groups and meetings, hundreds of hours, so please let's stay with what you decided here and not modify anything that was already agreed in other meetings. Thank you for understanding, and I appreciate your input as well. Thank you so much.

I proceed with the reading of the next page which is page 5? Page 6? Any other comments? No in the Resolution is approved in blue. Thank you. Now the second reading of the document, the Resolution in pink? Any comments? Seeing none, the Resolution 167 is approved. Thank you.

(Applause).

Chair, we have Document 197 all the versions and all the languages available so we can proceed with the reading of this document.

>> CHAIR of COM 4: Thank you, Chair. Yes, indeed the six languages are available on the website, there is no further problem with that. And so I propose that the introduction of Document 197 which is the twenty‑seventh series of text submitted by the Drafting Committee and three resolutions from the Working Group of the Plenary. The first is Resolution 130 on strengthening the role of the ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies.

The second Resolution is 131, measuring ICTs and the use of ICTs to facilitate integration. The third resolution is Resolution 139 on the use of telecommunications and information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society. I submit these three resolutions for approval at first reading. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Let's continue with the first reading of Document 197. Resolution by resolution, page by page, the first Resolution is 30, Page 1? I see a request for the floor from Sudan. South Sudan, please, you have the floor.

>> SOUTH SUDAN: Thank you so much Mr. Chairman. On the first page of Resolution 130, there is square brackets on 174, Resolution 174, and in the Arabic version of this same resolution, we don't have the square brackets. We notice there will not be any change on Resolution 174 on this, but just asking for clarification of Chairman of Committee 4. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Chair of Committee 4, can you please clarify this?

>> CHAIR of COM 4: Yes. Thank you, Chair. To be frank, as we have sped up in the last few hours, we have been asked to tidy up some texts and this will, of course, be done this evening before we discuss the final act for tomorrow. I would like to specify that there are some square brackets in the resolution still, for instance a moment ago we approved Resolution 71 and all of the other resolutions that I've presented today refer to this Resolution 71 and they had the square brackets around the revision itself and to be transparent before Plenary and to avoid giving the impression that the text was approved before. As this has been brought up, this was a small oversight when tidying up the text. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Chair for explaining why we still have some square brackets that have been eliminated. And before moving on, I kindly ask the interpreters to allow us with 15 more minutes.

>> No problem, Chair.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I proceed with the first reading of the Resolution 130, again from Page 1? Page 2? Page 3? Page 4? Page 5? Page 6? Page 7? Page 8? Page 9? Page 10? Page 11? Page 12? Page 13? Page 14? Page 15? Page 16, which is the last page? Any comments? No? Approved.

Now the second reading of the Resolution 130 in pink? Any comments? No? Approved.

(Applause).

Thank you. Thank you for the huge amount of work you did on this Resolution and congratulations for reaching consensus on such a challenging topic.

The next Resolution is 131. I proceed with the first reading, the document in blue, Page 17? Page 18? Page 19? Page 20? Page 21? Page 22? Page 23? Page 24? And the last page of Page 25? Any comments? No? The Resolution is approved in blue. The second reading, resolution in pink, Resolution 131? Any comments? No? Approved.

(Applause).

The next Resolution from this document, the last one from this document is Resolution 139. The first reading the document in blue, Page 26? Page 27? Page 28? Page 29? Page 30? Page 31? Page 32? Page 33? Page 34? Which is the last one. Any comment? No? Approved in blue. The second reading, Resolution 139? The document in pink. Any comments? Seeing none, the Resolution is approved. Thank you.

(Applause).

USA, you have the floor.

>> UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate very much all the hard work that was done on this Resolution. With respect to the approval of the modifications to Resolution 139, on bridging the digital divide we wish to have the following statement entered for the records in the Minutes of the Plenary. The United States expresses strong consternation that this Plenipotentiary Conference has failed to include explicit instructions in Resolution 139 to continue to support and coordinate efforts to connect women and girls in all of their diversity, youth and vulnerable groups, indigenous people, older persons, and persons with disabilities and specific needs despite overwhelming support. We find this particularly problematic given the historic nature of this conference, at which we elected Ms. Doreen Bogdan‑Martin as the first woman to serve as the ITU Secretary‑General in the 157 years of this organization.

In the U.S. Policy Statement delivered at the start of this conference, we affirmed our commitment to working with the international community to close digital divides, including the gender digital divide which was ‑‑ has huge economic implications for all women and girls. According to UNICEF and I quote, as the digitization of economies expands, economic and social growth will increasingly depend upon people's ability to use technology, unquote. However, women and girls trail significantly behind men and boys in digital adoption, access, usage, and literacy. Many Member States from across all regions have echoed similar sentiments in their own policy statements, rightfully highlighting national initiatives explicitly targeted toward women and girls, youth, and persons with disabilities and specific needs.

Much to our dismay, some of the same Member States that gave the statements, had not put their words into action when it came to the revisions of Resolution 139. Instead, argued for positions directly the opposite of their stated priorities.

