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ITU

ITU‑T JCA‑AHF MEETING

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>> Hello.

>> Hello, my name [inaudible] Study Group 16 for media accessibility.

 (audio breaking up).

>> Hello. I'm a focal point, Radio Communication Bureau.

>> Hello, Radio Communication Study Group.

>> Good afternoon, I'm Shelly Chadha on behalf of the W.H.O. unit which works on blindness and deafness prevention and disability and rehabilitation.

>> My name is Olaf Mittelstaedt. I'm here for DAISY Consortium, invited expert, standards and software.

 (audio breaking up).

>> Hello, I'm working on [inaudible]

 (no audio).

>> Hello, I work for [inaudible] human factors.

>> Hello, my name is Roland. I'm here as a guest from the Swiss Federation of the Deaf.

>> Hello, my name is Marta, I'm also here from the Swiss Federation of Deaf.

>> [inaudible] lead [inaudible] accessibility for persons with disabilities, including ITU's model ICT accessibility policy report.

>> My name is Roxana. I'm working with Susan on the same unit and also BDT focal point for Study Group 1 on question 7 which deals with ICT accessibility.

>> Hello, I'm Edmund from the ITU, work for the I.S. department, and sorry for this interruption with the voice system because it is my responsibility (chuckles).

>> ANDREA: Thank you, Edmund. Gerry, you are on.

>> Gerry Ellis from Dublin in Ireland, software engineer in Ireland for over 30 years and consultant in accessibility and usability for a quarter of a century and also vice‑chairman of JCA‑AHF.

>> I'm Michael Pluke, vice‑chairman of the Human Factors Committee and also leading task force trying to develop guidelines for people with cognitive disabilities.

 (static on the line).

>> Hello, I'm working for NICT in Japan, for Study Group 16. However, in this meeting I joined as a participant.

 (static).

>> Hello, my name [inaudible] Netherlands University of Technology, vice‑chairman of this JCA‑AHF and I'm associate Rapporteur of Q4.

>> Hello.

>> My name is Beat Kleeb. I am a delegate from the World Federation of the Deaf. Thank you.

>> Good afternoon. My name is Roland Hermann. I am the President of the Swiss Federation of the Deaf. I am here representing the organisation as a volunteer, and I've come here as an observer and as a deaf person to see what the process of accessibility entails. Thank you.

>> Malcolm Johnson, Deputy Secretary‑General, ITU. I'd like to extend my welcome through the lady Chairman to everybody coming to this meeting this afternoon.

>> ANDREA SAKS: Our special guest from the U.N

>> Good afternoon. I'm pleased to be here. I'm Jorge Araya, Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the U.N. body that monitors the implementation of the convention at international level.

>> Everybody knows I'm Andrea Saks, the Chairman of that. We are getting ahead of a person we haven't seen in a while. I'm going to pass it to Xiaoya.

>> XIAOYA YANG: I'm the secretary for this Joint Coordination Activity for accessibility and human factors. Thank you.

>> ANDREA: I think we are okay now. It seems like the captioning is working. Are the remote participants on, Patricia?

 (coughing).

>> Normally everything is all right now. We can follow on.

>> ANDREA SAKS: This is where you would come in. What I would like all the remote participants to do, if they are speaking, introduce themselves, and can we start with Mia Ahlgren if she is on. Is she on, Patricia?

>> MIA AHLGREN: I come from Swedish Disability Federation. We are also part of the European Disability Forum. We worked with the focus group on audiovisual media accessibility within ITU and work with Mark Magennis on the report on the remote participation.

 (echo).

I'm also involved in the work of the European level on mandate 376.

>> ANDREA SAKS: I want everybody to put their earphones on. You will be able to hear better. The next person is Daniel, would you like to introduce yourself? Is Daniel on? No. Okay. Dusan Caf will be joining later. Brian Copsey will be joining later. [inaudible] many groups about hearing aids and disability areas there. Christina is in charge of accessibility at OFCOM UK. She will be joining us later. Christopher Jones. And would you like to introduce yourself. Is he on?

>> Yes. It's Christopher here. Christopher Jones. I'm the Vice‑Chair of the JCA AHF.

>> ANDREA SAKS: Thank you. The reason you hear a lady's voice is Karen is Christopher's DSL interpreter, and he is located in Great Britain. Is Chris Louis on the line? He may not be. Not yet. Okay. John, is he on from Spider? No. Okay. I don't know when Raj ‑‑

 (audio breaking up).

Are you there from the RNIB? Some of these people have scheduled and they will be joining later. Is Christian Vogler there from the U.S.? Christian will be typing. He is snowed in, in New York. No, okay. He is snowed in actually in D.C.

