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| **Agenda item: PL 3** | **Document C24/86-E** |
| **21 May 2024** |
| **Original: Chinese** |
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| Contribution from the People's Republic of China, Armenia (Republic of) and Cuba |
| PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE |
| **Purpose**This document proposes further improvements to the preparatory process for the Plenipotentiary Conference.**Action required by the Council**The Council is invited to consider the proposals contained in the contribution and take action as appropriate.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References**[*Resolution 77*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-077-C.pdf) *(Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary ConferenceCouncil documents* [*C19/4*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0004/en)*,* [*C19/33*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0033/en)*,* [*C19/45*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0045/en)*,* [*C19/67*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0067/en)*,* [*C19/101*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0101/en)*,* [*C21/13*](https://www.itu.int/md/S21-CL-C-0013/en)*,* [*C22/4*](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CL-C-0004/en)*,* [*C23/4*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0004/en)*, and* [*C23/84*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0084/en)*General Secretariat questionnaires* [*CL-19/57*](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-SG-CIR-0057/en)*, and* [*CL-24/11*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-SG-CIR-0011/en) |

Background

Resolution 77 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference instructs the Secretary-General to report to the Council on the implementation of conferences and assemblies of the Union and propose further improvements as appropriate, and the Council to take appropriate measures to report to future plenipotentiary conferences on possible improvements.

The host countries of PP-18 and PP-22 reported their experiences and suggestions for improvements to the conference to the Council in 2019 and 2023 respectively, and the General Secretariat further sought the views of Council Member States in the form of a questionnaire based on the proposals. The questionnaire in 2019 mainly sought comments on strengthening interregional preparations, green organizations, and strengthening the training of delegates. Building on the 2019 edition, the questionnaire issued in 2024 sought suggestions on how to enrich and improve the participation experience of delegates, and increase the representation of women and youth, and invited the Council Member States to consider suggestions such as shortening contributions, streamlining resolutions, pre-assessing the financial implications of proposals, electronic improvements in voting and decision-making processes, and an ethical evaluation of existing election rules.

Discussions

The Plenipotentiary Conference is the highest authority of ITU and will address the development direction, strategic plan and key policies of the Union. Improvements to the Plenipotentiary Conference should be in line with the fundamental objectives of the conference and fully respond to the outstanding concerns of the Member States.

The equal participation of all delegations should therefore be regarded as a minimum requirement for the holding of the conference, and the promotion of the full discussion of matters of interest by all members should be a priority for the holding of the conference. These two requirements should be given prominence in the context of limited resources.

Proposals

1 Strengthening regional representation, ensuring equal participation of all delegations, and facilitating full discussion by Member States on matters relating to the Union’s future development direction and strategic plan should be considered as priorities for the improvement of the conference.

2 As far as the agenda is concerned, the impact of side events on the discussion of official topics of the conference should be minimized in order to avoid distraction of delegations.

3 Against a background of growing cybersecurity risks, serious consideration should be given to electronic improvements of formal decision-making activities, particularly those involving voting and balloting.

4 Member States should be encouraged to submit contributions focusing on the agenda of the conference in order to coordinate proposals from Member States on the work of the Union to the extent possible, and no hard limit should be placed on the size of contributions to the conference.

5 Training for delegates attending meetings should be encouraged, particularly those from developing Member States.

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