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| **Council Working Group on International Internet Related Public Policy issues (CWG‑Internet)** |  |
| **Eleventh meeting – Geneva, 25-26 January 2018** |  |
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|  | **Document WG-Internet 11/11** |
| **29 January 2018** |
| **English only** |
| Final REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH meeting of the  COuncil working group on international Internet-related public policy issues (cwg-internet) | |

1. **Introduction**

**1.1.** ITU Secretary-General welcomed the participants to the eleventh meeting of CWG-Internet. He continued by commending the successful convening of the open consultations meeting preceding the CWG meeting, noting his personal commitment to the empowerment of women through ICTs. He also thanked the open consultation participants for their inputs and recommendations which shall inform ITU’s further work towards bridging the digital gender divide. In his closing his remarks, he noted that the issues under the Group’s mandate will likely be key topics of discussion at PP-18 and therefore suggested that the Group continues to provide guidance on related matters.

**1.2.** The Chairman thanked the ITU Secretary-General for his presence and support of the meeting. He also thanked Vice-Chairmen Mr. Vyacheslav V. Erokhin from Russian Federation, Mr. Charles Semapondo from Rwanda and Mr. Kishore Babu from India, for chairing the fifth Open Consultation meeting, tenth CWG-Internet meeting and sixth Open Consultation meeting respectively.

**2.** [**WG-Internet 11/1**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0001/en)**: Agenda of the meeting**

**2.1** Some Member States stated that if there are issues to be discussed during the meeting and to be reflected in the minutes, it is important to reflect it in the agenda; and that these issues should be brought up in a timely manner during the discussion.

**2.2** Some Member States stated that, as is regular practice, discussions during the meeting should be appropriately reflected in the report of the meeting.

**2.3** A Member State requested that CWG-Internet-11/2 should be discussed together with contribution CWG-Internet-11/7 and CWG-Internet-11/6 as they are related.

**2.4** Some Member States expressed their intent to raise various issues during the agenda item “Any other Business” and the agenda was duly updated and adopted.

**3.** [**WG-Internet 11/2**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0002/en)**: Secretariat report on ITU Internet Activities: Resolutions 101, 102, 133, and 180**

**3.1 Summary of the Report**

This report summarizes ITU’s activities related to Plenipotentiary Conference (PP) Resolution 101 (Rev. Busan, 2014), “Internet Protocol-based networks”; Resolution 102 (Rev. Busan, 2014), “ITU’s role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses”; Resolution 133 (Rev. Busan, 2014), “Roles of administrations of Member States in the management of Internationalized (multilingual) domain names”; and Resolution 180 (Rev. Busan, 2014), “Facilitating the transition from IPv4 to IPv6”.

**3.2 Discussion on the Report**

* Some Member States highlighted the capacity building activities, appreciating the active participation of different stakeholders in the related activities.
* Some Member States stated the need to further elaborate on the section on public policy issues, including the possibility of a separate report for PP Res. 101, 102, so that more information can be provided for the benefit of countries, especially developing and least developed countries.
* Some Member States cautioned against expanding the size of the report, taking into consideration the additional resources needed as well as the readability of the document.
* Secretariat was encouraged to explore the use of hyperlinks, webpages etc. as a way to present the information in a succinct manner.
* Some Member States suggested that item 4.2 of the Secretariat report, on enhanced cooperation, could be included as a separate section, similar to Section 7 on IGF related activities. Some Member States suggested that alternatively the items on enhanced cooperation and IGF could both go under Section 4 on Internet-related public policy issues. The Group agreed that both IGF activities and the part on Enhanced Cooperation could be included under one section.
* The Group asked the Secretariat to take the suggestions into consideration in the preparation of future reports including the report to Council 2018.
* The Vice Chairman of CSTD, Mr. Peter Major, gave an update on the work of the CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation on Public Policy Issues Pertaining to the Internet (WGEC), which will have its last meeting on 29-31 January 2018.
* Additional discussion of the report based on the Russian Contribution CWG Internet 11/7 is described in detail in Section 6.1 below.