Sorry for the late start. I thought I would make good use of the time, especially for our guests. I'm a little spoiled because most captioners know my voice, since I've worked with them a long time, but I must set an example. When you speak, can you give them your name? If you have a complicated name or a foreign name that would not readily be spelled correctly by one of us who are English speakers, can you spell it, please, for the first time, and they will pick it up from there. I run this as an accessible meeting. Sometimes I do odd things.

We have Gerry in the room at the moment. But if Gerry were on line, he would have an open mic, and I would call on him after every basic issue so he could make a comment, because I want to point out that we are using Adobe Connect with many good features. It does not work well for screen readers.

Other than that, I think we will get into the agenda. Thank you for your introductions. I believe the agenda is up, is that correct? Or will it be in a minute? We can have a look at that, because I do believe we wanted to make a change. The change was we were going to swap places. Go ahead.

>> There are two people who would like to intervene. Could I put them on?

>> ANDREA SAKS: Go ahead. We will stop and let them do that.

>> Mr. Brian Copsey.

>> ANDREA SAKS: Can you speak or are you typing?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: I'm on the call. I hope you can hear me. Can you please confirm that?

>> ANDREA SAKS: Yes, I can hear you. Can you identify what you do besides drive us nuts? (chuckles).

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Thank you. My name is Brian Copsey. I'm an invited expert to this meeting. My work is with radio and radio interference to assistive listening devices. I'm also Chair of the group writing the European standards for assistive listening devices. Thank you.

>> ANDREA SAKS: Thank you, Brian. We have one more who is on? (pause) It might be Christian Vogler from Washington, who will be typing because his interpreter could not join him. I have a guess that is who it is.

>> Axel Leblois said that he is on line, with fractured sound.

>> ANDREA: Can you speak louder, please?

>> Mr. Axel Leblois says that he is on, but with fractured sound, and he can take microphone.

>> ANDREA SAKS: Axel, you are going to type. He is from G3ict. What is your official title? I always forget. I call you big boss.

>> President. Axel Leblois says President.

>> ANDREA SAKS: I was going to call you Chairman, but I didn't think that was right. Thank you very much.

>> One more from Magda, this person says hi.

>> ANDREA SAKS: You have to get really close to the mic.

>> The person says hi, John and Magda from Spider, Swedish programme for ICT in developing regions have just joined. Sorry we had connectivity challenges. We can hear you but we can't call in. Thanks.

>> ANDREA SAKS: Then continue to type. Our remote moderator will raise her hand and let us know when we have a remote participant wishing to speak or ask a question.

We will go back to the agenda. We are going to have a swap, because we got notice today that ‑‑

 (audio breaking up).

We can try, we will have to do the BDT first, because of the problem that we had with people calling in from OFCOM who are calling in a little later. But we certainly can do that. I'll put that as the second one, and Jose after that. Is that okay with you? We may have to split the ITU‑R in half. Is that okay with everybody?

Okay. Then we will do that. Is there any other change to the agenda that anybody wants to make? Add any other business? The only last piece of business I did before I turn the floor over to Jorge Araya, the secretary of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities from the U.N., is that I need to have ‑‑ hopefully, all of you may or may not have read it, but we hope to have the approval of the last JCA meeting on the 21st of 2015, the report. Do I have everybody's approval to go ahead with that one so it can be published?

Thank you. The one thing I want to caution, we have even less time than we originally had, so I want you all to be cognizant of the fact. There will be coffee at the coffee break at 4, so that you don't leave. (chuckles).

It's right outside. Nobody leaves the building. We have got you. I would like now to introduce Mr. Jorge Araya, and he has a presentation for all of us, if you would like to proceed.

>> JORGE ARAYA: Thank you so much. In fact, I wanted to, I do not have this engagement, I wanted to touch upon an issue about accessibility, and the general framework in which we talk about disability across the United Nations, and just to brief you about what has been done so far, the progress we have achieved in promoting accessibility.

I'm the secretary of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the international body that monitors the implementation of the convention in 151 countries. For those of you, I think that many of you that sit in this room are participating through remote participation is not unknown, I mean that in quite a few years, I mean we have an unprecedented let's say standard setting exercise in New York, when the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was approved in 2006 after almost five years of negotiations.

Since then, we have ten years still of this groundbreaking event it seems to me. We can say that we have so much progress (ringing) in the area of promoting accessibility for persons with disabilities, and accessibility is not only important for persons with disabilities ...

 (no audio).

Convention that is almost universally recognized with more newcomers. I hear in the morning that more countries are joining the convention quite soon. I think one of the newcomers will be the Netherlands. I hear that the Parliament in the Netherlands approved the ratification of the convention. This is very welcome, very good news indeed.

What we have achieved so far, I think that we have created a lot of awareness, not only among the disability circles, but even beyond.

