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BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

SEVENTH PLENARY

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>> CHAIR: Distinguished Delegates, I kindly ask you to take your seat.

Can everyone take their seats so that we can proceed with the meeting? Thank you. Thank you, everyone, for being back.

The draft agenda of the Seventh Plenary meeting is published and is Document ADM‑20 and seeking for your approval the agenda. Approved.

We'll move to the second point of our agenda, general policy statements. We'll start inviting Her Excellency from Rwanda.

>> RWANDA: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, Heads of Delegation, ITU Secretary‑General and elected officials, Distinguished Delegates, good afternoon. Allow me to begin by expressing our gratitude to the government and people of Romania for their excellent hospitality. We all feel at home and we had to squeeze in the Rwanda dance in the beginning ever today's session just because of how welcome we feel today.

Yesterday at the reception I shared the ethos that's guided Rwanda's progress and concrete Digital Transformation programs that reflect those values. I hope you all remember them and in case you don't, I intend to use them again so that you don't forget them, thinking big, staying together, the accountability. Today I'm carrying around the three fundamental choices that Rwanda has had as a country, I'll share with you the priorities that we have of leaving no one behind.

The first ones are around thinking big, which really guide our commitment to double broadband usage statistics to 70% of our population, developing a fit for purpose regulation that enables innovation in the telecommunication industry, expanding fixed broadband connectivity to 1.8 billion households through various innovative deployment models and also under Giga ensuring that all the schools, over 4,000 schools have access and are connected to high speed reliable, affordable connectivity by 2024.

We also intend to drive smartphone or smart device ownership to 90% of the population and ensure that 60% of our adult population is digitally literal and 100% of our youth population is digital literate.

The second point of staying together, it is really around partnerships. That's what has brought us this far as a country. What's brought us together as the ITU family is a shared interest and commitment towards developing the digital economy that benefits all humanity. The COVID crisis has not only accelerated Digital Transformation but has ignited disruption in all aspects of our lives. We have witnessed tremendous challenge and opportunities across all of the industries, and to overcome them we need to work together, we need to stay together and Rwanda will play its part in bringing all partners on board.

I want to share with you a quote from my President who has highlighted the importance of the fourth industrial revolution, "if we can use this time together to look forward to harness the 4th industrial revolution for everyone's benefit that's an inherent dignity and value for each person then we will really have accomplished something useful."

My last point is the accountability with the landmark event in June this year, we committed to connect remaining 2.9 billion people, the pace we connected the last, you know, 200 million, it is not enough, we have to double down on our efforts I ask for your votes for Rwanda to be reelected to the ITU Council.

Thank you for your kind attention.

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>> CHAIR: I invite the representative of Zambia to take the floor, Mr. Felix Mutati, Minister of Technology and Science Ministry of Technology and Science.

>> ZAMBIA: I congratulate you. It is keep your eyes on the ball, connecting the unconnected. And for ITU, let me say this, you have done very well, distinguished yourselves, in coordinating and fostering ICT development across the globe. Let's continue on that journey.

I also want to thank the Government of Romania for the hospitalities that have been given to us.

For Zambia, our digital journey is very clear, it is centred on three pillars: The first pillar is access, availability and affordability. We are reinvesting in digital infrastructure, our recent option of the spectrum has gone to expand the unserved and underserved people of Zambia.

Our goal is that within two years our rate of connectivity to at least be 97% and when it comes to broadband, we think within two years we should be able to hit 70%. For delivery of government services to the citizens, at the moment we are delivering 200 services and we think within two years we'll be able to deliver 1300 services, making government as paperless as is practically possible. That is the first pillar.

The second pillar, it is creating an enabling environment and in this, what we have done, we have created a new licensing framework, that supports investment in the sector, that supports connectivity. We have recently approved and endorsed our ICT policy and with that policy we look to revise the framework and in particular the Cybersecurity and cybercrime legislation.

We are also initiating this year the start‑up capital to be able to address issues around innovation and issues around enterprise, and in particular in the startup bill will be the issue of creating capital fund.

The third pillar, it is simply called partnerships and collaborations. If partnerships were emphasizing on sharing knowledge, sharing experiences, working with others, in dealing with what technology, what processes must you be able to put forward, including regulation, including standards, including strategies, because we believe in the spirit of this, that you can't achieve alone without working together.

For my colleagues from Africa, let me end by saying, there is a famous proverb from Africa, which says eating with the lions and running with the gazelles. It says every morning when a lion wakes up, it knows that it must outrun the slowest gazelle, otherwise it will die. And when a gazelle wakes up every morning, it knows it must run faster than the fastest lion, otherwise it will be killed.

The moral of the story is it doesn't matter whether you're a gazelle or a lion, when you wake up, you must keep running, otherwise you stop or you're going to get killed. For ITU I say keep running, keep running.

I thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Minister.

I invite now Tanzania, Mr. Nape Nnauye, Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology, Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology.

>> TANZANIA: Thank you, Chairman.

Honorable Ministers, Excellency, distinguished Delegates, on behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, and my delegation allowing me to extend our appreciation to the Government of Romania for hosting this Conference and for the hospitality extended to us in this beautiful City of Bucharest since our arrival.

I would like to express our heartfelt congratulations to you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to Chair this Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU. On behalf of the United Republic of Tanzania, we wish to congratulate the newly elected ITU Secretary‑General Ms. Doreen Bogdan‑Martin.

As an African country, we hope that your vision, commitment, determination will accomplish the real needs of Member States in the interest of developer developing countries such as Tanzania allow me to join the voice also of those that have already expressed gratitude to the Secretary‑General Mr. Houlin Zhao and the staff of the ITU for successful organizing this Conference and for the work they have done in the last four years, despite of the effects brought by the COVID pandemic.

Tanzania has been active in various ITU initiatives, which are imminent from the resolutions agreed by Member States. We have adopted through ICT policies and supported legislation to build an ICT driven nation towards achieving sustainable Digital Transformation through the following initiatives.

First, investments in digital infrastructures such as the national ICT broadband backbone which connects all administrative districts and quarters and regions and all. Second, by having in place the legal framework for Digital Transformation, helping to increase the ICT applications in various sectors of the economy including agriculture, health, education among others.

Chairman, recently, Tanzania introduced the data protection bill, a critical component of African Vision 2030. We look forward to enacting this law in the next few months to open the country for investment for a wider benefit of those in Tanzania in the region. Tanzania is working closely with the ITU to bridge the digital divide through the use of telecommunications and ICT resolutions, especially addressing the needs of the most marginalized members of the society, namely Women and Girls, youth, Persons with Disabilities . ICT innovations have today made it possible for the millions of in the populations of Tanzania living in rural communities to be financially included via mobile money. Today there are more than 35 million users of mobile money compared to 23 million users in the year 2018.

We have put efforts in building the institutions that will help Digital Transformation in the country. This includes ICT Commission and the universal communication services access fund which to date has connected more than 12 million population living in rural areas to broadband connectivity. As we gather at the ITU PP‑2022 we believe that Tanzania's experience in the communication sector can best be fit and shared with the ITU family, especially at this juncture when the sector is fast evolving and the international community is stabilizing information and communication technologies as tools for social and economic development.

I, therefore, wish to reaffirm our commitment to cooperate and to share with other Member States the ITU's secretary and the regional offices to make ITU an imminent international body that continues to play its role in enhancing socioeconomic development of all member countries. As such, Tanzania has put its candidature to the seat of ITU Council representing Region D. We are requesting all ITU members to vote Tanzania to the ITU Council so that we can share our experiences with the ITU family and further contribute to our shared objectives of the ITU, and as you have seen, we're inviting all to join us this evening at 5:30 to our reception whereby you can enjoy the kindness of the land.

Chairman, on behalf of the Government of Tanzania, my delegation, I would like to express my profound gratitude once again to the Government of Romania for hosting this remarkable Conference and wish success in its preparations.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Tanzania.

I ask you again to stay within the 3 minutes that are allocated. We have elections as well.

We need plenty of time.