**4.** [**WG-Internet 11/9**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0009/en)**: Brief Summary of the Online Open Consultation and Physical Open Consultation Meeting (October 2017-January 2018)**

**4.1.** The Group appreciated and thanked all stakeholders who responded to the online consultations and those who participated in the physical open consultation meeting on 22 January 2018. The Online Open Consultation was conducted from October 2017 to January 2018 on the topic of "Bridging the Digital Gender Divide". During this consultation 52 responses were received from a variety of stakeholders and regions (21 Government entities, 22 Civil Society and Technical Community entities, 7 Private Sector entities and Industry Associations and 2 Intergovernmental Organizations). The responses provided rich inputs, sharing different views with regard to the five questions of the consultation.

All responses received are publicly available on the ITU website and a compilation document [OPCWGINT6/2](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-OPCWGINT6-C-0002/en) was published online.

**4.2.** The Group appreciated the discussions, at the physical consultation meeting that preceded the meeting of the CWG. Document [OPCWGINT6/2](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-OPCWGINT6-C-0002/en) was presented during the physical consultation meeting and various stakeholders took the floor- both onsite and remotely- to present their submitted views. Stakeholders present at the physical open consultation meeting agreed on the Brief Summary of the Online Open Consultation and Physical Open Consultation Meeting, contained in [WG-Internet 11/9](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0009/en), which was submitted, without edits, for consideration by the CWG-Internet. The summary document was noted and will be annexed through hyperlink to the Chairman’s report to Council 2018.

**4.3** Some Member States expressed their thanks for the presentation of the UN-wide Gender Parity Strategy made remotely from the United Nations Office in New York on Monday, 22 January 2018. Drawing from the experiences shared in the UN document, they further encouraged ITU to continue working towards achieving gender parity within the Organisation.

**4.4** Considering the length of the summary of the Open Consultation some Member States suggested that in order to facilitate the consideration of the summary by the CWG-Internet, the Secretariat provides a shorter analysis of the issues addressed in the various submitted responses, as well as of the points discussed during the physical meeting.

Some Member States were of the view that the current document meets the detailed guidelines agreed by Member States during Council 2016 and therefore further analysis was not needed. They also stated that attempts to shorten the length of the document could result into important stakeholder views not being included, thus not allowing the Group to benefit from all views expressed.

One Member State suggested that in future consultations the summary document also includes summaries of the presentations made by panellists during the open consultation meeting. Some Member States cautioned against creating additional workload for the ITU Secretariat. The Chairman suggested that in future consultations the ITU Secretariat requests the panellists to provide summaries of their presentations to be included in the final summary report of the meeting.

The Chairman further invited the ITU Secretariat to consider suggestions made in future open consultations.

**5. Summary of Contributions**

The contributions, as submitted by the authors of the documents, are summarized as follows:

**5.1.** **Contribution** [**WG-Internet-11/3**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0003/en) **from the Russian Federation, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus and Kyrgyz Republic: “Proposals for further work on the OTT International Public Policy”**

Draft proposal of Resolution “International public policy issues related to OTTs” is presented for information of CWG-Internet in line with the discussions held in RCC region on the preparatory process for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018.

The proposal includes instructions to ITU-T Study Group 3 and 17 to continue studies on OTT, including questions of economic impact of OTT, the role of regulators, personal data protection, authentication in OTT messaging services, etc., and to submit to the CWG-Internet considerations related to OTT services that require development of relevant public policies. It is also proposed to instruct ITU-D Study Group 1 to submit to CWG-Internet considerations related to OTT services that require public policy.

It is proposed that CWG-Internet performs analysis of public policy considerations related to OTT based on information from ITU-T and ITU-D SGs, contributions from Member States and open consultation materials. CWG-Internet should formulate proposals for the ITU Council with regard to possible aspects of the development of international public policy issues on regulating OTTs both nationally and internationally. Besides it, CWG-Internet should report annually to the Council on the activities undertaken on these subjects, submit proposals as appropriate for further decision, and assist ITU Member-States on the issues of the development of public policy related to ОТТ.

**5. 2 Contribution** [**WG-Internet-11/4**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0004) **from the Russian Federation, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus and Kyrgyz Republic: “Proposals on Revision of the Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014): ITU's role in child online protection”**

Following the preparatory process for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018, the draft proposals on revision of Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014) “ITU's role in child online protection” is presented for information of CWG-Internet.

