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| INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION | | | **ICT&CC Joint Coordination Activity (JCA- ICT&CC)** |
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| **Title:** | Report of the eleventh meeting of JCA on ICT&CC (11 October2012) | | |

# 1.1 General

The Eleventh Meeting of JCA on ICT and Climate Change dedicated to “Climate Change Adaptation and ICTs” was held on 11 October 2012 in Geneva under the Chairmanship of Mr Ahmed Zeddam and Mr Dave Faulkner. The meeting was attended face to face and/or online by around 40 participants.

# 1.2. Agenda and Scope

# The agenda was approved without modification.

Mr Zeddam gave a verbal report of ITU-T SG5 highlights since the last meeting in April 2012. He indicated that SG5 has prepared the Report for WTSA-12 containing the main achievements and the list of Questions for the next Study Period.

A new Question on Leveraging and Enhancing the ICT Environmental Sustainability has been submitted for WTSA approval.

Since the last meeting there have been events and workshops, including the Symposium on ICTs, the Environment and Climate Change, that took place in May 2012 where many ITU-T SG5 members were present. It concluded with the Montreal Declaration. In July 2012, there was a meeting in Laos about Bridging the Standardization Gap during which ITU-T SG5 had the opportunity to present their activities. The SG5 regional African group met to tackle climate change and EMF issues. There was also the ITU Green Standards week held in Paris in September 2012 and attended by many participants including ITU-T SG5 members, which concluded with the Paris declaration (available on ITU-T site at: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/climatechange/gsw/201209/index.html>).

ITU-T SG5 has been collaborating with other SDOs (ISO and IEC) to discuss best green practices on green data centres. Mr Zeddam mentioned that there was a need to revise Recommendation ITU-T L.1300.

Mr Zeddam explained that Q17 of SG5 deals with the best practices for data centres, and that they will explore collaboration with ISO in this area.

With regards to collaboration with ETSI EE, and in order avoid duplication of resources/effort and to develop deliverables that will be beneficial to Countries and ICT industry, it is desirable to work on common work items and to try as much as possible to have joint meetings.

Mr Faulkner invited participants to look at incoming liaison (Doc 85) regarding adaption to climate change, available on the ITU-T JCA website. He stressed the importance for ITU members and members of the JCA e-list to assist in this process, by providing links to international, national, regional and local climate change adaption sources and to share best practices. He invited participants to send him any relevant links that can provide online information regarding ICT and climate change. The deadline for this response has been extended to 31 Jan 2013 to allow a response to be sent from the next JCA meeting. He thanked Hans Otto Scheck (NSN) for sending some links in time for this JCA meeting.

# 2. Presentations and Discussion

**2.1** **Overview of activities on Climate Change Adaptation and ICTs**

2.1.1 Mr Richard Heeks, Centre for Development Informatics, University of Manchester

Mr Heeks presented his document ‘ICTs and Climate Change Adaptation Policy’ (Doc 92) via remote participation. His report explains the relationship between ICT and climate change adaptation. He explained the ways in which ICT can aid with policy making, content and structures. He discussed how ICT can help farmers react to CC, for example by providing information on crops. This would require a development of digital literacy. He concluded by emphasizing that ICT and climate change adaptation is a process, not a blueprint, that ICT and climate change adaptation strategies should be a reflection of local priorities and that they should be based on a ‘climate-smart development vision’.

2.1.2 Mr. Festus Luboyera, UNFCCC Secretariat

Mr Luboyera presented his document, ‘Enhancing adaptation under the UNFCCC process: Using ICTs to be more efficient and effective’ (Doc 96) via remote participation. He discussed enhancing adaptation under the UNFCC process. He discussed the importance of knowing where we get our information from, especially regarding developing countries. Some reports are from national adaptation programs, others from IPCC. He talked about the emerging role of ICT in CC adaptation and said that places already using technologies need to use innovative ideas to ensure that they are used properly. He discussed the ongoing work with national adaptation plans. He emphasized the importance of the government and private sectors working together. ITU-T SG5 Q23/5 Rapporteur noted that ICT industry participation is low. The question was raised on how industries can profit from adaptation. Mr Faulkner suggested that this issue be looked at more deeply.