Now I invite His Excellency, Comoros, m Mr. Kamalidini Souef, Ministre, MinistÃ¨re de Postes des tÃ©lÃ©communications et de l'Ã©conomie nÃºmerique.

Your Excellency, the floor is yours.

>> COMOROS: Mr. Chairman, Madam Chair Secretary‑General, newly elected, Mr. Secretary‑General, ladies and gentlemen, Ministers and Heads of Delegation, honorable delegates.

On behalf of the Comoros delegation, allow me to first of all thank and congratulate the Romania government pour holding this Conference and for its warm welcome in this prestigious place.

Also, I take this opportunity once again to congratulate Ms. Doreen Bogdan‑Martin, newly elected Secretary‑General of the ITU for the confidence that the Member States have just placed in her to lead our organization for the next four years. I wish her success in her new duty.

At the same time, I express my sincere thanks and complements to Mr. Ismailov for the commitment to the development of ICT.

My congratulations goes to Houlin Zhao, outgoing Secretary‑General of the ITU for the valuable work completed in the last eight years as head of our organization.

Ladies and gentlemen, the current global context has brought a new approach and a radical change in the way of our working and for changing and quite simply of existing. We have all witnessed an increase in the use of new technology in everyday life before, during and after the COVID‑19 pandemic. We learned some very useful lessons.

Today we are gathered here to reflect together on the issues of meaningful connectivity for all and the need for Digital Transformation in order to promote a more inclusive society at the global level. We're also here to provide our organization with its leaders for the years to come. Ladies and gentlemen, in recent years, the Union of ram rose has focused on the development of the telecommunication sector to have a plan to unleash ICT as a catalyst. This is the vision of the President of the Union, for the emergence of our country by 2030 on the basis of the plan, our objective as ministry is to make our countries a privileged player in the digital sector within our Indian Ocean area and great integration in the globalized world we live in. First of all, the challenge we face is as an island country, it is thanks to combined efforts, we have development partners and our friendly countries, such as you, ladies and gentlemen, the effective telecommunication sector success in our countries, it is beginning bare fruits with competitive prices for users.

These new services will require more international connections and coverage. This is how the Comoros seen the national coverage improve with 4G and a national fiberoptic backbone and strong connection to the fourth international submarine cable to Africa which will join those that are already operational. We'll continue this effort and add in the process of implementing our policy and have been able to express for this forum our situation with regard to the challenge and perspective of the changes under the influence of innovation. We have started to reinstruct the ecosystem and will continue to support and enable technology innovation. Promoting free competition and respond to the rapid development of ICT.

Finally, Madam, newly elected Secretary‑General, Mr. Secretary‑General, living in the digital age represents a huge challenge not only for us but for all to reduce the digital divide and noting a great divide between gender, geographical location and professional field. And in this contest, the International Telecommunication Union has a revision for harmonization between countries so that notion of connectivity for all and Digital Transformation for the development, connect and unite, it is to join forces to connect the world and to leave no one behind.

Finally, I hope that this Conference will lead to a concrete resolution for all and as we witness, having a woman at the head of our organization is a very good momentum for change, to succeed together and to affirm our leadership. Thank you for your kind attention.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Comoros.

I invite now the representative of Côte d'Ivoire, His Excellency, the floor is yours.

>> CÔTE D'IVOIRE: At the outset, I would like to extend my thanks to the highest authorities for the warm welcome extended to my delegation and me since our arrival in Bucharest. Ladies and gentlemen, Côte d'Ivoire has been a member of the ITU since 1960 and it is very active and always participates in the Plenipotentiary Conferences. In 2018 it saw the return of Côte d'Ivoire to the ITU Council spirited on by the success. Côte d'Ivoire has made significant progress in transforming its economy through the digital sector. Allow me to give you a few figures.

An increase of 20% of its penetration rate of mobile telephony going from 132% to 152%, an increase of 30% of the rate of coverage population in terms of broadband access going from 66.9% to 96.36%. An increase of 20% of access rate to financial mobile services going from 52 to 74%, and an increase in the capacity of its international bandwidth going from 115 gigabytes per second to 660 gigabytes per second. To strengthen this achievements and to ensure connectivity for all and the lasting Digital Transformation we adopted in 2021 a national achievement with the development of the digital sector, including 7 pillar, in line with the SDGs and the Plan of Action of Information Society, this is based on such pillars as digital infrastructures to provide affordable, inclusive access to high speed, very high speed digital services, digital services aimed at establishing connected administration at the service of citizens and companies as well as the spread of inclusive digital services in the priority economic sectors.

Digital financial services to increase financial inclusion. This strategy includes the main priorities involved in an environment which is ready for innovation and Cybersecurity and digital confidence. These pillars have been integrated into specific strategies, namely innovation and Cybersecurity strategy. to guarantee the sustainability of this architecture, it is rooted in human development through training and capacity building as well as the mobilization for private sector of the entire industry.

Ladies and gentlemen, Distinguished Delegates, my country welcomes the resilience shown by economies of the world in the face of the COVID‑19 pandemic through the years of the ICTs with a major role played by the ITU.

To this end, we're ensured of the results of our Conference, it will allow us to ensure harmonious development of ICTs at international level for the benefit of our populations and above all, for the benefit of the entire humanity.

Ladies and gentlemen, after reassessment of our financial contribution in 2018 which was multiplied by a factor of 8 one of the largest in Africa Côte d'Ivoire would like to express its desire to logistically assist the ITU by putting ‑‑ proposing to host facilities through the construction of the headquarters. Côte d'Ivoire has actively contributed to the work of the Union and wishes to continue its efforts alongside all ITU members. It is, therefore, a renewing of the candidate in the ITU Council and it appeals to you for your support for our candidacy.

Distinguished Delegates, we wish that ITU remains in the digital Society of Tomorrow and today and I wish every success to this Plenipotentiary Conference of 2022, and I wish every success to our new Secretary‑General Ms. Doreen Bogdan‑Martin.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Côte d'Ivoire.

I now invite to take the floor the representative of Germany, His Excellency

Mr. Stefan Schnorr, State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport.

>> GERMANY: Dear Mr. President, Secretary‑General, Deputy Secretary‑General Johnson, Honorable Minister, Excellencies, ITU officials, Distinguished Delegates, ladies and gentlemen, it is a great honor for me to speak on behalf of the German government at this Plenipotentiary Conference.

First of all I would like to thank Romania for the warm welcome in Bucharest, the great hospitality and all of the work you have done to make this Conference to a success.

On behalf of Germany, I would also like to congratulate Ms. Doreen Bogdan‑Martin for being elected as Secretary‑General, good success and all the best to you, Doreen.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would also like to express Germany's full solidarity with Ukraine. We condemn the ongoing destruction of telecommunication infrastructure and violation of international law and the UN charter which undermines international security and stability.

Ladies and gentlemen, since the last Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018 the German federal government has undertaken several key measures to foster digitalization both in Germany and abroad.

Just recently the German government adopted a new strategy and as part of it a gigabit strategy, with this strategy we aim to promote first a connected and digitally sovereign society, second an innovative economy including science, research, learning and sought a digital government.

By 2030 we will providing mobile communication standards wherever people live throughout our area. For this purpose, telecommunication companies based in Germany plan to invest 50 billion euros in the private deployment of fiber networks, with the Gigabit Strategy providing appropriate conditions for them. Digitalization, ladies and gentlemen, it is clear, economic growth and prosperity, not only in Germany, but everywhere around the globe.

When we live in an interconnected world, however, digital connectivity has not reached a level to ensure inclusion and to bridge the digital divide. That's why German federal government supports numerous digital infrastructure projects outside of Europe, especially on the African continent. As an example, let me mention the project in which we're working with ITU to empower governments to take ownership of their digital futures by being more effective and cost efficient digital government services.

Germany will also support new terrestrial and space‑based initiatives that help countries to bridge the digital divide and transition in the digital economy, especially innovative satellite industries playing a very important role here.