The contribution aims to update the Resolution according to the results of the ITU activities on this matter and provide additional proposals on further activities. The contribution also expresses support to continue the work of CWG-COP, in order to facilitate the membership's input and guidance on ITU's role in child online protection and to have a closer collaboration with CWG-Internet in order to contribute in a mutually beneficial manner to fulfilment of work under the mandate of these Council working groups, while striving to avoid duplication of effort.  
 **5.3.** **Contribution** [**WG-Internet 10/5**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0005) **from the United States**

Access and usage of digital tools empowers women and girls by providing essential information and services for health, safety, education, and economic growth opportunities—all of which are crucial for societies to realize their full economic potential. While the reach of digital technologies continues to rapidly expand, the gap between men and women accessing the Internet has widened over the last three years. Moreover, high costs of devices and Internet service, lack of digital literacy, and prohibitive social norms disproportionately impact women. The lack of access to the Internet and lack of basic digital skills limits women’s ability to participate in the digital economy, obtain good education, access healthcare services and participate in the civil discourse. The United States believes that without major changes in policies concomitant with a significant increase in investment many of the benefits of technological changes will be out of the reach of women, thus potentially exacerbating current gender inequalities. Our contribution includes a sample of programs, which reflect the United States’ commitment to promoting ICT use by women and girls all over the world.

**5.4. Contribution** [**WG-Internet 11/6**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0006) **from the Republic of India**

**5.4.1** India commends the activities of the CWG-Internet and the progress made thus far. While supporting the multistakeholder form of internet governance, India supports that the governments should have equal footing in the internet governance involving stakeholders in their respective roles and responsibilities as envisaged in the Tunis agenda. Considering the importance of the work under the CWG-Internet and its relevance for developing countries for their effective participation in the work related to public policy issues in the global internet governance, it is proposed that the CWG Internet shall continue its work on international internet related public policy issues within ITU’s mandate.

**5.4.2** The proposal acknowledges the current reporting in the SG report on ITU Internet activities on PP-14 resolutions 101, 102, 133 & 180., and views that there is a need to expand the reporting to cover “the roles and activities of other relevant international organizations, describing their involvement in IP-based network issues; the degree of cooperation between ITU and these organizations, drawing the required information wherever possible from existing sources, and containing concrete proposals on improving ITU activities and such cooperation“, elaborating substantive issues, developments and ITU’s facilitating role in the coordination as necessary with other intergovernmental organizations in these domains as mandated under the said PP resolutions. A separate report on Internet-related public policy issues could be produced considering the importance of the work of CWG Internet.

**5.4.3** The proposal is with reference to ITU’s mandate vide PP resolution 102 under instructs the SG, “ to continue to take the necessary steps for ITU to play an active and constructive role in the process towards enhanced cooperation as expressed in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda; to continue to take the necessary steps in ITU's own internal process towards enhanced cooperation on international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet as expressed in § 71 of the Tunis Agenda, involving all stakeholders, in their respective roles and responsibilities;”. The contribution brought to the notice of the CWG that some of the considerations at ‘WGEC on Enhanced Cooperation’ include certain objectives under enhanced cooperation, to be carried out by a new mechanism envisaged, are similar to the work already being carried out by ITU with a potential possibility of duplication of work. Considering the ongoing work of WGEC on Enhanced Cooperation’, the proposal sought that appropriately, the ITU should take up through UN processes, to bring together the relevant work on enhanced cooperation as per the thought processes at WGEC, as feasible under ITU as an effective specialized mechanism to provide institutional framework to further implement enhanced cooperation and to prevent duplication of work.

**5.5 Contribution** [**WG-Internet-11/7**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0007) **from the Russian Federation: “Proposals on the report of the Secretary-General on ITU's Internet activities: Resolutions 101, 102, 133 and 180”**

In the contribution Russian Federation expresses its gratitude to the ITU Secretariat for preparing and submitting interim reports on Internet activities to the CWG-Internet meetings, including Document WG-Internet 11/2-E for the 11th meeting of the Group, which describes the activities of ITU for the reporting period from the Council 2017 to December 2017. To complement the report, Russian Federation would like to propose the following additions:

- to supplement Sections 2 and 3 of the Report with more detailed information on the WTDC-17 (9-20 October 2017, Buenos Aires, Argentina), indicating specific decisions taken on Objectives and the planned results in the Buenos Aires Action Plan (<https://www.itu.int/dms_ties/itu-d/md/14/wtdc17/c/D14-WTDC17-C-0115!!PDF-E.pdf>), as well as new Study Group questions for the 2017- 2020 Study period (e.g. Questions 1/1, 3/1 and other relevant questions);

