|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Council 2019 Geneva, 10-20 June 2019** |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  | **Document C19/120-E** |
| **22 July 2019** |
| **Original: English** |
| SUMMARY RECORD  OF THE  NINTH AND LAST PLENARY MEETING | |
| Thursday, 20 June 2019, from 1435 to 1800 hours | |
| **Acting Chairman:** Mr F. BIGI (Italy) | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Subjects discussed | Documents |
| 1 | List of candidatures for chairmen and vice-chairmen of Council working groups and expert groups (continued) | [C19/21(Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0021/en) |
| 2 | Report by the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Administration and Management | [C19/107](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0107/en) |
| 3 | Additional 2019 session of the Council | - |
| 4 | Closing Ceremony | - |

**1 List of candidatures for chairmen and vice-chairmen of Council working groups and expert groups (continued) (Document** [**C19/21(Rev.1)**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0021/en)**)**

1.1 The councillor from the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that Mr Ram Babu Jatav and Ms Archana Goyal Gulati of India had been nominated by APT to serve as vice-chairs of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection and the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources, respectively. The only other change for the ASP Region concerned the Council Working Group on WSIS&SDGs: China had agreed to step aside and its role would be taken by the Administration of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which had nominated him as vice-chairman.

1.2 The councillor from Saudi Arabia said that, on behalf of the Arab group, he wished to nominate Mr Mohammad AlJanoobi (Saudi Arabia) to serve as vice-chairman of the Expert Group on Decision 482.

1.3 The Acting Chairman invited the Council to approve all the candidatures for chairs and vice-chairs of the Council working groups and expert groups, which would appear in a further revision of Document C19/21.

1.4 It was so **agreed**.

**2 Report by the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Administration and Management (Document** [**C19/107**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0107/en)**)**

2.1 The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Administration and Management introduced her report in Document C19/107, section by section. The Council was invited to consider and, as appropriate, approve the recommendations it contained, thereby also approving/adopting/noting the texts contained in Annexes A to M to the report.

2.2 In the ensuing debate, over and above minor editorial amendments, the following main comments and changes were made.

**2.2.1 Draft Budget of the Union for 2020-2021 (Documents** [**C19/15 + Add.1**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0015/en)**,** [**C19/DL/10 (Rev. 1)**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-DL-0010/en) **and** [**C19/DT/14**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0014/en)**))**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council approve the draft Budget of the Union for 2020-2021 and adopt the draft resolution presented in Annex A to Document C19/107. |

**2.2.2 Choice of class of contribution for defraying the Union’s expenses (Document** [**C19/43**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0043/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of document C19/43. |

**2.2.3 Annual review of revenue and expenses (Document** [**C19/9**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0009/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/9. |

**2.2.4 Efficiency measures (Document** [**C19/45**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0045/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council endorse the report in Document C19/45. |

**2.2.5 Implementation of Resolution 131 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) - Measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society (Documents** [**C19/10**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0010/en) **(Rev.1) and** [**C19/INF/16**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0016/en)**) and Contributions by the Republic of Côte d’Ivoire (Documents** [**C19/95**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0095/en) **and** [**C19/96**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0096/en)**) and the Republic of India (Document** [**C19/104**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0104/en)**)**

2.2.5.1 With regard to the recommendation in §6.5 on implementing Resolution 131 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), one councillor said that the order of priority for using budget implementation savings as agreed in Decision 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) should be clearly reflected. The Acting Chairman suggested that the words “in line with Decision 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)” be added to the last bullet point in the recommendation. Moreover, for clarity, it should be made clear that the expert group referred to in the first bullet point in the recommendation was the group on indicators.