We are convinced that digital policies are most successful when put into action in cooperation with the business community, social partner, Civil Society and academia. That is why Germany supports the idea of enhancing the industry engagement. We have started a domestic initiative to support small but very successful companies financially so that they can participate in meetings of international standardization bodies and attend Conferences. Almost 40 Germany‑based companies, network provider, many service provider, academia and research, institutes provide technical know-how to various ITU standard groups.

Ladies and gentlemen, to be able to continue with these initiative, Germany has renewed its candidature for the ITU Council and Germany has also been well‑experienced candidate for the position of the Director of the ITU TSB, Tomas will strengthen participation, making it more attractive again, and in particular for SMEs. So our global expertise is unique, let's do everything to keep it that way as a solid, reliable member, we'll have found notable solutions, solutions to resolve issues efficiently and based on consensus to benefit all members of the ITU.

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm very much looking forward to fruitful discussion during the coming days and I'm sure that the Plenipotentiary Conference 2022 will be a great success for the whole ITU community.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Germany. We have two more speakers and the Plenary has ended. We'll make sure we come back for the Plenary room. After this we'll start the election of the ITU.

Now I invite to take the floor the representative of Peru, Mr. Gustavo Antonio Otero Zapata, Ambassador of Peru in Romania, Ministerio de Transportes y Comunicaciones.

>> PERU: Thank you very much, Chairman.

Secretary‑General, honorable Secretary‑General elect in, alignment with the national priorities and international commitment, Peru has been driving through its roadmap to its alignment to the country of the OECD putting in place a number of measures to bolster its digital infrastructure to accelerate digital transformation, bridge the divide and facilitate dataflow and enhance trust and security in the use of ICTs.

The government's general policy decrees that the government guarantees inclusive, safe, high quality access to the digital space and to provide additional technologies across all areas of the country in order to secure digital citizenship while being mindful of areas of vulnerability and cultural diversity.

Turning to the infrastructure of the digital connectivity, Peru implemented connect everyone plan. Its goal is to bridge the digital divide, democratize access to the internet and create digital skills for people to improve the quality of life and inclusion in the global sphere. The plan has benefited around 2 million that live in rural and remote areas without coverage and internet access.

In this endeavor, the private sector has participated who has collaborated in order to provide mobile internet to about 3.5 thousand areas in order to put in place enabling environment for the deployment of 5G technology with the invention of this for mobile services with the not standalone service standard.

This presents a challenge to roll this out to rural and remote areas. Pertaining to digital innovation, the government is looking for inclusive, high‑quality access to the digital sphere for all people to bind the economy to guarantee the availability of inclusive, public services focused on the system to foster digital talent and to consolidate with the culture of safe, ethical management of data for this widespread technology use across society. This is geared towards resolving quality issues in public areas and the areas of health, public government process, employment, education, economic participation and services.

I would like to mention a few of these Digital Transformation projects. For the use of technology, public entities must guarantee that citizens can relate to these through digital means, thus we have the one stop shop digital platform which is the point of contact with the Peruvian state for accessing institutional information and on‑line processes to drive digital inclusion we also are crafting a national strategy on digital talent which allows us to put in place all the interventions from the state for the public sector.

Working with communities, focused on intercultural aspects, the territory, driving the participation of women in technology and reaping benefits of digital technologies in the fourth industrial revolution. Setting up Smart Cities and smart territories has also bolstered the national strategy for Smart Cities to put in place sustainable and trustworthy cities which offer technological solutions to facilitate the digital citizenship by binding the development in the country. Pertaining to the pledge to provide open data and digital technology, responsible ethical use of artificial intelligence, other transformation technologies we are developing the national strategy for artificial intelligence.

Peru also is implementing initiatives such as alliance for safe internet which looks at joining all the main businesses in the ICT secretary, public entity, civil society with a view to protecting children and young people faced with the risks and threats in the digital space.

To close, Chairman, I would like to highlight that Peru is committed to the multilateral sphere with the boosting of its digital transformation as it was hosting the 7th ministerial government Digital Transformation America Summit which we'll host and take place between the 10th and 11th of November this year. This will allow countries to share experience and knowledge in the areas of government and Digital Transformation with a view to strengthen collaboration.

Likewise, it will also highlight common challenges in the area of Digital Transformation and would allow us to highlight progress towards better collaboration at a regional level.

We look forward to seeing you in Lima.

Thank you.

It.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Peru.

Now last, but certainly not least, the representative of United Nations, Secretary‑General's Envoy on Technology, United Nations.

>> UN SPECIAL ENVOY ON TECHNOGY: Thank you.

Houlin Zhao, Doreen Bogdan‑Martin, congratulations, senior members of the ITU team, Ministers, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, allow me to begin by first thanking the Government of Romania for the excellent arrangements of the meeting, for the outstanding hospitality and the smooth conducting of proceedings. This is a very important meeting and the very new has enhanced the smoothness of our transition. Thank you so much, Mr. President.

The Secretary‑General at the outset of this Conference appreciated the important role of the ITU community in enhancing connectivity and in taking forward the Digital Transformation. We saw during the COVID crisis how those who had invested in this infrastructure fared better in providing relief, protecting livelihood and in saving lives. This is a lesson we must take into the future.

As we build the next generation of intelligent networks which will play a critical role in the digital economy of the future we must pay attention not only to infrastructure needs but the critical challenges that are thrown up on security, on ethics, on societal implications, on fairness, equity, in value creation, value sharing. Even as we tackle these issues from the previous generation of networks, we'll have to get up for the next generation's challenges and that's why the leadership at this meeting, it is important and that's why the legacy that you, Mr. Secretary Secretary‑General, Houlin Zhao, leave for the next generational leadership in the ITU is so important.

Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, earlier this month the UN General Assembly decided on September 8th to hold a Summit of the future, this will be an opportunity to come together in 2024 to come together and adopt an inspiring vision for the future of the Digital World. This global digital compact will help us align political will and will help us ensure that the digital future we seek is open, is inclusive, it is human‑centric, respectful of human agency, fundamental freedoms, human dignity, sustainable and it is secure.

I invite all of you to contribute to this landmark document. This Saturday, at 9:30 we'll be hold be a first consultation with the ITU community on this document and I invite you to participate and share your views and shape it as we move along.

I will end by thanking the ITU community for the outstanding work that you're doing. It is time that within the rest of the UN system the ITU is recognized, the profile is raised and the contribution appreciated for the critical work that you do and that you do in a multistakeholder framework.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much. Thank you, Minister, Excellency, for your statements, for such a strong support for ITU and our sector around the world.

We'll proceed now with the third point on our agenda, which is election of the Deputy Secretary‑General of ITU. I will now give the floor to the Secretary of The Plenary to explain the election process, which is very similar to what we had in the morning but we'll go again through the entire process.

Secretary of The Plenary.

>> SECRETARIAT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

As was the case this morning,

the room has been divided into 5 blocks, numbered 1 to 5. Each block has a voting station. Document 110(Rev.1) lists all Member States having the right to vote within each block. Please look at the floor plan on the screen to find your voting station.

Regarding transfers of powers and transfers of votes, the secretariat has received 4 transfers of powers and 1 transfer of votes. I refer you all to Documents 98, 99, 100, 102, and 113 of our Conference.

The Member States who have a transfer of powers or vote and who will therefore cast two ballots, for each election, are requested to cast each ballot at the voting station of the respective Member State. Please listen carefully when each Member State will be called so that each ballot is deposited in the correct box.

All delegates who are depositing a ballot paper must bring their badge to the voting station for verification and scanning.

The 5 tellers who will oversee this election are already in place.

The teller representing Region A is at ballot box 1;

Region B at 2;

Region C at 3;

Region D at 4;

Region E at 5.

In accordance with No. 131 of the General Rules, once the voting has begun, it cannot be interrupted, unless a point of order has been raised in connection with the way in which the vote is being taken. The election will begin as soon as the Chair announces it and will end when the Chair announces the results of the vote.

Security, could you please close the doors to the Plenary room?

Thank you, the doors are now closed.

I confirm that the quorum is met.

The doors of this meeting room will remain closed and will be opened again once the casting of ballots has been completed and the ballot boxes are moved to the green room for counting. You may not leave or enter the room.