- to add to Section 4 a subsection with information about the 10th meeting of the CWG-Internet, as well as on online consultations and the 5th physical meeting on the topic "Public Policy considerations for OTTs", which was held with broad and active participation of stakeholders;

- to include in the title of the Report Resolution 197 “Facilitating the Internet of Things to prepare for a globally connected world” (Busan, 2014) (section 2.11 of the Report describes the activities of SG 20 of ITU-T, which is guided by this Resolution).  
 **5.6** **Contribution** [**WG-Internet 11/8**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0008/en) **from Brazil: “Bridging the Digital Gender Divide”**

In document WG-Internet 11/8, Brazil presents information on its initiatives towards "Bridging the digital gender divide". The delegation informed that there is no gap in access to the Internet among men and women in Brazil. However women represent only 20% of workers in the ICT sector, including content production, software, (big) data analytics, algorithm creation, and development of digital standards, among others. Brazil's initiatives to bridge the digital gender divide include national policy plans and programs and civil society initiatives on the dissemination of ICTs for women and ICT-related academic and scientific careers among women.

**6. Discussions**

The CWG examined the various contributions, which were appreciated by the Group.

**6.1 Contribution** [**WG-Internet-11/7**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0007) **from the Russian Federation: “Proposals on the report of the Secretary-General on ITU's Internet activities: Resolutions 101, 102, 133 and 180”**

* This document was presented and discussed following the presentation of ITU’s Internet Activities Report WG-Internet 11/2 by the ITU Secretariat.
* On the suggested additions to the Internet Activities Report recommended in the contribution, some Member States supported the various parts.
* Some Member States suggested that the scope and title of the Report be expanded to include other resolutions such as PP-14 Res. 197.
* Some Member States suggested enhancing the Report by having separate sections on infrastructure, Public Policy etc.
* Some Member States reiterated that expanding the scope of the report could result into a very large document which would be hard to read, and suggested that the Report should focus on the key Resolutions PP-14 101, 102, 133 and 180.
* The Group asked the Secretariat to take the suggestions into consideration in the preparation of future reports by the Secretary-General on Internet activities.

**6.2 Contribution** [**WG-Internet 11/8**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0008/en) **from Brazil: “Bridging the Digital Gender Divide”**

* This document was presented and discussed following the presentation of WG-Internet 11/9 on the Brief Summary of the Open Consultation.
* Several Member States supported the contribution, stating that both developing and developed countries can gain from the experiences shared in this document on bridging the digital gender divide.
* In thanking Brazil for their contribution, some Member States reiterated the critical importance of promoting and protecting Human Rights for women and girls as a fundamental element of any strategy or initiative to close the digital gender divide, and to further enhance gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.

**6.3 Contribution** [**WG-Internet 10/5**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0005) **from the United States**

* This document was presented and discussed following the presentation of WG-Internet 11/9 on the Brief Summary of the Open Consultation.
* Several Member States supported the contribution, with some other Member States sharing their own national experiences on promoting ICT use by women and girls all over the world.
* One Member State suggested using the WSIS Stocking taking Database as a tool to store case studies such as those contained in the Brazilian and US contribution for the benefit of all stakeholders.

**6.4 Contribution** [**WG-Internet-11/3**](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0003/en) **from the Russian Federation, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus and Kyrgyz Republic: “Proposals for further work on the OTT International Public Policy”**

* The proponents stated that this contribution was for information only and welcomed views from Member States.
* Some Member States stated that it was useful to know various regional views and proposals in advance in the preparations for PP-18.
* The Chairman suggested that all interested parties could contact the proponents to further develop this proposal.

**6.5 Contribution** [**WG-Internet-11/4**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0004) **from the Russian Federation, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Belarus and Kyrgyz Republic: “Proposals on Revision of the Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014): ITU's role in child online protection”**

* The proponents stated that this contribution was for information only and welcomed views from Member States.
* Some Member States reiterated that it was beneficial to have proposals shared earlier on, especially in the run up to major ITU conferences such as the ITU Plenipotentiary conference.
* The Chairman suggested that all interested parties could contact the proponents to further develop this proposal.