Nonetheless, Mr. Chairman, the facts are indisputable, the ITU‑D report measuring digital development facts and figures 2021, concludes that although gender parody hasn't achieved in some regions, the gender digital divide remains wide in many regions, including Least Developed Countries landlocked and developing countries, Arab States, and Africa.

Regarding youth, joint research from the ITU and UNICEF covers that over two‑thirds of the world school‑age children, over 1.3‑billion children still lack Internet access at home. Meanwhile, according to data from the United Nations Development Program, there are more than 176‑indigenous people around the world and remain underserved and those least likely to be connected to the Internet.

The ITU‑D aging in the digital world highlights that by 2050, 1 in 6 people globally will be over the age of 65, emphasizing the increasing importance to connecting older populations to the importance of digital opportunity.

Last but certainly not last according to the GSMA Mobile Digital Disability Gap Report 2021 an estimated 15% of the global population lives with some form of disability, yet persons with disabilities have disproportionately lower levels of mobile Internet usage. We cannot negotiate away reality. We find it unconscionable that this Plenipotentiary Conference has failed to include critically important language in Resolution 139 based solely on unfounded and unsubstantiated concerns from a small minority of Member States.

Despite the disappointing outcome the United States remains dedicated to advancing ITU efforts to continue to connect the unconnected with the much-needed emphasis on women and girls, youth and vulnerable groups, indigenous people, the elderly, and persons with disabilities and specific needs. We call upon all Member States to join us in sharing at that no one is left behind. In line with the fundamental mission and moral principles of the ITU. I thank you, Mr. Chair.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Thank you, USA. I have a list of countries that have requested the floor, so I have to ask interpreters if you can allow us 10 more minutes, and once the time is consumed, we have to stop. I propose you to stop at 12:55. Let’s please be brief. When we reach the time limit, we have to stop. And for the break and lunch we'll be back here at 2:30.

Denmark, you have the floor. I'm sorry, the interpreters, are we allowed to continue until 12:55?

>> Yes, Chair, that's okay.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Denmark?

>> DENMARK: Thank you, Chair. I wish to make a statement about the importance of considering gender in our work on behalf of the following countries. Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Principles of Monaco, Republic of Finland, Korea, Slovenia, Romania, Rwanda, (?) ‑‑ United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, and Vanuatu.

We ask the statement be included in the record of the meeting.

If we look around, we see across the globe many are striving for progress to achieve gender equality. In 2019 there was the first all‑women space work at the international space station. In 2020 women's representation in parliament reached 25% of parliamentary seats globally. This first conference was the first generation ITU conference and elected the first woman ever to lead the ITU in the 157‑year history in the organization yet there is more to be done.

We believe that gender remains a cross‑cutting priority issue for the ITU. We encourage reform of the ITU's ways of working to improve gender equity with a true focus on inclusion and diversity. We believe that in order for the ITU's work to bridge digital divides and achieve the SDGs, a continuous focus of understanding, gender disaggregated impacts and promoting gender equality is crucial. According to the ITU's own data, the proportion of women using the Internet globally is 48% compared to 58% of men; furthermore, only 27% of the cybersecurity workforce are women and these are just two examples of the very real gender digital divides.

It is within this context that we wish to express our disappointment that this conference has been unable to reach consensus on important text on advancing gender equality in a number of resolutions. This is out of step with the Sustainable Development Goal number 5 of the UN System as a whole, and we must do better. Connecting the unconnected has never been more important, but we can only do that if we work together to bridge the gender digital divide. We call on all countries to recognize the importance of achieving gender equality so as to leave no one behind. Thank you, Chair.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Many of the countries at the beginning of the statement are requesting the floor and giving the floor and maybe already requested the floor but maybe you can consider as well to withdraw. If no, Canada, we still have 9 more minutes. Canada is invited to take the floor.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Chair. I will be brief. Let me start with a quote. A quote from a young woman called Malala Yousafzai, Noble Prize Winner in 2014, and I quote, I raise my voice not so I can shout but so those without a voice can be heard. We cannot succeed when half of us are held back. End of quote. On October the 9th, 2012, this 15‑year‑old woman and two other girls were shot by a gunman in an assassination attempt in retaliation for her activism. She survived. She was shot because of her activism in the support and promotion of women and girls and the rights, the rights of free speech, the right to education, the right to travel, the right to health care, the right to walk freely, peacefully and without fear. The right to dissent, the right to access and use the Internet, fundamental human rights. If Malala would have witnessed yesterday's discussions of Resolution 139 and listen the to the patronizing and condescending interventions, she would probably be asking what is wrong with asking the ITU to continue to supporting inclusivity for all women and girls. What is wrong to support the vulnerable and marginalized groups? Support for the elderly? Support for the people with disabilities? Support for closing the gender digital divide? She would probably state and ask; gentlemen, this is 2022, what are you afraid of? What is wrong with you? Thank you, Chairman.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: UK?