I will now ask the ushers to start handing out the ballot papers, together with a pen, to all delegations having the right to vote and present in the room. Ushers, could you please start distributing ballot papers and pens?

Delegations having received a transfer of powers or vote from another delegation will receive two ballot papers..

We gave you a pen this morning. If you could use the same pen, this would be appreciated.

Regarding the ballot papers, they have a computer‑generated identification box in the lower right‑hand corner which permits the papers to be identified as being used in a specific round for a specific election. The box is identical on all ballot papers in the specific round. It is not possible to use the box to identify who has completed any specific ballot paper.

Regarding how to fill in the ballot paper,

Please note that the voting procedure requires that delegates mark their ballot with an "X" , and only an "X" , in the appropriate boxes to indicate their choice. Please, do not mark with a check, nor a tick as it is indicated on the screen. Please carefully look at the instruction on the screen.

If a delegate makes a mistake when completing a ballot paper once the vote has started, the delegate should raise the point of order paddle.

The paddle with the yellow with the black square in the middle.

The secretariat will collect and destroy the ballot paper in question and provide a new one.

For Member States who have a transfer of power or vote, please complete both ballot papers at the same time.

I will call out the French short names of the Member States having the right to vote by groups of 15 for each voting station. If you do not hear your Member State name in the first batch, please stay calm but wait for me to call one of the next batches.

For Member States who have a transfer of power or vote, again, each ballot paper should be deposited in the respective box corresponding to the Member State. So Member States who have received two ballot papers, you might have to go to two different ballot boxes.

I will call all Member States having the right to vote once, and then a second call for those who have not yet voted. Following this last call, the Chair will declare the casting of ballots closed. I would request all delegates to regain their seats when they have cast their votes.

Before starting the vote, all delegations having the right to vote should have a ballot paper, and those with a transfer of power or vote should have two. If not, please identify yourselves.

Mr. Chairman, I believe all delegations having the right to vote now have a ballot paper.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Secretary of the Plenary. Are there any questions?

I now declare that the voting has begun and I pass the floor back to the Secretary.

>> SECRETARY: So that delegations can see where the 5 voting stations are located, I will ask the staff at those stations to hold the ballot boxes in the air in consecutive order from 1 to 5.

The ballot boxes are transparent so that you can see that they are empty.

Box 1.

Box 2.

Box 3.

Box 4.

Box 5.

I'll start calling the Member States.

Afghanistan.

Albania.

Algeria.

Germany.

Andorra.

Angola.

Argentina.

Australia.

Austria.

Azerbaijan.

Bahamas.

Brazil.

Brunei Darussalam.

Bulgaria.

Burkina Faso.

I now move to voting station 2:

Micronesia.

Moldova.

Monaco.

Mongolia.

Montenegro.

Mozambique.

Myanmar.

Namibia.

Republic of Nepal.

Uzbekistan.

Pakistan.

Panama.

Papua New Guinea.

Paraguay.

Qatar.

I now move to voting station 3.

Guinea Bissau.

Indonesia.

Kenya.

Lao.

Lesotho.

Mauritius.

Mauritania.

Mexico.

Oman.

Uganda.

Peru.

Poland.

Portugal.

Syrian Arab Republic.

Turkiye.

I now move to voting station 4.

Comoros.

Croatia.

Cuba.

Denmark.

Djibouti.

Dominican Republic.

Dominica.

Egypt.

United Arab Emirates.

Russian Federation.

Fiji.

Fin.

Guatemala.

Guinea.

Guyana.

I will now move to voting station 5.

Saudi Arabia.

Armenia.

Bahrain.

Bangladesh.

Barbados.

Belarus.

Belgium.

Belize.

Benin.

Bhutan.

Plurinational State of Bolivia.

Bosnia.

Herzegovina.

Botswana.

Cambodia.

I am now moving back to station 1 with the second batch.

Burundi.

Colombia.

Republic of Congo.

Republic of Korea.

Costa Rica.

Cote d'Ivoire.

Eswatini.

United States.

Ethiopia.

Gambia.

Ghana.

Greece.

Grenada.

Islamic Republic of Iran.

Iraq.

I will now move to voting station 2 for the second batch.

Democratic Republic of Congo.

Kyrgyzstan.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Slovakia.

Czech Republic.

Saint Lucia.

St. Kitts and Nevis.

San Marino.

Saint Vincent and Grenadines.

Solomon Islands.

Samoa.

Sao Tome and Principe.

Senegal.

Switzerland.

Suriname.

I will now continue with voting station 3 for the second batch.

Romania.

United Kingdom.

Rwanda.

Serbia.

Seychelles.

Singapore.

Slovenia.

Somalia.

Sudan.

South Sudan.

Sri Lanka.

South Africa.

Sweden.

Thailand.

Tonga.

Let's continue with voting station 4 for the second batch.

Honduras.

Hungary.

India.

Italy.

Jamaica.

Japan.

Kazakhstan.

Kiribati.

Madagascar.

Malaysia.

Malawi.

Maldives.

Mali.

Malta.

Let's continue with voting station 4 for the second batch.

Cameroon.

Canada.

Chile.

China.

Cyprus.

Vatican.

El Salvador.

Ecuador.

Eritrea.

Spain.

Estonia.

France.

Georgia.

I will now start the call for the third batch for voting station 1.

Ireland.

Iceland.

Israel.

Jordan.

Kuwait.

Latvia.

Lebanon.

Liberia.

Libya.

Liechtenstein.

Lithuania.

Luxembourg.

North Macedonia.

I will start with Tanzania.

Togo.

Uruguay.

Vanuatu.

Viet Nam.

Yemen.

Zambia.

Zimbabwe.

For voting station 3, third call.

Trinidad Tobago.

Tunisia.

Turkmenistan.

Tuvalu.

Ukraine.

For voting station 4, Morocco.

Marshall Islands.

Nicaragua.

Niger.

Nigeria.

Norway.

New Zealand.

Netherlands.

Philippines.

I will now proceed to a second ‑‑ I will not proceed to a second call. All of the Member States have voted.

I give you the floor.

>> CHAIR: That's great. This is efficiency. Thank you for this. Thank you secretary of the Plenary for conducting this. I can now declare the casting of ballots closed. I'm inviting the tellers and the ITU staff to the green room with of course the ballot boxes.

Under the supervision of the tellers in the Green Room, the ballot boxes will now be opened and the ballot papers will be counted. The results will be announced as soon as they are available. Security, you may open the doors now.

While the tellers are counting the votes, we have a coffee break offered by Cameroon in Unirii Hall. We are planning for a 45‑minute coffee break. Please enjoy the coffee and be back in this room promptly at30 past 4:00 here in the room of the Plenary to announce the results. We have had two delicious lunches offered today and I now give the floor to Cameroon to announce the coffee break.

>> CAMEROON: Dear Mr. Chair, Thank you for giving me the floor and congratulations for chairing this PP‑22.

Thanks to the SG Houlin Zhao and all ITU elect officials for good work done. I wish to also congratulate the Secretary‑General elect Ms. Doreen Bogdan‑Martin.

Permit me to seize this opportunity to invite Member States and their delegation to a coffee break offered by Cameroon today at the end of this session.

Finally, allow me to respectfully remind and appeal to Member States to support the candidatures of Cameroon at the Council election and our candidate for Director of BDT.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, Cameroon. Thank you very much.

(Break).

>> CHAIR: I am pleased to announce that the tellers have finished their work and please take your seats. We'll announce the results of the vote.

I would like to thank the tellers for their hard work. I have received the tellers' report, and shall now proceed with the announcement of the results.

The work from now and this morning. I received the teller report, and I'll read it.

>> Ballot papers deposited, 179.

Invalid ballot paper, 1.

Estimates, 2. Delegations present and voting, 176.

Required majority, 89.

Announcement of the results in ascending order of numbers of votes obtained.

Gisa Fuatal Purcell, 11 votes.

Chaesub Lee, 59 votes.

Tomas Lamanauskas, 105 votes. Results, Tomas. Tomas Lamanauskas obtained the required majority, I declare him elected to the post of Deputy Secretary‑General of ITU. Congratulation, Tomas! Would you like to come.