2.2.5.2 It was so **agreed**.

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/10 (Rev.1) and approve the Chairman’s summary and proposal for moving forward as follows (in no particular order):   * The contributions by Côte d’Ivoire should be considered by the Expert Groups on indicators. * There is agreement across the floor on the need for additional resources for the statistics division. * It was mentioned that the available resources should be used efficiently. * BDT should take advantage of resources in other sectors. * The comment from one delegate that financial implications of Resolution 131 were not brought before Committee 6 in PP-18 Dubai was noted. * Request that the Council approves the implementation of the Resolution as proposed by the Secretary-General in document C19/10 (Rev.1) funded by the budget implementation savings in line with Decision 5 (Rev. Dubai, 2018). |

**2.2.6 Financial Operating Report for the financial year 2018 (Documents**[**C19/42**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0042/en) **and** [**C19/DT/12**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0012/en) **(Rev.1))**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of the Financial Operating Report for the Financial Year 2018 and C19/DT/12 (Rev.1) and approve the draft resolution in Annex B to Document C19/107. |

**2.2.7 Fraud case in Regional Office – facts and remedial actions taken (Document**[**C19/108**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-00108/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of the report in Document C19/108. |

**2.2.8 Report by the External Auditor (Document** [**C19/40**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0040/en)**)**

2.2.8.1 It was noted that the wording “recommends that the Council examine” in the recommendation in §9.7 should be corrected editorially.

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council approve the accounts as audited and as presented in Document C19/40. |

**2.2.9 External Audit of the Union’s Accounts on ITU Telecom World 2018 (Document**[**C19/41**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0041/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council approve the accounts as audited and as presented in Document C19/41. |

**2.2.10 Eighth Annual Report of the Independent Management Advisory Committee (IMAC) (Document** [**C19/22**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0022/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council approve the IMAC report and its recommendations in Document C19/22 for action by the secretariat. |

**2.2.11 Special report by the External Auditor - addressing a fraud case at ITU (Documents**[**C19/106**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0106/en)**,** [**C19/DL/4**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-DL-0004/en)**) and ITU Procurement Manual (Document**[**C19/INF/18**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0018/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council abrogate the basic rules for procurement for ITU technical cooperation for assistance projects since the Procurement Manual is promulgated through Service Order No.19/12 on 12 June 2019. |

**2.2.12 Draft decision on General Audit Following the case of Fraud at a Regional office** [**(Document C19/DT/13 (Rev.1))**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0013/en)

2.2.12.1 It was noted that the wording “recommends that the Council examine” in the recommendation in §12.17 should be corrected editorially.

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council approve the External Auditor’s special report on a fraud case at ITU as presented in Document C19/106 and approve the draft decision in Annex C to Document C19/107. |

**2.2.13 Report of the Internal Auditor on internal audit activities (Document**[**C19/44**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0044/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/44. |

**2.2.14 Tendering to select the External Auditor (Document** [**C19/59**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0059/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/59 and approve the draft decision in Annex D to Document C19/107. |

**2.2.15 Appointment of the Members of the Independent Management Advisory Committee (IMAC) (Document** [**C19/49 (Rev.1)**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0049/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council note the content of the report of the Selection Panel for IMAC and adopt the draft decision contained in Annex E to Document C19/107. |

**2.2.16 Report from the Ethics Office (Oral presentation)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Summary and Recommendation***  The Ethics Office gave an oral report presenting its new Ethics Officer who outlined the Ethics Office’s key areas of work for 2019.  Delegates expressed satisfaction at the arrival of the new Ethics Officer and noted their continued support for the work of the Ethics Office.  ITU Management welcomed the new Ethics Officer and reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining a strong Ethics function and building upon its prior achievements. |

**2.2.17 Strengthening the regional presence (Documents** [**C19/25**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0025/en) **(Rev.2),** [**C19/DT/7**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0007/en) **and** [**C19/INF/7)**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0007/en) **(This information document contains the nine annexes to Document C19/25 (Rev.2))**

2.2.17.1 Regarding the recommendations in §17.16 and §17.17, the Secretary of the Standing Committee, responding to a question from a councillor, said that in *further decides* in the draft new decision in Annex F, “2018” should be replaced by “2019”. Another councillor requested that the terms of reference annexed to the draft decision in Annex F be amended to reflect the need for overall structural review of the regional offices/presence, e.g. including number/location, as agreed within the Standing Committee.