2.1.3 Mr. Leo Lehmann, Vice-chairman of ITU-T Focus Group on Disaster Relief Systems, Network Resiliency and Recovery (FG-DR&NRR), Presentation of the results of the first meeting of the ITU-T FG-DR&NRR.

Mr Lehmann presented his document about the Focus Group on Disaster Relief Systems, Network Resilience and Recovery FG-DR&NRR (Doc 88). He explained that the group was formed after the Japanese earthquake and subsequent tsunami in 2011, as Japanese industry realized that standardization studies are required, so TSAG established this focus group. He introduced the management team, the relationships formed and presentations from other groups within ITU. He discussed the deliverables and outputs of the Focus Group and their goal to prepare documents that provide a platform for disaster relief definitions, terminology, and network resilience/recovery. Three working parties were introduced including their leaders and their tasks, as well as a draft overview of the group’s study areas. He also presented an example of a ‘peace of mind’ service, which provides people in a disaster situation with information regarding their nearest shelter, ways to inform friends of family that they are safe without blocking the telephone network and how to access drinking water. He mentioned the need to improve disaster strategies for people with disabilities. He provided information on upcoming meetings in Turkey, Japan and Thailand, where the group will meet with local experts, who will help develop appropriate disaster strategies. Participants were invited to attend the meetings.

One participant raised the issue of duplicating their studies. Mr Lehmann clarified that his aim was to liaise with other groups, not to duplicate their work. Another participant contributed a statistic stating that in the Japanese Tsunami 4% of handicapped people were killed compared to 1.4% of able-bodied persons. There was general agreement that this issue must be examined further.

**2.2.** **Progress on Integrating ICTs into National and Business Policies to Address Climate Change**

2.2.1 Ms Nevine Tewfik, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of Egypt

Ms Tewfik presented Document 91 ‘Global Portal on ICTs, The Environment and Climate Change and Progress Report on ITU-T SG5 Q23/5. She talked about the content of the Global Portal and the topics covered by Q23, including the potential of ICT in climate change adaptation and the impact of climate change on the ICT sector. She said that adaptation practices are not as widespread as mitigation practices and suggest that both the public and private sectors need to be involved. She discussed the content of a survey produced by ITU-T SG5 Q23/5, the results of which are available on the ITU site. She emphasised the importance of the Global Portal, particularly for developing countries. The portal needs to address illiterate people as well; therefore voice information needs to be made available. She explained what information is contained on the portal and invited others to contribute, and also to participate in online meetings.

A participant asked what the timeline was for the portal. Ms Tewfik responded that she hoped to have a statement of requirements document prepared for the ITU-T SG5 meeting in January 2013.

2.2.2 Ms Angelica Valeria Ospina, Centre for Development Informatics, University of Manchester (Doc. 87)

Ms Ospina presented her document (Doc 87) ‘Climate Change Adaptation and ICTs: The Case of Ghana’via remote participation. She shared results of a recent case study regarding the integration of ICT and climate change adaptation in Ghana. She talked about the situation in Ghana; the ICT sector is developing rapidly thanks to a strong political will and key stakeholders. She talked about the challenges faced by Ghana, and the recent progresses in technology. Ghana has played an active role in adaptation at international, national and community levels. She mentioned that ICT integration should be seen as a process, with different stages feeding to the next, not a one-time action. She said that there cannot be one single ICT solution and that our approach should be flexible. Communities need to respond to their needs in a local context. A participant asked what percentage of the population has access to mobile phone in rural and remote areas. She replied that there are still rural and remote areas that lack coverage. She offered these statistics from Ghana: there is 96% connectivity nationwide and more than 50% on GSM. She hopes that there will be faster broadband in the near future.