>> TOMAS LAMANAUSKAS: So thank you very much! As you know, speakers so far, I cannot speak without any paper and notes. In this moment, this is probably the highlight of my life, highest point of my life, only one other memory may top it! Sorry, guys! You know it! There are some things more important in life!

Indeed, this is not an award I receive, I also know that. This is a huge trust, huge trust from all of you, huge trust in the messages that I shared with the campaign and huge trust that I heard what you told me in this campaign. Thank you for that.

Thank you Member States who voted for me, for my competitors, they though that they chose me not because of lack of choice and I really want to acknowledge my strong competitors, Dr. Chaesub Lee who contributed a lot to ITU over the last especially 8 years and Gisa Fuatal Purcell who also worked hard in promoting the issues of the Small and Developing States and other countries around the world.

This mandate, I will work with you in a way that we discussed. Of course, I cannot miss to congratulate Madam Secretary‑General Elect, Doreen Bogdan‑Martin, it will be the third time we work together ‑‑ actually the third time she's my boss! I'm looking forward to that. I want to acknowledge and thank the Secretary‑General Houlin Zhao, for 36 years of ITU, we really will miss him. We hope we'll find some ways to still leverage his expertise.

Of course, I would like to acknowledge efforts of the Deputy Secretary‑General Malcolm Johnson, it will be big shoes to fill, I'm looking forward to doing that.

You know, Mario Maniewicz, you have an easy job tomorrow! No candidates! And it is as it should be.

Of course, I thank Mr. Chairman, Chair of this Conference for convening that Conference so as well which has been as nearly as I have ran this campaign. Really, we ‑‑ and the host country. Thank you.

It is also of course the moment to acknowledge the people who contributed to this campaign. It is also the moment to look back a little bit and to say thank you to some people who contributed. I'm sorry that this may seem very long but this list, it is very, very small tip of the iceberg and it is only the people who really, really personally contributed. Of course, I want to thank the President of my country for the strong support and leadership in this campaign. It is really felt, to have a whole country behind me.

Also Prime Minister, who, you know, always continues to support and some of you may have exceeded her call to vote last week n campaign was spearheaded by the Minister of childhood and communication and over the last few days worked very hard and is very easy to spot in the room, if you haven't, that's the Minister! I have to say that easily.

Also, Deputy Minister who managed to make it a whole government effort. We have had a lot of people, the campaign engine was communications circulatory authority, the Chairman, they're here with us today and of course we have the Minister here supporting us and at the highest level and, you know, as the person who specifically acknowledging, the Ambassador who from the day, from the very beginning being an Ambassador in Geneva, head of international organizations and Ministry of Foreign affair, as well as our Ambassadors in New York and Ambassador in Geneva.

One moment also, a very proud thing to stand in front of you, not only as a Lithuania candidate, now an elected person, someone with the full support of the European family, I really thank from the bottom of my heart the European colleagues that are standing by me all the time and providing huge family backing. It is always felt and I fall forward, you will catch me.

Also sometimes, I need to do this, the speech is for the records, so also some people who stood with me from day one, you know, Lithuania, a member of parliament and advocate for global administration, they say let's do it and then actually got others believing in it and said yeah. So last, but not least, before my appearance, which I have to also thank, our campaign engine, and you would be happy to hear that my campaign, it is now over. That's because of the strong leadership that made this happen. So a lot of you know, you should know she was the campaign from beginning and she manages the campaign all the time.

So the colleagues, all who stood by her side. We also have great diplomats in Geneva, in Brussels, in New York, they ran the campaign as a joint campaign as possible. Some of you, some of the embassies want to ensure the connection between Brussels for Europeans and Geneva and New York for anything else, you can learn well from them. Such a serious campaign.

Finally, in the capital, thank you so much. Of course, I cannot forget to thank my parents, who were always with me, you know, from day one, for providing their support. You know, we always know that we can go far if you know that you fall, you have a safety net. They provided me for all my life up to today here.

Ladies and gentlemen, tonight we will all celebrate! Tonight we will celebrate and I hope you will join us and some of you who joined us last night know we know how to celebrate. I hope you'll join us for tonight as well.

Tomorrow, the real work starts. Tomorrow, you know, of course we'll have elections, I want to wish good luck to awful the candidates for the Director positions and for radio regulation positions and Council, and also the Council, it is a highlight but the Conference is only beginning. This is crucial for setting the groundwork for the review for coming years and we need this Congress to succeed and we have to have a solid, sustainable financial basis for the next four years to come. We need to ensure the times operationally, that we'll deliver to you, we learn from the best managerial practices. I look to you to provide a stronger action for the ITU to help us all to respond to the challenges of today and opportunities of tomorrow.

One last point, ladies and gentlemen, with the campaign I said very clearly, I promise if I were to be elected that you would always be the place for everyone, big or small, powerful, not powerful, rich, not rich, today, for those that voted for me and those that don't vote for me as well, you know, for everyone, I will be here for that. In the circumstances like we are, the only way to find solutions is if we come together to look for them and we do that with open hearts and open minds.

So ladies and gentlemen, Your Excellency, let's work hard to bring the digital future for all. Most importantly, let's do that together.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Congratulations to all of you again, for the campaign, for the efforts you did in the last year and not only your entire career, strongly related already to ITU. Congratulations, Tomas, as you said, the hard work is yet about to start.

Just to clarify the results again, Gisa Fuatal Purcell, 12 votes, Chaesub Lee, 59 votes, Tomas Lamanauskas, 105 votes.

Thank you, congratulations once again.

I give now the floor to Lithuania to address a few words.

Lithuania, you have the floor.

>> LITHUANIA: Dear President, Secretary‑General, after the results I would like to sincerely thank to all of you for your trust in Lithuania, for your trust in the European Union, its outstanding now Deputy Secretary‑General Elect Tomas Lamanauskas. Today we have all opened a new chapter for the ITU because Tomas is going to be the youngest ever Deputy Secretary‑General of this outstanding organization. His energy and diplomacy is guided by the principle that every voice matters.

His clear priorities, building partnerships in all regions of the world, tackling Climate Change and promoting a modern ITU, an organization that is fit for the purpose in these challenging times are those who we all supported today. After an intense campaign, it would be impossible without strong competitors, and I would therefore like to thank the Republic of Korea and Samoa for putting their candidates forward. Thank you for your support, Mr. Houlin Zhao, and longtime leadership for the ITU and for noticing Tomas when you once implored him at the ITU.

Congratulations to Doreen too. I wish you and Tomas energy and every success in leading this outstanding organization to the digital future that works for everyone and everywhere. You are going to be an outstanding team. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Allow me now to give the floor to Chaesub Lee, Director of TSB.

>> CHAESUB LEE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Excellencies, distinguished colleagues, sisters, brothers, Fellow elected officials, finally, election process to the end. I would congratulate my colleagues, Tomas, you have done an excellent campaign. I congratulate you again.

I thank my country, Republic of Korea for their trust and confidence in nominating me as a candidate with its full support, even though I could not have success, I believe the Republic of Korea demonstrated an advanced country not only from the technology and the business point of view, but also collaboration and harmonization schemes.

My special thanks to you all for your generosity shown to me during the campaign. Your kindness accepting me as brother, you patiently listened to what I speak to you, and without hesitation you advising me about the future of ITU. I hope ITU should continue to play an important role with the Secretary‑General elect and the Deputy Secretary‑General elect and the Fellow Bureau Directors that will be elected soon.

Last, but not least, I send my endless love to my family, they always are encouraging me, especially my wife, encouraging me, staying here with me and I really love all my family.

All the best for the future of your leadership of ITU.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: I would like to invite to take the floor Secretary‑General for ITU, Mr. Houlin Zhao.

>> HOULIN ZHAO: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Of course, I would like to first of all, you know, present my warm congratulations to Tomas for his election as Deputy Secretary‑General which is proof that this is a young generation that's now stepping in to try to help ITU to move further and higher.