2.2.17.2 It was so **agreed**.

The following recommendations were approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendations***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/25 (Rev.2) and the appendix on the review of ITU’s regional presence. The Committee recommends that Council agree that the review be conducted by an external entity and report back to Council 2020.  The Committee recommends that the Council approve the draft decision in Annex F to Document C19/107. |

**2.2.18 Report on progress on the Union's headquarters premises project (Document**[**C19/7**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0007/en) **(Rev.1)) and Contribution by the Russian Federation (Document**[**C19/76**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0076/en)**)**

2.2.18.1 With regard to the recommendation in §18.8 regarding the report on progress on the Union’s headquarters premises project, the Chairman of the Standing Committee drew attention to the need to set a date for the additional session of the Council.

2.2.18.2 The councillor from the Russian Federation said that his delegation had submitted an amendment to §18.10 of the Standing Committee’s report in writing to the secretariat that seemed not to have been incorporated. It read as follows: “Several delegates noted that the contribution in Document C19/76 should be used for the preparation of the list of questions on the building project, as contained in Document C19/DL/12; it could have certain financial implications.”

2.2.18.3 The Secretary of the Standing Committee said that there had been insufficient time to include the Russian Federation’s amendment in the report itself, and he suggested that it be reproduced in the minutes.

2.2.18.4 It was so **agreed**.

2.2.18.5 One councillor, emphasizing the importance of all relevant documents being available in good time in order to ensure the success of the additional session, suggested that the session be held on 27 September 2019 and that all documents be made available by 14 September.

2.2.18.6 The Deputy Secretary-General, agreeing with that suggestion, said that a technical information session could be organized when the documents were issued.

2.2.18.7 During the ensuing discussion, the offer of a technical information session was widely welcomed and appreciation was expressed to all those who had facilitated agreement on how to proceed on the matter. As the date proposed for the issue of documents for the additional session was a Saturday, it was suggested that the technical information session be held two days later, on Monday, 16 September 2019, at the start of the cluster of Council working group and other meetings. An MSAG meeting would take place between the information session and the additional session, allowing the group’s deliberations and conclusions to be taken into account.

2.2.18.8 On the understanding that in the interim there would be a continuous flow of information between MSAG and other interested parties, including the Swiss authorities, it was **agreed** that the information session would be held on Monday, 16 September 2019, with the relevant documents to be made available no later than Saturday, 14 September, and that the additional session of the Council would be held on Friday, 27September.

2.2.18.9 Concerning the recommendation in §18.12 also regarding the report on progress on the Union’s headquarters premises project, one councillor asked what impact making the sale of the Tower conditional upon ITU retaining use of the Popov room might have on the Tower’s market value. Another councillor said that the issue should be discussed at the additional session of the Council and emphasized the need for full information to be provided. A third expressed surprise that a detailed analysis of the legal feasibility of retaining use of the Popov room had yet to be obtained from the host country authorities, three years after the Council had decided on the new building project.

2.2.18.10 After some debate over whether the wording of the recommendation was accurate and appropriate, the councillor from the Russian Federation said that the text as it stood perfectly reflected the situation whereby either the present Popov room was to be maintained or a room in the new building similarly named. That situation was based on a decision taken by Council-16.

2.2.18.11 The Council **agreed** to approve the recommendation as it stood on the understanding that the secretariat would seek the legal views of the host country authorities as soon as possible for submission to the additional session of the Council, along with information on the financial implications.

2.2.18.12 The Acting Chairman, noting the similarity between the recommendations in §18.8 and §19.9 of the report of the Standing Committee, suggested that the secretariat be requested to look into the possibility of merging them and to do so if appropriate.

2.2.18.13 It was so **agreed**.

The following recommendations were approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendations***  The Committee recommends that the Council instruct the secretariat to produce the information required in C19/DL/12 to be made available to Councillors no later than Saturday, 14 September 2019, in view of the information session to be held on Monday, 16 September 2019 and the additional session of the Council to be held on Friday, 27September 2019, and invites MSAG and all other parties concerned to collaborate in this  The Committee recommends that the Popov room be maintained.  When the new building is opened the Tower will be placed on the market with a condition that the ITU shall retain this room for a period of time in agreement with the sponsor of the room.  The secretariat will verify with the Swiss authorities whether there is no legal impediment to such a condition. Until this is verified the 100 seat Executive room in the new building shall not be offered for sponsorship. |

