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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-18)Dubai, 29 October – 16 November 2018** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Document INF/5-E** |
|  | **22 October 2018** |
|  | **English only** |
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| Note by the Secretary-General |
| Webpage translation trial |
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| The first plenary meeting of Council 2018 discussed the importance of the use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal basis, and the budget limitations associated to the translation of documents. Considering the importance of exploring other mechanisms that would allow for the translation of more texts at a lower cost, the ITU Deputy Secretary-General (DSG), Mr Malcolm Johnson, was authorized by Council to conduct a trial for the translation of webpages, with the objective of identifying cost-effective alternatives to translation by ITU translation services, while maintaining high quality standards. Council also asked that the results of the trial be presented to the plenipotentiary conference. The trial is currently being run with the participation of one ITU Member Administration per language. The administration that would translate into Arabic was unfortunately unable to participate in the trial for administrative reasons. Translations are done by a translator recommended by the corresponding Administration, and participating Administrations ensure that the quality of the translations meet ITU quality standards. A number of TSB webpages were selected for this trial, and translations have already been received for French, Spanish and Chinese, and are currently being posted on the TSB website, after due diligence regarding their quality without any intervention by ITU translation services. Translations into Russian are expected to be delivered during the Plenipotentiary conference. The ITU Deputy Secretary-General wishes to thank the Administrations of Tunisia, Argentina, China and Russia for their participation in this trialAction requiredThis document is submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference **for information**. |