We see that from his presentation, full of energy, and Minister has just reminded us that he's the youngest Deputy Secretary‑General in the ITU, a long history. With his excellent knowledge about ITU's work and ITU challenges, and he worked in the past, in a specific area with a lot of challenges and in the private sector, in ITU and again back to the private sector, so I think he understands our challenges. He understands our opportunities. I'm very confident that he will assist Madam Doreen Bogdan‑Martin, Secretary‑General Elect to lead ITU to achieve the goals and to help the UN to reach their goals to accomplish SDGs by 2030 to have everybody connected.

I also take this opportunity to speak to my colleague, Chaesub Lee, he's an expert, I know him from 1907, he has all knowledge on new technologies and the benefit to assist other ecosystems to reach their maximum efficiency with ITU and eager to contribute, at this time I think that he also presented himself as Deputy Secretary‑General candidate with a strong support from Korea and I'm sure he said, he loves the family always still with him, even though not that the time, I see that you love the wife and your family, and they still love you! We also would like to count on you because you're still relatively young, not like me. If you could continue to join, you know, whenever you can, to include the work and the situations and to have better and more remarks with technology, I think it will be good by the work.

Let me once again thank Member States for the cooperation and coordination, you helped us to select the next generation, next generation of ITU management members. Now we have a Secretary‑General elected and the Deputy Secretary‑General elected and tomorrow we'll have the three Directors be starting their election process. I'm pretty sure that we will have ITU in good hands.

Thank you very much.

I wish the newly elected officials good luck.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you Secretary‑General.

I now open the floor to any country wishing to congratulate the elected Deputy Secretary‑General of ITU.

I also kindly ask you to keep your comments short, up to half a minute, about 30 seconds, maximum of 30 seconds. We have only a half hour for this. I know you'll understand the limitation.

I invite to take the floor Brazil.

>> BRAZIL: I thank you and congratulate all of the them and for meeting expectations, we look forward to working with you in the next four years and this is a great success for ITU.

And I would like to also congratulate the candidates for all of the work and endeavors taken in this campaign.

I thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Brazil.

I now invite Republic of Congo to take the floor.

>> DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO: On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Congo, I would like to congratulate the elected Secretary‑General Madam Doreen Bogdan‑Martin, I would like to also congratulate Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas for his brilliant election as the Deputy Secretary‑General.

I note with joy that the Americas and Europe are represented at the highest level, and in order to implement the objective of connecting 3 billion people who are not yet connected and a big part of which is on the African continent, I hope during the election of Directors that other continents are represented, in particular Africa.

I thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Republic of Congo.

Giving back the floor to Secretary‑General of ITU.

>> HOULIN ZHAO: Thank you very much. Thank you for giving me the floor again.

I also would like to thank my sister Gisa Fuatal Purcell, she was in ITU for some time in the past and then she went to take other leadership positions and at this time, the Pacific area presented her as a candidate for Deputy Secretary‑General and we know her well. At this time, I think she started her campaign rather late and this is something that, you know, if she could, you know, take this kind of messages as something that you may have to accept but on the other hand, I think that her talent, you know, her knowledge about the challenges from Pacific area to be connected, so many islands, people are isolated, this is a big distance and to connect those areas, it is a big challenge for us and if we could have her at the management we may have a better chance to understand their concerns, their challenges, their hope, we can help them, you know in, a better way.

Anyhow, I think again, she's relatively young. I hope that she’ll continue to actively participate in ITU activities and the region and to raise their voice. We wish her the best.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: I give the floor now to Samoa.

>> SAMOA: Thank you very much, Chair.

I wish to start by thanking Tomas for winning the election for the Deputy Secretary‑General. I wish to thank the 11 or 12 countries who voted for me because first of all you said 11, and then the other statement said 12, Mr. Sarmas. It doesn't matter. I waited thinking you would give me the floor.

Now, thank you very much. I would like to thank the membership, all the members of the ITU.

I want to make something very clear, I did not campaign just for small islands. I campaigned for the developing countries, especially the least developed countries small islands, landlocked countries as well as countries with economies in transition. That's what I stood for.

Now, thank you very much, everyone. I wish to acknowledge my government for their belief in me and for the support of my campaign. I also wish to thank my small team here in Bucharest, my Minister and team that worked very hard while here in doing this campaign. I thank you very much to my High Commissioner and Ambassador, CEO of the Ministry of communications, Ministers of the Pacific Islands and other islands around the world who voted for me. I thank you very much.

I believe there is always a tomorrow.

Thank you, Lord.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, congratulations again for your campaign. Indeed, there were 12 votes on your side as I clarified in the second announcement.

Now I'm giving the floor to Ghana.

>> GHANA: Mr. Chair, Delegation of Ghana extends its heartfelt congratulations to Tomas on your election. We know that you will assist the General Secretary to ensure that we will have Digital Transformation. You have the full support of Ghana at all times.

To your able competitors, Chaesub Lee and Gisa Fuatal Purcell, we commend you for the keen contest and will count on your rich experience for our collective benefit. We also express our sincere appreciation to Mr. Malcolm Johnson, the outgoing Deputy Secretary‑General. All Member States are grateful for your years of service to the ITU and we wish you a well‑earned retirement. Once again, Tomas, congratulations.

>> CHAIR: Thank you.

I invite now Israel to take the floor.

>> ISRAEL: Warm congratulations to you, Tomas, on your election as DDG.

Tomas, we have appreciated your fantastic campaign. We share your vision and looking forward to working with you in the future.

We would like to thank Gisa Fuatal Purcell for the great contribution to the work of the Union, sector as well as to Samoa for competing. We know that you entered the campaign very late, in the very late stage, and we're confident that the future is still there for your career and campaigns in the future.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Israel.

I now give the floor to Canada.

>> CANADA: Thanks to all of the candidates for the campaigns, particularly the strong contributions from Korea and Samoa and we offer our warm congratulations to Tomas and to the Lithuania government.

Tomas, we stand ready to support your considered and practical Workplan to advance the critical work of the ITU. I would like to thank ITU and the work of the Union will be more effective.

I give the floor to my colleague.

>> We didn't want to take the floor twice as Canada, I will speak on behalf of my colleagues of CITAL, first to congratulate all of the candidates and thank Dr. Lee for extraordinary work over the last eight years of the direction of the TSB, Madam Gisa Fuatal Purcell from Samoa, a wonderful candidate, Tomas, you, we have known you for year, very proud and very happy to see you as the new Deputy Secretary‑General and really look forward to working with you. We extend our congratulations to the wonderful people on the team, starting with Inga. Thank you for listening to this message.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Canada. You can take the floor as many times as you wish as long as the statement is in the 30 seconds we have. That's fine.

Now I give the floor to UAE.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you very much, Chairman.

On behalf of the Arab Group, we would like to extend our congratulations to our dear friend Tomas for having been elected. Recently we have seen that he's certainly very active, particularly in the area of his campaign trail and we are absolutely confident that he will offer and will try to develop the activities of ITU and as an Arab Group, as we have already said to Madam Doreen Bogdan‑Martin, we will support him as we will support Madam Doreen Bogdan‑Martin and we would like to thank you once again and to congratulate and to say well done to our dear friend Dr. Chaesub Lee for his mandate over the last eight years and we wish him every success for the next stage.

We would also like to congratulate Madam Gisa Fuatal Purcell and we would like to congratulate her for her campaign. As an Arab Group, we will support you always in order to lift ITU up to the highest status.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you.

As we have a long list of countries that requested the floor, I will now say that we'll close the list with Bahamas as the last country that will be allowed to take the floor.

Romania, you may speak.

>> ROMANIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to thank to convey my thanks to Mr. Malcolm Johnson for his work as Deputy Secretary‑General during the last eight years. I would also like to thank the other candidates for their efforts and thank Korea and Samoa for putting forward the candidatures of Chaesub Lee and Gisa Fuatal Purcell.

Mr. Chairman, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate on behalf of CEPT the European family Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas for this fantastic endorsement coming from the ITU Member States as Deputy Secretary‑General Elect.

All of your efforts have been incredible and knowing you, I believe you will do a thousand times more starting now. I take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of your campaign team and, of course, your campaign manager.

