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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22) Bucharest, 26 September – 14 October 2022** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Document 209-E** |
|  | **2 November 2022** |
|  | **Original: English** |
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| MINUTES  OF THE  Nineteenth and last PLENARY MEETING | |
| Friday, 14 October 2022, at 1505 hours | |
| **Chairman:** Mr Sabin Sărmaș (Romania) | |

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|  | **Subjects discussed** | **Documents** |
| 1 | Additional declarations | [200](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-PP-C-0200/en) |
| 2 | Final Acts signing ceremony | - |
| 3 | Closure of the conference | - |

**1 Additional declarations (Document** [**200**](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-PP-C-0200/en)**)**

1.1 The additional declarations contained in Document 200 were **noted**.

**2 Final Acts signing ceremony**

2.1 The **Secretary of the Plenary** called the roll, in French alphabetical order, of those delegations whose credentials had been found to be in order.

2.2 The Final Acts were signed by 159 delegations, as follows:

Albania (Republic of), Algeria (People's Democratic Republic of), Germany (Federal Republic of), Andorra (Principality of), Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of), Argentine Republic, Armenia (Republic of), Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan (Republic of), Bahamas (Commonwealth of), Bahrain (Kingdom of), Bangladesh (People's Republic of), Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan (Kingdom of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana (Republic of), Brazil (Federative Republic of), Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria (Republic of), Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cabo Verde (Republic of), Cambodia (Kingdom of), Cameroon (Republic of), Canada, Chile, China (People's Republic of), Cyprus (Republic of), Vatican City State, Colombia (Republic of), Korea (Republic of), Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Croatia (Republic of), Cuba, Denmark, Djibouti (Republic of), Dominican Republic, Dominica (Commonwealth of), Egypt (Arab Republic of), El Salvador (Republic of), United Arab Emirates, Spain, Estonia (Republic of), Eswatini (Kingdom of), United States of America, Russian Federation, Fiji (Republic of), Finland, France, Gabonese Republic, Gambia (Republic of the), Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala (Republic of), Guinea (Republic of), Equatorial Guinea (Republic of), Guyana, Honduras (Republic of), Hungary, India (Republic of), Indonesia (Republic of), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq (Republic of), Ireland, Iceland, Israel (State of), Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan (Hashemite Kingdom of), Kazakhstan (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Kuwait (State of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Latvia (Republic of), Lebanon, Liberia (Republic of), Liechtenstein (Principality of), Lithuania (Republic of), Luxembourg, North Macedonia (Republic of), Madagascar (Republic of), Malaysia, Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Malta, Morocco (Kingdom of), Marshall Islands (Republic of the), Mauritius (Republic of), Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova (Republic of), Monaco (Principality of), Montenegro, Mozambique (Republic of), Namibia (Republic of), Nepal (Federal Democratic Republic of), Nicaragua, Niger (Republic of the), Norway, New Zealand, Oman (Sultanate of), Uganda (Republic of), Uzbekistan (Republic of), Papua New Guinea, Paraguay (Republic of), Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Peru, Philippines (Republic of the), Poland (Republic of), Portugal, Qatar (State of), Syrian Arab Republic, Republic of Türkïye, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kyrgyz Republic, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Slovak Republic, Czech Republic, Romania, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Rwanda (Republic of), Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis (Federation of), San Marino (Republic of), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Solomon Islands, Samoa (Independent State of), Sao Tome and Principe (Democratic Republic of), Senegal (Republic of), Serbia (Republic of), Singapore (Republic of), Slovenia (Republic of), Sudan (Republic of the), South Sudan (Republic of), South Africa (Republic of), Sweden, Switzerland (Confederation of), Suriname (Republic of), Tanzania (United Republic of), Thailand, Timor-Leste (Democratic Republic of), Togolese Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Ukraine, Uruguay (Eastern Republic of), Vanuatu (Republic of), Viet Nam (Socialist Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe (Republic of).

**3 Closure of the conference**

3.1 **The national chamber choir of Romania, Madrigal – Marin Constantin, gave a special performance**.

3.2 Mr Nicolae Ionel-Ciucă, Prime Minister of Romania, delivered the address available at: <https://pp22.itu.int/en/itu_policy_statements/nicolae-ciuca-prime-minister-romania-speech/>.

3.3 **A video was shown featuring highlights from the outgoing Director of TSB’s career with ITU**.

3.4 The outgoing **Director of TSB** delivered the address available at: <https://pp22.itu.int/en/itu_policy_statements/chaesub-lee-itu-closing-speech/>.

3.5 The delegate of the **Republic of Korea** congratulated the outgoing Director of TSB for his outstanding work and excellent leadership, noting that he was a source of great pride to his country.

3.6 **A video was shown featuring highlights from the outgoing Deputy Secretary-General’s career with ITU**.