**2.2.19 Summary report on the work of the Member States Advisory Group on the Union's Headquarters premises project (Document**[**C19/48**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0048/en)**)**

*See Recommendations under Item 2.2.18 above.*

**2.2.20 Request for Exemption from any financial contribution to defraying expenses relating to participation in the work of ITU (Document**[**C19/39**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0039/en)**) and Contribution by the Russian Federation (Documents**[**C19/73**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0073/en) **and** [**C19/DT/6**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0006/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council approve the recommendation of the Secretary-General to admit 4 out of the 7 entities as Sector Members, with exemption, as well as the revised version of Council Resolution 925 in Annex G to Document C19/107. |

**2.2.21 Implementing the new PP-18 resolution on SME participation in ITU (Document**[**C19/56**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0056/en)**) and Contributions by the Argentine Republic (Document**[**C19/87**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0087/en)**) and the Republic of Côte d’Ivoire (Document** [**C19/90**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0090/en)**)**

2.2.21.1 With regard to the recommendation in §21.7 on SME participation in the work of the Union (PP-18 Resolution 209), the Chairman of the Standing Committee said that the maximum annual revenue for SMEs to benefit from reduced fees should read “CHF 15 million”, not “CHF 50 million”.

2.2.21.2 The councillor from the Russian Federation said that her delegation would prefer to retain the figure “CHF 50 million”, as that would facilitate the participation of medium-sized enterprises, not just small entreprises. Other councillors, however, considered that the cap should remain at CHF 15 million.

2.2.21.3 One councillor pointed out that the Standing Committee had agreed to revisit the matter at Council-20.

2.2.21.4 The Council **approved** the recommendation, subject to that amendment.

2.2.21.5 The councillor from the Russian Federation submitted a reservation to the recommendation, stating that the Council, at its 2020 session, should revise the maximum annual revenue level for SMEs, based on the assessment of the financial implications of the established maximum annual revenue level of CHF 15 million, with the aim of contributing to the full implementation of Resolution 209 (Dubai, 2018).

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council establish CHF 15 million as the maximum annual revenue for SMEs to benefit from reduced fees. The Committee further recommends that the reduced fee option for SMEs be made available as of January 2020, and that the current SME pilot project continue until this time to ensure an orderly transition. Lastly, the Committee recommends that the 2020 session of Council review the progress of implementation. |

**2.2.22 Report by the Chairman of the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources (Document** [**C19/50**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0050/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of the work of the CWG-FHR as presented in Document C19/50 . |

**Contribution by the Argentine Republic, Federative Republic of Brazil, Canada, Mexico, the Republic of Paraguay and the United States of America (Documents** [**C19/80**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0080/en) **and** [**C19/DT/8**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0008/en)**)**

2.2.22.1 Regarding the recommendation in §22.6, it was **agreed** that the reference to considering and offering views on the actions identified in the report should be deleted.

2.2.22.2 Regarding the recommendation in §22.14 relating to revised Decision 563, the councillor from Algeria said, with regard to the terms of reference of CWG-FHR as contained in Annex 1 to the draft revised decision in Annex H to the report, that the Standing Committee had taken note of the following, which did not appear in its report and should therefore appear in the summary record of the present plenary meeting: “The meeting took note of the need to take into account the work of the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Task Force (ISC-TF) and the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) on issues of mutual interest, and to ensure that the work referred to in the terms of reference of CWG-FHR (Annex 1 to Annex H), as contained in the ADM report, should not overlap with the work carried out by the above TF and Group.”

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Documents C19/80 and C19/DT/8 and approve the revised Decision 563 in Annex H to Document C19/107. |

**2.2.23 Cost recovery for the processing of Satellite Network Filings (SNF) (Document**[**C19/16**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0016/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/16. |

**2.2.24 Progress report containing recommendations about the possible revision of Decision 482 with regard to complex/large non-GSO satellite filings and exceptionally complex GSO satellite filings (Documents**[**C19/36**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0036/en)**(Rev.1) and** [**C19/DT/9**](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0009/en)**) and Contribution by Australia (Document**[**C19/64**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0064/en)**)**

