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| **Abstract:** | This document provides the draft report of JCA-AHF meeting (Virtual Geneva, 26 November 2020). |

Related links:

* [JCA-AHF webpage](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Pages/default.aspx)
* [Meeting documents page](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Pages/202011-docs.aspx)

1. Opening of the meeting

The joint JCA-AHF and ITU-T Q26/16 e-meeting was held on 26 November 2020 chaired by Ms Andrea Saks (USA), JCA-AHF Chairman. This meeting was collocated with Q26/16 Rapporteur Group meeting (25-26 November 2020) which was held also virtually. The first half of the meeting was devoted to finalizing the scheduled Q26/16 work. This document provides the summary of the JCA-AHF part of the meeting only. The list of participants is available on JCA-AHF [Document 418](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/Nov%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc418.docx).

1. Approval of the agenda

The Chairman introduced the draft JCA-AHF meeting agenda and document allocation as contained in JCA-AHF [Document 409-R2](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/Nov%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc409-R2.docx). It was approved by the JCA-AHF.

1. Approval of the last JCA-AHF meeting report

The Chairman introduced the last JCA-AHF meeting (1 July 2020) report (JCA-AHF [Document 408](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/July%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc408.docx)), and it was approved by the JCA-AHF.

# Report on recent accessibility activities

Ms Lidia Best from NADP and G3ict, and who is a co-vice Chair of the JCA-AHF, reported recent accessibility activities which are described in JCA-AHF [Document 415](https://staging.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/Nov%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc415.docx). Ms Lidia highlighted some of the events in which she participated, including:

- WSIS webinar on [*Leaving Nobody Behind in the age of Smart Cities and Advances in Technology*](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2020/Agenda/Session/141), 17 July 2020;

- Annual Conference of the European Platform for Rehabilitation conference - Embracing Digital Transformation, organized by [EPR](https://www.epr.eu/);

- Internet Governance Forum session “[*Digital Discrimination during the COVID 19 Pandemic*](https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2020-ws-202-digital-discrimination-during-the-covid-19-pandemic)*: Challenges and solutions*” at [IGF 2020](https://www.intgovforum.org/vIGF/)

- Internet Society webinar “[*The impact of COVID 19 and switch to virtual meetings and Deaf and hard of hearing community*](https://livestream.com/internetsociety2/accessiblemeetings3)”.

1. Collaboration with W3C on WebRTC and total conversation, including WebVRI

ITU-T Technical Paper [FSTP-ACC.WebVRI](https://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-TUT-FSTP-2020-ACC.WEBVRI) “Guideline on web-based remote sign language interpretation or video remote interpretation (VRI) system” was approved by ITU-T SG16 in July 2020. This Technical Paper refers to Web Real Time Communication (WebRTC) which is a set of standard protocols centred on [W3C-WebRTC] that enables P2P sharing of audio and video signals between browsers. Mr Kawamori suggested to collaborate with W3C experts, to exchange ideas, to invite them to help us with the technicalities of the WebRTC standards as well as to work on a potential joint project related to this particular subject. As WebRTC has a good security mechanism, real-time captioning or livestreaming on WebRTC platform would be a good solution for applications, such as a better quality captioning service with video, and the platform would be utilized to realize the [Total Conversation](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/studygroups/com16/accessibility/Pages/conversation.aspx) concept. The discussion with W3C colleagues including Mr Shadi Abou-Zahra was reported in item 4 of JCA-AHF [Document 415](https://staging.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/Nov%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc415.docx).

Mr Dušan Caf from Digitas Institute explained his project on the development of functional requirements for WebRTC applications together with Associations of Persons with Disabilities, specifically with Associations of Deaf Persons in Slovenia as well as in Croatia. Mr Caf highlighted that it is necessary to join forces globally for VRI and for other services such as emergency services, and expressed his expectation that ITU develop functional requirements for WebRTC. Mr Caf stated that there are only eight countries that have VRI in Europe, and the implementation takes much time and cost.

Mr Matjaž Debevc from University of Maribor stated that World Federation of the Deaf, specifically Expert Group on Accessibility, welcomed the developments of WebRTC and WebVRI. He expressed their expectation that the technologies would be implemented widely.

The JCA-AHF agreed the idea of this collaboration with W3C on the work of WebVRI based on WebRTC. Further steps will be suggested via correspondence and will be reported to the next JCA-AHF meeting.

1. European hearing instrument manufacturers association (EHIMA) Bluetooth development

Mr Brian Copsey from ETSI explained orally that the efforts being made by his group to get a new profile of EHIMA within Bluetooth SIG. The work is delayed due to the pandemic, but Mr Copsey hopes that it would be released in May/June 2021. According to Mr Copsey, the profile will be useful and he expects to start seeing the devices in the market within two to three years. Mr Copsey will keep the JCA-AHF posted on the progress of this work.

# Emergency mobile calls and location-identification

Mr Copsey also briefly mentioned that the European Commission has placed a mandate on ETSI to produce a set of standards for Europe on emergency mobile call phone system using Galileo.