3.7 The outgoing **Deputy Secretary-General** delivered the address available at <https://pp22.itu.int/en/itu_policy_statements/malcolm-johnson-itu-dsg-closing-speech/>.

3.8 The **delegate of the United Kingdom** thanked the outgoing Deputy Secretary-General for his decades of service and applauded his enormous contribution to the work of ITU, particularly his efforts to modernize the working methods the Union, including measures to promote gender equality.

3.9 The **Secretary-General** presented the outgoing Director of BDT with the ITU Silver Medal, the outgoing Director of TSB with the ITU Gold Medal, the Director of BR with the ITU Silver Medal and the outgoing Deputy Secretary-General with the ITU Gold Medal, in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the work of the Union.

3.10 **Ms Morag Sale**, Assistant to the Secretary-General, presented the outgoing Secretary-General with the ITU Gold Medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the work of the Union.

3.11 **A video was shown featuring highlights from the outgoing Secretary-General’s career with ITU**.

3.12 The **Secretary-General** delivered the address available at: <https://pp22.itu.int/en/itu_policy_statements/houlin-zhao-itu-sg-closing-speech/>.

3.13 The delegate of **China** paid tribute to the outgoing Secretary-General, noting his remarkable contribution to the work of ITU. She thanked Member States for placing their trust in Mr Zhao, who had held a number of executive posts during his career with ITU and was widely admired and respected. During his thirty years with ITU, the Union had expanded and enhanced its profile. The outgoing Secretary-General was a source of great pride to his country and his excellent leadership would be a hard act to follow. She also paid tribute to the outgoing Director of TSB and Deputy Secretary-General, and thanked the Government of Romania for its hospitality.

3.14 The **Secretary-General** presented the Chairman with the ITU Silver Medal and a certificate in recognition of the excellent manner in which he had steered the conference’s work.

3.15 The **Chairman** delivered the address available at: <https://pp22.itu.int/en/itu_policy_statements/chairman-sabin-sarmas-itu-closing-speech/>.

3.16 The delegate of **Romania** thanked the Chairman and his team, the conference secretariat, the local and technical staff, and the volunteers, whose tireless efforts had ensured the success of the conference. It had been a pleasure to host the participants in her home country. She congratulated the outgoing elected officials; it had been an honour and a privilege to work with them. She wished the new management team the best of luck. Her delegation looked forward to working with them to fulfil the mandate of the Union.

3.17 The delegates of **Papua New Guinea**, speaking on behalf of APT, **Saudi Arabia**, the **United Arab Emirates**, who also spoke on behalf of the Arab group, the **United States**, speaking on behalf of CITEL, the **Republic of Korea**, the **United Kingdom**, speaking on behalf of CEPT, **Brazil**, the **Russian Federation**, speaking on behalf of RCC, **Nigeria**, **Algeria**, **Malaysia**, **India**, the **Netherlands**, **Rwanda**, the **Czech Republic**, **Thailand** and **Egypt** expressed their sincere gratitude to the people and Government of Romania for the excellent conference arrangements and the warm welcome. The **Chairman** further noted that the delegations of **Japan**, **Mexico**, **Qatar**, the **Islamic Republic of Iran**, **Iraq**, **Türkïye**, **Azerbaijan**, **Bahrain**, **Vanuatu**, **Ghana**, **South Sudan**, **Mauritius**, **Tunisia**, **Uzbekistan**, **South Africa**, the **Bahamas**, **France**, **Tanzania** and **Namibia** had also requested the floor to submit congratulatory messages.

3.18 In the different interventions, particular appreciation was expressed to the Chairman and his team, to ITU staff, local and technical staff, and volunteers. Words of thanks were also conveyed to the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the committees and ad hoc groups, and to the regional coordinators. Several delegates commended the spirit of consensus and cooperation that had led to the adoption of a number of important new resolutions. They expressed gratitude for the wise time management and working methods implemented during the conference, which had completed its work on schedule and without the need for additional night sessions, and for the focus on equality, inclusivity – including by promoting the participation of women and young people – and sustainability. Tributes were paid to the outgoing elected officials and words of welcome and appreciation conveyed to the newly elected management team, in particular the Secretary-General elect – the first woman to hold that post in the history of the Union. Having successfully completed the work of the plenipotentiary conference, the next challenge for ITU was to translate the outcomes of that conference into action, by implementing the new resolutions and decisions, in order to fulfil the Union’s commitment to connect the unconnected.

3.19 **A short video was shown on the highlights of the three weeks of the conference**.

3.20 The **Chairman**, thanking all the participants, declared closed the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Bucharest, 2022).

**The meeting rose at 1835 hours.**

The Secretary-General: The Chairman:

H. ZHAO S. SĂRMAȘ

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