The following recommendations were approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendations***  The Committee recommends that the Council adopt the revision to Decision 482 contained in Annex I to Document C19/107.  The Committee recommends that the Council review this Decision during its 2022 session, notably on the basis of statistics to be provided by the Radiocommunication Bureau, taking into account the relevant items list in section 2 of Document C19/64.  Concerning Procedure C, the Committee recommends that the Council discuss the costs associated with software updates related to epfd examination during the approval of future biennial budgets based on the procedure described in § b) of section 7.1.2 of Part 1 of Document C19/36(Rev.1). |

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendations***  The Committee recommends that Council instruct the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau to report to WRC-19 on exceptionally large geostationary satellite filings.  The Committee recommends that Council endorse the instruction of the Radio Regulations Board to the Radiocommunication Bureau to contact the notifying administration of exceptionally large geostationary satellite networks drawing their attention to the consequences of processing of such networks: staff resource absorption and complications which could have a negative impact for subsequent submissions.  The Committee recommends that the Council Expert Group on Decision 482 continue its work based on the Terms of Reference contained in Annex J to Document C19/107. |

**2.2.25 Status report on implementation of Council Decisions 600 and 601 (UIFN, IIN) (Document**[**C19/47**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0047/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The list of UIFN service providers in Annex A to Document C19/47 will be marked as “not reachable” in the ITU database. The records for these UIFN service providers are subject to removal from the ITU database and the UIFNs assigned to them are subject for reclamation based on confirmations/notifications from national Administrations/regulators as recommended by Council 2018. Among these UIFN service providers, for the ones to whom invoices for the maintenance fee for 2018 have been sent, the invoices will be cancelled.  If the invoices sent to the UIFN service providers in Annex B to Document C19/47 remain unpaid for an extended period, the secretariat will seek assistance from Member States to recover the debt.  National Administrations/regulators or authorized agencies are encouraged to provide assistance in identifying the up-to-date contact or status of the UIFN service providers (e.g., if they are no longer in business) listed in Annex C to Document C19/47.  The list of IINs for which contact information is pending will be published on ITU website as IINs with the status “assignee not reachable” and will be announced in the ITU Operational Bulletin. National Administrations/regulators or authorized agencies are encouraged to provide assistance in identifying their up-to-date status and/or contact information.  For the UIFNs and IINs which are still under consultation with national Administrations/regulators or authorized agencies, their status should be confirmed before 31 October 2019. If no objection is received from national Administrations/regulators or authorized agencies, the corresponding UIFNs and IINs will be considered as no longer active and removed from ITU databases.  UIFN service providers or IIN assignees with the status of *ADMIN RELATED* are not subject to the annual maintenance fee. |

**2.2.26 Implementation of Resolution 167 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) - Strengthening and developing ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union (Document**[**C19/29**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0029/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/29 |

**2.2.27 Memoranda of Understanding having financial and/or strategic implications (Document**[**C19/60**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0060/en)**)**

2.2.27.1 The councillor from Australia said that the summary of delegates’ remarks in §27.3 did not reflect the remarks made by her delegation, which had included a concern that ITU was not following the procedure for memoranda of understanding (MoUs) that had substantial financial and/or strategic implications, as outlined in the minutes of the 16th Plenary meeting of PP-18 (PP‑18 Document 173). Australia had a number of questions and concerns relating to the scope of the agreements and whether they remained within ITU’s mandate, and concerns over the generality of the MoUs, lack of transparency and performance measures.

2.2.27.2 The councillor from Canada said, first, that the third bullet point in §27.3 should include the full text of Article 1.3 (b) of the MoU signed between ITU and the Export-Import Bank of China, which read: “The relevant terms and conditions concerning the details of cooperation (including, without limitation, those relating to financial, legal and operational matters, as well as to the respective rights, roles and responsibilities of the Signatories, if any) will be set forth in one or more legally binding agreements, project documents and/or other instruments which will be separately negotiated, agreed to and signed by both Signatories in the future.” Second, the recommendation in §27.6 should include text consistent with the foregoing quoted text, as follows: “the Committee recommends that the secretariat bring to the Council’s attention, for review and approval, any binding agreements with financial and/or strategic implications that may be separately negotiated, agreed and signed as part of the implementation of any MoU”. Lastly, the recommendation to request that the secretariat fully respect the decision adopted by PP-18 was unnecessary, as the secretariat did not need to be instructed to comply with any resolution or decision of any ITU conference, assembly or meeting.