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you for the floor, Chair. On behalf of the UK, I wish to echo many other countries in expressing our extreme disappointment that this conference has not been able to recognize that women and girls and other key groups are particularly badly affected by the digital divide, and we would also like this to be entered into the minutes of the Plenary.

We applaud the significant progress that has been made in this resolution, but in this one area, we have very regretfully fallen short. However, where there is a will, there is a way. I have confidence that with the united efforts of the delegates in this room, by the time we reconvene at the next Plenipotentiary Conference, significant progress will have been made. Thank you, Chair.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Romania?

>> ROMANIA: Thank you, Chairman. I would like ‑‑ I will not repeat what was already said also in the name of Romania by my distinguished colleague from Denmark, and I also come in support of the previous comments that have been made. As the Host Country, I would like to say that we also know that some improper comments against women participants at this conference, comments which have no place in the ITU. We appreciate the hard work of delegates of all genders, and of course we have to respect each other. We also remind the conference of the ITU's Code of Conduct which was reminded also at the beginning of the conference to prevent sexual harassment during or in relation to ITU events. We have 30% of the women delegates are at the Plenipotentiary Conference for the first time and for this to continue to increase, we must walk the talk in becoming a truly inclusive ITU. I mention again, respecting each other. Thank you very much.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Romania. Dominican Republic.

>> DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Thank you, Chair. I will not repeat what has been said by those before me. I will simply fully and absolutely support them. I am speaking for the Dominican Republic, but I would also like to speak as a woman, mother of a daughter with a disability. It's painful for us that the ITU would issue a resolution excluding people such as my daughter. Chair, we would like this to appear on the record, our frustration with regard to this resolution. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Trinidad and Tobago.

>> TRINIDAD and TOBAGO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to have this statement entered into the minutes of this Plenary. We align with the statement made by Denmark on behalf of a group of like‑minded countries. We regret that collectively we were unable to find consensus on issues as critical of those as gender, youth, and the disadvantaged groups with respect to Resolution 139. For Trinidad and Tobago representation and inclusion, are important factors for bridging the digital divide and securing overall development, leaving no one behind. The inability of the Union to demonstrate to the global community a similar commitment to these issues is recognized within the SDGs is a sad day for us. To quote one of the youth Ambassadors, let's scream it and be it. Thank you, Chairman.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Argentina?

>> ARGENTINA: Thank you very much, Chair. At this time, we would like to say something different, but having seen what happened in the Working Group of the Plenary, we would like to make the following statement and we hope this can appear on the record. The Argentina administration would like to reiterate our deep commitment to the task of reducing the digital divide in all facets, particularly for those groups in different circumstances that we have failed to include.

The non‑recognition of the fact that the digital divide is affecting different categories, particularly women, girls, the elderly, persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs and indigenous peoples as well as persons in situations of vulnerability, particularly in developing countries. We stand that this conference is in a historic moment for having elected the first woman to serve as Secretary‑General in more than 150 years of experience, despite the disillusion that has resulted from the discussion other Resolution 139 leads us to reflect on the importance of not limiting ourselves to words but ensuring that actions speak for us. At the end of the discussion, we feel that the Union as a whole has failed to recognize that there are actions that need to be taken in order to achieve significant, meaningful connectivity which reduces and eliminates the digital divide but without leaving anyone behind. The values and discourse we have heard repeatedly throughout this conference, have clashed with the reality that we have not been able to change. The contradiction that we have seen only serves to show that we still have such a long way to go, not only to achieve Goal 5 of the SDGs on gender equality and empowering women and girls, but as to meet Target 2 of the Strategic Plan approved just a few moments ago. We must commit to achieving consensus to ensure that there are no impossible barriers to bridging the digital divide.

We must have these strongest possible conviction that the steps we are to take to achieve a higher objective and that every action that is taken on that path forms part of the fundamental parts of the Union of which we are part. No one believes this is an easy task, but we believe that the people that we are working for should have their voice heard through us. We should promote share vision. The Republic of Argentina would like to reiterate the commitment to ITU to work hand in hand with other members to achieve greater connectivity for particularly for women, girls, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with specific needs, indigenous peoples, and persons in situations of vulnerability standing sure that the fruit of this action owned by the Union will bring us closer to a more inclusive and equal information society. Thank you.

(Applause).

>> CHAIR: Thank you. Unfortunately, we have to stop here, and the reason is not the lunch because we can postpone the lunch. But the reason is that we still have two issues to solve in this conference, and we need some offline discussions, and we need time for that because we intend, or we will not prolong the second session of the afternoon. So, we still have on our agenda the next series of documents and oral report for the Chairman of Committee 5 on ITRs, and also the time limit for the declaration and other business, but we will tackle that this afternoon from 10:30. All the declarations that were made will be noted in the Report of the ‑‑ in the summary reports, and thank you for your statements and for your support. Thank you, and see you all in one hour and a half.

And of course, I'm inviting all the women to take the pictures with the blouse, I think it's going to be outside, outside of the venue? Just be prepared. Here at the podium? Okay, we invite all the women to join us at the podium for a photo.

(session completed at 4:57 a.m. CST)

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