Inga, you're amazing.

As I said earlier, today is a historic day for the ITU. Our ITU family has chosen the first woman to become the SG of the ITU and the youngest ever DSG. When we decided to make this the first gender gap responsive and youth inclusive PP we really meant it. You can see it, what better proof than this. Sincere congratulation, once again, you have our full confidence and support for your mandate ahead.

Looking forward to working with you and Doreen. Mr. Chairman, if I may, I know you will not give me the floor again, so I just want to right now as the host country, the high‑level panel, strengthening women's empowerment and leadership in the ITU, it is tomorrow morning starting from 8:00 until 9:00 and all lady delegates and leaders are invited. Of course, the friends of the ladies.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Romania.

I pass the floor now to United States of America.

>> UNITED STATES of AMERICA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I want to start by applauding all of the candidates, Lithuania, Korea and Samoa for the excellent campaigns. There was a lot of energy and a lot of good focus in your messages and your efforts.

I thank Chaesub Lee for his long and dedicated service, and I commend Gisa Fuatal Purcell for her commitment to improving connectivity, especially the developing world. I congratulate you, Tomas, on the absolutely well ran campaign and the election today as the new Deputy Secretary‑General. You will have our full support in your new position.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to Malcolm for his long years of service to the ITU community. We wish you well as you go into retirement.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, U.S.A.

I now give the floor to India.

>> INDIA: Thank you, Chair.

Let me extend my sincere thanks to all three candidates who have been wonderful in their approach, processes and especially Ms. Gisa Fuatal Purcell, my dear friend and sister, without time is there, ahead of you, we wish good luck next time.

Dr. Lee, who has been a wonderful worker, we have all seen his contributions in the last many years. Finally, hardiest congratulations to Mr. Tomas, the youngest DSG elect. You have our full support, cooperation in all possible manners, especially with the coming up of the new area office and innovation centre.

We would express our sincere appreciation to an excellent work done by outgoing DSG Mr. Malcolm Johnson who had always had heart for India and he guided us on many matters, and we will continue to seek his guidance though he may not be there in the position on DSG or other position in the ITU.

Thank you. Thanks a lot.

>> CHAIR: Thank you.

I now invite Cambodia to take the floor.

>> CAMBODIA: Thank you, His Excellency, Chair for hosting that historical event.

I would like to express our congratulations to our newly elected Mr. Tomas, the youngest Deputy Secretary‑General of ITU. Cambodia looks forward to you and Madam Doreen Bogdan‑Martin's leadership to lead ITU to the next level. We express great appreciation for ITU support on partners to connect to Cambodia and we look forward to a strong engagement with ITU and all of its Member States.

Best wishes to Dr. Chaesub Lee for your strong effort and contribution to ITU community, and best wish to Ms. Gisa Fuatal Purcell for all your efforts of ITU.

And thank you to His Excellency Houlin Zhao, His Excellency Malcolm Johnson and outgoing team for all of your contribution. We wish you all the best, we admire your energy and the legacy you left behind for ITU we would like to double or contribution to ITU to show our support.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much.

I now pass the floor to Saudi Arabia.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Thank you very much, Chairman.

At the outset, I would like to congratulate Mr. Tomas for having been elected as Deputy Secretary‑General and I hope to be able to work with him very soon. We wish him a warm welcome for his return to ITU, however we would like to thank Mr. Johnson for his tireless work at ITU across the different sectors, for his wisdom, all of his endeavors and his solution‑oriented mind and his diplomacy was just allowed us to follow his mission.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you.

I now invite to take the floor Turkey.

>> TURKEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

On behalf of Turkey, I would like to congratulate Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas on his election as Deputy Secretary‑General of ITU and convey our best wishes for his term during the next four years.

We have no doubt his energy and experience will lead him every success in this new position. I will also express our sincere thanks to Mr. Chaesub Lee for his valuable contributions to the Union throughout his career with vast experience, dedication and outstanding personality. We wish him all the best for his new path.

Also, I wish to congratulate Ms. Gisa Fuatal Purcell for putting forth her candidacy and efforts. We're sure that she will continue to provide great contributions to ITU.

I would like to express our great appreciation to Mr. Malcolm Johnson for contributions and all of the hard work he put during his career in the ITU.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR:

Thank you, Turkey.

I now am inviting Namibia to take the floor.

>> NAMIBIA: Mr. Chairman, I would like to express our warmest congratulations Tomas for being elected dependency Secretary‑General of ITU as a young, energetic Secretary‑General we have no doubt that we're going to be the right hand for the Secretary‑General to drive ITU to greater heights.

We would also like to thank Dr. Chaesub Lee as well as Ms. Gisa Fuatal Purcell for having participated in this election to make it a democratic process.

I would like to thank your team that has worked very hard to ensure your election with Tomas, Tomas and all other candidates also. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much.

I now invite to take the floor Czech Republic.

>> CZECH REPUBLIC: Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Chair, the Czech Republic on behalf of EU Member States extend its congratulations to Tomas, Deputy Secretary‑General Elect for his impressive victory.

All respect to other candidates and their campaigns.

Tomas, the E.U. stood firmly behind you to navigate the turbulent waters we need to have a highly competent and dedicated person and expert at the helm of the ITU. You are the right person with the right experience and inclusive vision.

In addition, you possess the capacity to forge consensus bringing all voices around the table.

Dear Tomas, we're happen I couldn't made it. Together with Doreen, you will make a perfect pair. Thank you very much and good luck.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Czech Republic.

I give now the floor to Ukraine.

>> UKRAINE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

On behalf of the head of the Ukrainian delegation and people, we would like to congratulate you, Tomas, on your win in the election on the post of the dependency Secretary‑General, we sincerely wish you all of the best in your endeavors, you have our overwhelming support and we look forward to working with you in the interest of the global telecommunication community.

We also are grateful to all other candidates for their campaigns as well as to Malcolm, Mr. Malcolm, for the long service in the ITU. Once more, Tomas, thank you for the win.

>> CHAIR: Republic of Korea.

>> REPUBLIC OF KOREA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Our warm congratulations to Tomas and the Delegation of Lithuania. I believe that Tomas can make a great team with Doreen and the new leadership team and you can count on our support throughout your tenure as Deputy Secretary‑General.

I also would like to thank the 59 countries that voted for Chaesub Lee. We really, really thank you for your support on the candidature. I also want to convey our appreciation to Mr. Malcolm Johnson who has done a great job as Deputy Secretary‑General for the last eight years.

We're very proud of what Dr. Chaesub Lee has done through eight years for ITU as Director for the TSB and we believe that they will contribute to the global ICT community in a different capacity.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much.

I invite now to take the floor Kyrgyzstan.

>> KYRGYZSTAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. It is a great honor for me to making a congratulation speech on behalf of the Kyrgyzstan government, on behalf of our delegation to this Plenipotentiary Conference.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas, our great friend, on his election as Deputy Secretary‑General of the ITU. We also would like to point out that Tomas Lamanauskas is very sociable and communicable and very good at finding a common language. I'm sure that together with Ms. Doreen Bogdan‑Martin they will make a great team. We wish them every success.

Our Republic has always supported the ITU at the regional and global levels. We promise to continue supporting the work of the ITU in the future. I take this opportunity to say on behalf of my delegation thank you very much to the outgoing Secretary‑General, Mr. Houlin Zhao, and to the outgoing Deputy Secretary‑General, Mr. Malcolm Johnson as well as thanking Mr. Chaesub Lee for their excellent contribution to the work of the ITU. We will never forget them.

We value their excellent contribution to the work of our organization. I would also like to thank migrate friend Gisa Fuatal Purcell for having put forward her candidacy for the post of the Deputy Secretary‑General. I wish her every success in the future.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you.

I now give the floor to Thailand.

>> THAILAND: Thank you very much, Chair.

On behalf of Thailand, we would express our heartfelt congratulations to Tomas who me personally, I would have to level up my energy just to match with him! We would also like to express our gratitude to goes to Gisa Fuatal Purcell and Chaesub Lee for their strong campaign and for us, the ITU family, we're very lucky to have three very capable people who volunteered to work for the ITU and we're very thankful for that.