2.2.27.3 The Acting Chairman said that, rather than seeking to amend §27.3 and §27.6 at that late hour, the comments by the councillors from Australia and Canada would be reflected in the summary record of the meeting.

2.2.27.4 It was so **agreed**.

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/60. The Secretariat is requested to fully respect the decision adopted by PP-18 at its 16th Plenary session. |

**Contribution by the United States of America (Document**[**C19/63**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0063/en) **(Rev.1))**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/63 (Rev.1) and that the secretariat prepare for a next session of Council a compilation of the decisions adopted by PP-18 which were captured in the Summary Records of its Plenary Meetings in particular, those decisions based on the recommendations of the Committees and Working Group of the Plenary. |

**2.2.28 UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) and Coordination Levy (Document**[**C19/54 (Rev.1)**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0054/en)**) and United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 71/243 and 72/279 (Document** [**C19/INF/4**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0004/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of the report in Document C19/54 (Rev. 1) and endorse the recommendations as per Section 12 of the document. |

**2.2.29 After-Service Health Insurance (ASHI) liability (Document** [**C19/46**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0046/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/46. |

**2.2.30 Arrears and Special Arrears Account (Document** [**C19/11**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0011/en)**) and Situation of Arrears of the Union at 31 March 2019 (Document** [**C19/INF/5)**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0005/en)

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council:  1) **take note** of this document;  2) **authorize** the Secretary-General to write off **CHF  979 692.61** of interest on arrears and irrecoverable debts;  3) **adopt** the draft decision attached in Annex K to Document C19/107. |

**2.2.31 Improvement of management and follow-up of the defrayal of ITU Expenses by Sector Members and Associates (Document** [**C19/52**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0052/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/52 and endorse the recommendations in Section 4. |

**2.2.32 Provisional participation of entities dealing with telecommunication matters in the activities of the Union (Document**[**C19/20**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0020/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council confirm the action taken by the Secretary-General regarding the admission of entities dealing with telecommunication matters listed in the Annex to Document C19/20. |

**2.2.33 Report on the implementation of Resolution 191 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) - Strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union (Document**[**C19/38**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0038/en) **(Rev.1)), Possible areas of mutual interest to the three Sectors and the General Secretariat (Document** [**C19/INF/6)**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0006/en) **and Contribution by the Republic of India (Document**[**C19/105**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0105/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/38 (Rev.1). |

**2.2.34 Information and Communication Technologies Development Fund (ICT-DF) (Documents**[**C19/34**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0034/en) **and** [**C19/INF/15**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0015/en)**) and Contribution by the Republic of Côte d’Ivoire (Document**[**C19/91**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0091/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of Document C19/34. |

**2.2.35 Improving, promoting, and strengthening ITU fellowships (Document**[**C19/31**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0031/en)**(Rev.1)) and Information on fellowships awarded by ITU in 2018 (Document** [**C19/INF/11**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-INF-0011/en)**)**

The following recommendations were approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendations***  The Committee recommends that the Council instruct the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources (CWG-FHR) at the September 2019 meeting for review by the CWG-FHR on the practices of United Nations and UN specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations fellowship policies.  Taking into account Document C19/31 and the discussions held at Council 2019, the Committee recommends that the Council instruct the CWG-FHR to recommend revisions to Service Order No. 07/05 on “policy for awarding fellowships for activities funded through the ITU regular budget” that will include a list of Member States eligible for fellowships consistent with the Unions definition of  developing countries (i.e. least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition) and forward its recommendations to Council 2020 for consideration and approval.  The Committee recommends that the Council instruct the Secretary-General to submit Service Order No. 07/05 of 30 March 2007 on “policy for awarding fellowships for activities funded through the ITU regular budget” to the CWG-FHR.  The Committee recommends that the Council instruct the CWG-FHR to review the current fellowship policy and criteria of the ITU Sectors and the General Secretariat taking into account Resolution 213 (Dubai, 2018) and forward its policy and criteria recommendations to Council 2020 for consideration and approval. |