**6.6 Contribution** [**WG-Internet 11/6**](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S18-RCLINTPOL11-C-0006) **from the Republic of India**

* On the recommendations in the contribution, some Member States supported various parts.
* Concerning the first proposal in the contribution, some Member States supported the proposal that the work continues to remain relevant considering its importance. Some Member States noted that it is for PP/Council to take an appropriate decision on the subject.
* Concerning further expanding the Secretariat Report on Internet activities along the lines described in the contribution, some Member States supported the proposals to cover the activities raised in the relevant Internet resolutions and stated the need to further elaborate on the section on public policy issues, including the possibility of a separate report for Res. 101, 102, so that more information can be provided for the benefit of countries, especially developing and least developed countries. Some other Member States cautioned that for better readability and due to additional resource requirements, the report should be drafted in a succinct manner. The Chairman noted that Secretariat includes some references to collaboration with other organizations in its Internet Activities Report.
* On the proposal on enhanced cooperation, some Member States supported the proposal as stated in Section 5.4.3 of this Report while some other Member States did not support the proposal.

**7. Any other business**

**7.1 Update by Germany on the Freedom Online Coalition**

* Germany as the 2018 Chair of the Freedom Online Coalition provided information on the principles and goals of the Coalition.
* Some Member States expressed their support for the Freedom Online Coalition, and its efforts.
* Some Member States suggested that Freedom Online Coalition also take into account the WSIS Outcome Documents in their work.

**7.2 Discussion on document CWG-FHR 8/19 “Status report on misuse of International Mobile Equipment Identify (IMEI) numbers in mobile handsets”**

* India requested that the report submitted by the TSB Director to CWG-FHR (Document [CWG-FHR 8/19](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CLCWGFHRM8-C-0019/en)) be submitted to Council 2018. India stated that in their view the response received from GSMA is inadequate and requests the TSB Director to further pursue the matter.
* Some Member States noted that CWG-FHR and Council 2017 have already discussed the topic, and sought further clarity on the expected actions of CWG Internet on the matter.
* Some Member States noted that the matter concerns security in the use of ICTs, which is under the mandate of CWG Internet.
* Some Member States stated that TSB should continue to pursue the matter with GSMA and 3GPP within the forums, where issues related to the IMEI standards are handled.
* Some Member States stated that the discussed issue is not related to developing or refining standards, but to the implementation and enforcement of standards.

**7.3 Issues related to PP-18**

* The Group thanked UAE for their generous support in hosting PP-18.
* Some Member States were of the view that the issues under the mandate of the Group are of high importance and relevance to PP-18. They stated that all Member States were encouraged to use the discussions and outcomes of the Group in their preparations towards PP-18.
* A Member State was of the view that topics such as the continued evolution of mandate and ToRs of the CWG-Internet and topics related to OTTs were important potential topics for discussion at PP-18.
* A Member State representative gave an overview of the CEPT regional preparatory process for PP-18. He stated that observers from other regions are invited so that the various regions can develop an understanding of the views and priorities of other regions, and carry out a constructive dialogue.
* A Member State representative gave an overview on the CITEL regional preparatory process for PP-18. Among other things, he stated that the substantive work of the conference should begin as early as possible during PP-18.
* A Member State representative gave an overview on the RCC regional preparatory process for PP-18. He emphasized that the earlier the coordination among regions start, the better it will be in the run up to PP-18.
* A Member State representative gave an overview on the Arab Group preparatory process for PP-18, and stated that he looks forward to working with the other regions.
* A Member State representative gave an overview on the APT preparatory process, and reiterated their interest in better coordination with other regions in the run up to PP-18.

**8. Actions**

**8.1** All Member States were encouraged to use the discussions and outcomes of the Group in their preparations towards PP-18.

**9. Summary of the Meeting**

**9.1.** The report of the eleventh meeting of the Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues was approved by the CWG and was posted on the CWG website (<http://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-internet>).

**9.2.** In closing, the Chairman thanked all the ITU Member States who made contributions and participated in the work of the CWG (including those who participated remotely), the Vice-Chairmen, the ITU Elected Officials and the Secretariat for their efficient assistance during the meeting.

**9.3.** The Group thanked the Chairman and Secretariat for their effective organization and management of the Group. The Group also thanked the remote moderator.

**Mr. Majed Al-Mazyed (Saudi Arabia), Chairman, CWG-Internet**