We would like to thank Chaesub Lee especially for his years to ITU and the fantastic job he has made, that is beyond words to explain.

We would like to as well thank Malcolm for the job well done, as Deputy Secretary‑General. We wish you a good road ahead in your new chapter.

I believe that we made a milestone in terms of gender and youth. If I may share so that I don't have to request the floor again and to make injury job easier, I would like to ‑‑ your job ‑‑ we would like to invite everybody to celebrate this milestone with us, Thailand, in the reception tonight at 8:00. Very shortly, just to let you know the highlight, that will be Thai food and a show and boxing. We wish for you to have a chance to participate and the bus will be provided at the gate C1 at 7:00 and 7:40 p.m. We would like meet you and celebrate the success and milestone and the history that we all have, ITU friends altogether. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Thailand, for your invitation.

I now give the floor to Papua New Guinea.

>> PAPUA NEW GUINEA: As Chair of the APT preparatory process, I would like to express the APT's sincere congratulations to Tomas Lamanauskas in his election to one I think we have all seen is going to be an incredibly dynamic and energetic team with Doreen. I think ‑‑ certainly I'll need to go into training to keep up with them.

I would also like to acknowledge the two very strong candidates that came forward from our region, Dr. Chaesub Lee and Ms. Gisa Fuatal Purcell. I would also like to express our appreciation for Mr. Malcolm Johnson who as well as the service that he's given to the ITU as a whole has always been a friend of the APT and to our region.

I would also like to pass to Papua New Guinea to make a comment as well.

>> Thank you, Chairman, on behalf of our delegation, we wish to express our obvious congratulations to Tomas for being elected as the Deputy Secretary‑General.

We also are thankful and appreciate the candidature of our sister, Ms. Gisa Fuatal Purcell, for putting up a candidature.

On this note, Mr. Chairman, we also acknowledge and recognize the contributions of Mr. Johnson and Mr. Lee for your outstanding work.

With that, we look forward with working with you all.

Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I kindly ask the interpreters to give us 10 more minutes.

>> Of course, Chairman.

>> CHAIR: Thank you very much, appreciate.

Also kindly ask the countries to stay within 30 seconds, a half minute for this speech.

I give now the floor to Paraguay.

>> PARAGUAY: Thank you very much, Chairman.

The Republic of Paraguay would like to convey its acknowledgment and gratitude to Mr. Malcolm Johnson for his work as Deputy Secretary‑General of the ITU and our gratitude to Chaesub Lee and goes for participating as candidates in the elections ‑‑ Gisa Fuatal Purcell ‑‑ and we convey our congratulations to Chaesub Lee for the years of dedication to the Union and we extend our congratulations to Tomas Lamanauskas for his appointment as Deputy Secretary‑General Elect of the Union.

We thank you your visit with us and you're always welcome there. Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I now give the floor tore Gambia.

>> GAMBIA: Thank you very much.

On behalf of the country and government, we want to take this opportunity to thank Tomas for his hard working and dedication as I always say, the energy, the drive, Tomas has been seen all over. Tomas, congratulations, and on behalf of the Republic of The Gambia, we want to also thank Malcolm Johnson who has done a great job the last four years. Best luck to you on your next interval.

Thank you to all of the candidates that have given a tough fight, at the end, one has to win. Congratulations, Tomas, we look forward to working with you for many years to come.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I invite to take the floor Nigeria.

>> NIGERIA: Thank you, Chairman.

Speaking on behalf of our Honorable Minister, Nigeria wishes to express its gratitude and congratulations Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas as Deputy Secretary‑General elect and we also wish him the best and showing of our support and for the outgoing DSG, welcome Tomas, we wish you the best in your endeavors.

Tomas, from Nigeria, we're very glad that you have emerged as the winner of the elections. Our congratulations to you and we wish you all the best.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you.

I now invite Cape Verde to take the floor.

>> CAPE VERDE: We would like to congratulate all of the previous on the person of Houlin Zhao and Malcolm Johnson. All of the fantastic candidates and the newly elected representative, congratulations Doreen, the first woman to be elected Secretary‑General and congratulations Tomas, from probably the youngest head of delegation to the youngest Deputy Secretary‑General in the history of the organization. History has been made. We're proud of you. Congratulations, Doreen, Tomas, ITU for this process.

You can count on us, the islands of West Africa during your mission, it is important that we guarantee that digital is a real tool of social scale for people and for all the countries in the world. This is the opportunity to create a better world and inclusive world, and please, let's put our passion in our work, let's smile and have fun during the way.

Thank you as well to Romania and to Romanians for such a warming welcome in this beautiful country.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you.

I now invite Zimbabwe to take the floor.

>> ZIMBABWE: Thank you, Mr. President.

On behalf of the Delegation of The Republic of Zimbabwe I wish to congratulate Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas for his election and in wishing him success during his tenure of office. I assure him of our full support.

Since I missed the opportunity earlier, allow me, Mr. President, to also sincerely congratulate Doreen Bogdan‑Martin for her historic election and wish all of the success at the helm of the ITU. I thank you, Mr. President.

>> CHAIR: Thank you, Zimbabwe.

I now invite Mexico to take the floor.

>> MEXICO: Thank you very much, Chairman.

On behalf of the Government of Mexico, I would like to thank the Deputy Secretary‑General Mr. Malcolm Johnson for his tireless efforts in the work of the Union, and we would like to acknowledge the candidates from Korea and Samoa for all of their endeavor, dedication and proposals not only during the campaign but also during their entire careers.

We would like to extend congratulations to Tomas, you're an absolutely force of nature and absolutely are convinced that all efforts that we and the energy we see from you, it will be reflected in the work of the ITU. You have the full support of going to work over the next few years to achieve the objectives of our Union.

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. You have the floor.

>> DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR-LESTE: We congratulate Tomas Lamanauskas as Deputy Secretary‑General of ITU. We're delighted with the outcomes. We believe that the new Secretary‑General and the Deputy Secretary‑General's, and the previous Secretary‑General's legacy will be preserved for the ITU Member States, and we would like to thank Dr. Chaesub Lee and Ms. Gisa Fuatal Purcell for their contribution.

Mr. Chairman, since we have not yet had a chance this morning, please allow us to also take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Doreen Bogdan‑Martin on her election as the fifth Madam General Secretary for ITU. This is an excellent achievement and we also wish Madam Secretary‑General great success in her new role and we thank the outgoing Secretary‑General, Houlin Zhao, who came to us in 2008 to help us with the on boarding process. Thank you, Mr. Houlin Zhao, for your help and success. We wish him all success.

>> CHAIR: Russian Federation.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: On behalf of the Russian Federation and the regional Commonwealth in the field of communications and on my own behalf, I congratulate Mr. Tomas, it is a victory and I wish you every success and achievement on this post. We're open for a dialogue and count on constructive and fruitful cooperation.

Separately I would like to thank other can indicates for their excellent campaigns and, of course, Mr. Chaesub Lee for his long‑term work on the post as Director of the TSB.

I would like to thank Mr. Malcolm Johnson for his contribution and many years of his work at the ITU.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you.

I now invite Vanuatu to take the floor.

>> VANUATU: On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu we express our sincerest and warmest congratulations to you, Tomas Lamanauskas, as the new ITU Deputy Secretary‑General elect. I pay tribute to Gisa Fuatal Purcell and Chaesub Lee from Korea who exceed in the election process. Congratulations.

You have our complete support.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. I invite now Comores to take the floor.

>> COMORES: Congratulations Tomas on the brilliant election as Deputy Secretary‑General of the ITU. I would also like to thank the two other candidates for their competitiveness and their excellent contribution to the ITU. I reassure Mr. Tomas that we will support him together with Secretary‑General Ms. Doreen Bogdan‑Martin and I wish them every success in implementing the commitment, in particular, connectivity for all and for small developing Island States and I thank you.

>> CHAIR: Thank you. It is difficult to stay within 30 seconds.

(Captioner has to exit meeting at 17:40).

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