**2.2.36 ITU People Strategy and Human Resources Strategic Plan (HRSP) 2020-2023 (Document**[**C19/57**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0057/en)**) and Contribution by the Russian Federation (Document**[**C19/75**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0075/en) **(Rev.1))**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council approve the proposed ITU People Strategy and the Human Resources Strategic Plan in Document C19/57.  The Committee recommends that the draft resolution 1299 proposed in Document C19/75 (Rev.1) be submitted to the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources (CWG-FHR) for review and submission to the next Council session for approval. |

**2.2.37 Membership of the ITU Staff Pension Committee (Oral presentation)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendation***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of the oral report. |

**2.2.38 Changes in the conditions of service under the United Nations Common System (Document**[**C19/23**](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0023/en)**)**

The following recommendation was approved:

|  |
| --- |
| ***Recommendations***  The Committee recommends that the Council take note of the modifications to the conditions of services for staff in the Professional and Higher categories, as well as for staff in the General Services category.  The Committee recommends that, for conditions of service of Elected Officials, it approve the draft decision contained in Annex L to Document C19/107. |

2.2.39 By approving the above-mentioned recommendations and subject to the amendments made in the course of the discussions, the Council also **adopted/approved/noted**), the following texts set out in Document C19/107:

Annex A - Draft resolution on the biennial budget of the International Telecommunication Union for 2020-2021

Annex B - Draft resolution on the financial operating report for the 2018 financial year

Annex C - Draft decision on the general audit following the case of fraud at a regional office

Annex D - Draft decision on the auditing of the accounts of the Union

Annex E - Draft decision on the appointment of members to the Independent Management Advisory Committee (IMAC)

Annex F - Draft decision on Resolution 25 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) – Regional presence

Annex G - Resolution 925 (C-1985, last amended C19) on the financial conditions for the participation of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other international organizations in the conferences, assemblies and meetings of the ITU

Annex H - Draft revision of Decision 563 on the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources

Annex I - Proposed revision of Decision 482 on the implementation of cost recovery for satellite network filings

Annex J - Terms of reference of the Council Expert Group on Decision 482

Annex K - Draft decision on the cancellation of interest on arrears and irrecoverable debts

Annex L - Draft resolution on the conditions of service of ITU elected officials

Annex M - Associated statements

2.40 The report by the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Administration and Management (Document C19/107), as a whole, as amended, was **approved**.

2.41 One councillor expressed concern that time had not been allocated for members of the Standing Committee to consider and, where necessary, amend the report prior to its consideration by the Plenary.

**3 Additional 2019 session of the Council**

3.1 The Council decided that the additional 2019 session of the Council would be held in Geneva for one working day **on Friday 27 September 2019** to discuss the Report on progress on the Union's headquarters premises project.

3.2 It was so **agreed**.

**4 Closing ceremony**

4.1 A video reflecting the spirit in which the Council’s work had been conducted was screened.

4.2 The Secretary-General delivered the address available at:  
<https://www.itu.int/en/osg/speeches/Pages/2019-06-20.aspx>. He presented the Acting Chairman of the Council with the ITU Gold Medal and a certificate in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the smooth running of the Council.

4.3 The Acting Chairman delivered the address available at:  
<https://www.itu.int/en/osg/speeches/Pages/2019-06-20-2.aspx>

4.4 Numerous councillors, speaking on behalf of their own countries or regional groups, thanked the Acting Chairman for having agreed to preside over the session at such short notice and praised his wise and effective leadership, patience and good humour, which had enabled the Council to reach consensus on many challenging issues. They thanked the Vice-Chairman of the Council, the Chairman and vice-chairmen of the Standing Committee, the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the Council working, ad hoc and expert groups, the elected officials, the Secretary of the Plenary and the entire secretariat for their valuable support.

4.5 The Acting Chairman thanked participants for their kind words, and declared the 2019 session of the Council closed.

The Secretary-General: The Acting Chairman:

H. ZHAO F. BIGI

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_