2.2.3 Mr Ryan Shepherd, Goal Zero

Mr Shepherd presented his document ’ICT’s and Climate Change Adaptation’ by remote participation (Doc 94). He introduced Goal Zero and its history. He described Goal Zero products that collect and save power, which can be used at a later time. These products could solve power issues in rural communities. He explained that the lack of infrastructure in developing countries has a negative impact on climate change and rural communities, that inefficient power supplies mean that the difficulty in charging phones is greater. He suggested the implementation of bio/renewable fuels to fuel power needs.

A participant asked what the solution to the need for energy storage is. Mr Shepherd responded that there are large charging stations (3-10kW), they manage the station and the villagers have separate charging solutions (e.g. portable batteries). The large station charges the smaller station, thus giving sustainability.

2.2.4 Mr Gianluca Griffa and Mr Raffaele Bolla, ECONET Project  
  
Mr Griffa introduced Mr Bolla, who presented document on the ECONET project (Doc 93) via remote participation. This is a European Union Framework 7 Project. It began October 2010 and runs until September 2013. The Consortium has 15 partners from 8 countries. The problem being solved is how to the control power requirements telecommunication network elements dynamically so that this can better match the power available (e.g. from renewable sources). A control system known as “Green Abstraction Layer” has been proposed and is a candidate for standardization in ETSI-EE and ITU-T.

**3 Announcements of upcoming events**Ms Cristina Bueti of ITU-TSB announced a 3rd Green Standards Week (time and location to be confirmed) and a meeting of Green ICTs for Sustainable Development on 8 November 2012 as part of the Internet Governance Forum. Registration for this even expires on 15 October. She invited participants to join the meeting. She also mentioned the meeting on Bridging Standardization Gapto be held on 17-20 December in India, during which a session will be dedicated to rural areas. The programme is still in draft form, so she invited people to participate. Ms Bueti introduced reports on ICTs and environmental sustainability that have been published recently by ITU-T, which are available on the website at <http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/climatechange/>. She expressed her thanks to representatives who had reviewed the various reports and concluded by saying that communication on future events will be made available in upcoming months.

# 4 Any other business

Mr Osamu Namikawa of Hitachi introduced a liaison statement (Doc. 95) from IEC TC111 WG4 which IEC TC111 WG4 has produced two draft standards. These are TR 62725 “Analysis of quantification methodologies for greenhouse gas emissions for electrical and electronic products and systems” and TR 62726 “Guidance on quantifying greenhouse gas emission reductions from the baseline for electrical and electronic products and systems”. He is having a meeting next week to discuss the documents, which will be available for issue either end of this year of early next year. TR 62725 references ISO 14067 and needs liaison with ITU-T Q18 which developed Recommendations ITU-T L.1400 and ITU-T L.1410.

Mr Paolo Gemma introduced a liaison statement from ETSI (Doc. 89)

He discussed activity on energy efficiency, data centres, applying standards for metrics, network level energy efficiency. He said that a new work item had been approved regarding the assessment of mobile network efficiency. A network topology needs to be defined. He discussed the possibility of a standard published by ETSI and ITU-T. He proposed to have a meeting between ETSI EE and ITU SG5 WP3/5 in May 2013.

Vadim Nozdrin, ITU-R (Doc. 97)

Mr Nozdrin presented ITU-R activities in the area of ICT and CC and in particular the results of WRC-12.He informed participants about the studies carried out by ITU-R on disaster prediction, detection, mitigation and relief. He mentioned the brochure ‘radio communication and climate change’. He also mentioned a seminar for America’s region science services, regulatory, technical and practical implications held on 20-21 September 2012.

Mr Ahmed Zeddam and Mr Dave Faulkner closed the meeting by thanking all speakers and participants.

# 5 Next Meeting

# The 12th meeting of JCA-ICT&CC will be held during the next ITU-T SG5 meeting (Geneva, 29 January – 7 February 2013). The date will be announced on the JCA ICT & CC website.