This mention triggered a discussion about the fact that mobile phones cannot always be located precisely in an emergency call. Mr Kawamori suggested to start a discussion at Q26/16 on accessibility to emergency calls including TRS, liaising with SG2 as it concerns emergency numbering resources. This was agreed by the JCA-AHF.

# Incoming Liaison Statements

# LS on newly approved Technical Paper on remote sign language interpretation [to ITU-T JCA-AHF, SG20; WFD, WASLI, EUD, IFHOH, DTI] (from SG16)

Mr Kawamori presented JCA-AHF [Document 410](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/Nov%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc410.zip). This Liaison Statement informs the approval of the Technical Paper [FSTP-ACC.WebVRI](https://www.itu.int/pub/publications.aspx?lang=en&parent=T-TUT-FSTP-2020-ACC.WEBVRI) “Guideline on web-based remote sign language interpretation or video remote interpretation (VRI) system” which he already explained earlier at this JCA-AHF meeting. He invited provide comments so that the quality of this Technical Paper could be improved for a future edition, possibly for a candidate of a future ITU-T Recommendation. The JCA-AHF took note of this LS.

# LS/r on the new draft F.ACC-Humanitarian “Humanitarian global networks and services for global accessibility for persons with disabilities” and its collaboration regarding numbering and identifiers (from SG16) [to ITU-T SG2]

The LS is available in JCA-AHF [Document 411](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/Nov%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc411.docx). Discussion related to this LS was made at Q26/16 meeting. The JCA-AHF took note of this LS.

# LS/r on the new draft Recommendation “Humanitarian Global Networks and Services for Global Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities” (F.ACC-Humanitarian) and its collaboration regarding numbering and identifiers (from SG2) [to ITU-T SG16]

The LS is available in JCA-AHF [Document 412](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/Nov%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc412.zip). Discussion related to this LS was made at Q26/16 meeting. The JCA-AHF meeting took note of this LS.

# LS on accessibility matters (from SG20)

Mr Daniel Hark Sohn briefly presented JCA-AHF [Document 413](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/Nov%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc413.zip). This LS informs of the consent of ITU-T Y.4211 “Accessibility requirements for smart public transportation services” by WP1/20 in November 2020. The JCA-AHF took note of this LS.

## LS on Studies of subtitling/captioning for immersive systems (from IRG-AVA)

This LS is contained in JCA-AHF [Document 414](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/Nov%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc414.zip) and it describes a way to use accessibility features on an immersive environment. The recent research on user requirements for captioning in immersive environments has shown that there is both a need for improvement subtitle/caption presentation and a wealth of research opportunities. The designed framework aim is to identify how to display captions/subtitles for an optimal viewing experience. The JCA-AHF took note of this LS.

## LS on the status of draft Recommendation ITU-T E.disab and draft TR.TRAFGR (from SG2)

This LS is contained in JCA-AHF [Document 416](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Documents/docs-2020/Nov%202020%20meeting/JCA-AHF-Doc416.docx). It provides updates on the status of draft Recommendation ITU-T E.disab and that informs that Mr Tony Holmes will be the liaison officer to the JCA-AHF. The JCA-AHF took note of this LS.

## Future activities

The JCA-AHF Chairman encouraged the JCA-AHF members to participate in planned accessibility events including, but not limited to:

- ITU event on [Accessible Americas 2020](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/EVENTS/2020/24667.aspx), 25-27 November 2020, virtual event

- [WSIS TalkX](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2020/en/Home/WSISTalkX) “ICTs for Building Back Better: Toward a disability-inclusive, accessible and sustainable post COVID-19 World”, 3 December 2020, 14:00-15:00 CET ([Registration](https://itu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EubKnn-ERLe8ErHAu4gn1g)), virtual event

- ITU event for Europe on [Towards Digitally Accessible Europe](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Europe/Pages/Events/2020/AE21/PreEvent.aspx), 3 December 2020, 10:00-12:10 (CET), virtual event

- ITU and EC event on [Accessible Europe 2021](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Europe/Pages/Events/2020/AE21/default.aspx), 23 – 25 March 2021, virtual event

1. Any Other Business

Mr Olaf Mittelstaedt from DAISY Consortium India stated that he was trying to get donations through a charitable organization in San Francisco to help blind kids in India to read and write using assistive devices, so that they could finally integrate into normal Indian school curriculum. He expressed his intention to show a video on this topic at the next JCA-AHF meeting.

Mr Copsey asked if ITU could send a liaison statement on ITU-T’s work on accessibility terminology to ETSI and the European Commission to avoid a duplication of work. It was agreed that SG16 would send a LS to ETSI and EC, copying JCA-AHF, and that Mr Brian provide Mr Kawamori with a draft text to prepare the LS.

1. Next JCA-AHF meeting

To be decided and announced accordingly.

1. Closing

The JCA-AHF Chairman thanked all speakers of the meeting, participants, SL interpreters, caption writers and TSB. She closed the meeting.

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