This is quite important. It seems to me that we have established a great network of partners, that includes U.N. actors, includes diplomats, includes private sector, academies and U.N. agencies as well that have a living role in promoting accessibility.

It seems to me that this is something that we need to be happy about. We have built a partnership. This is our, basically, it seems to me our main strength, partnership for promoting accessibility. Second thing, it seems to me that we have done a lot of things in the area of promoting awareness of the convention across public sector, in different countries, across private sector, we have engaged many actors at the national level.

This is a tremendous improvement. Ten years ago, it seems to me that only a few people knew about these things. It was just in some environments. But right now we have achieved, as a community, we have achieved tremendous progress in disseminating information and convincing people about the added value of having accessible societies and of course accessible information and communication technologies.

This is also important if we think about where we are. We are in the 21st century. It is unthinkable to talk about inclusion without notice. So it seems to me something quite important to bear in mind.

I would like to also flag that apart from the idea of establishing this great partnership on promoting awareness, we have achieved, we are in an area, we have for example right now at the U.N. level standards, specific standards across the U.N. that have been established, would like to refer to different resolutions, promotion of accessibility standards.

Most recently last year in December (paper shuffling) very far‑reaching resolution on accessibility. So it seems to me that we are in a very world stage of promoting accessibility standards across the U.N.

And you have also the very important steps already taken by mainly U.N. agencies in adopting their own accessibility policies and standards.

For example, an organisation in ITU has been a pioneer also in adopting policy standards and working on that particular field. Beyond standards, we have, it's a good platform of person for moving into implementation.

Right now, many countries are promoting the idea of introducing accessibility and procurement standards. It seems to me this is a huge step forward, not only because it's an important area, also because this is a entry point for promoting understanding and more relationship between the public sector and private providers.

I think that this is an area that we have benefit from the work of many in this room that have tried to achieve these goals. And I think that I would like to also refer to, at the international level more needs to be done to let's say create more among different actors at the international level. For example, we would like to have more interaction with G3ict. It seems to me G3ict has done a good job in the field, but it seems to me we need to create momentum for working together with concrete let's say results.

I wanted to mention in this regard that in 2014, we win this joint development I can say when we organise a meeting for persons with disabilities organized by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. And we engaged with several colleagues at the conference services, United Nations in Geneva, and we have the privilege of having ITU among our partners. Then we organized the very first meeting with remote participation.

I think this was unprecedented by the time, because we used to have remote participation, but in closer environments like for example meetings just among the staff. But this new meeting was unprecedented in the sense that it was open to the participation of the public at large.

It seems to me that this kind of achievement, we need more of this kind of successful experience in promoting accessibility.

We need to become closer to let's say the organisation of the deaf and the different constituencies of persons with disabilities, the union, so we listen to them and we engage with them.

These are privileged partners. I mean it's uncontestable that there is nothing about accessibility without persons with disabilities. This is something that it is a must, and we have had very good experiences in engaging with different constituencies. But we need to do more in that regard, to fully involve persons with disabilities in our endeavors, in our projects.

I think that the third point that I would like to raise is that of accountability, we need to think more about that. Basically in shaping this 22nd development process we need clear goals, targets and educators. It seems to me that I mean international community to be accountable for what we are doing, to be really accountable. This is something that we need to share. We need to learn more about things from the committee side. I think that when I arrive into a committee four or five years ago, I can really share with you I mean what we had progressing in short period of time is enormous.

It is another let's say reality. It's really another reality. This is not just because of us, it is because of you, I think this is because I mean all of us contributed to improve the level of accessibility. That is not to say that we have achieved what is sustainable. We are moving forward with that goal.

But I think that we are on safe ground because of this strong understanding, support, you know, and partnership. Thank you so much. I think that I wanted to express my views as secretary of the committee in a way that is important for you also to understand our let's say specific situation as thoroughly. Only one of the few bodies at your level, I mean, that has been open to the participation of persons with disabilities, and that of course that have put accessibility at the top of its agenda. Thank you so much.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you.

 (applause).

I'm going to open the floor, if anyone would like to address a question to Mr. Jorge Araya you are most welcome. Come on, you have questions. We have questions from the remote. Can you tell me who it is, please? Nice and loud.

>> Christopher Jones, interpreter.

>> Andrea: Go ahead, Christopher.

>> CHRISTOPHER JONES: Hello, it's Christopher here. I have a question. It's quite simple, a naive question, I suppose. The UNCRPD, about international law, I'm asking in the context of the UK. We have been fighting for many years.

 (echo).

To have a range of different types of relay services. We still only have one.

 (echo).

In the U.S. there are six different types. So should we invoke the UNCRPD in order to make things move? Thank you.

>> JORGE ARAYA: Definitely. I think that the U.S. is not still a party to the convention. So but even though, this is not the case, I think that the U.N. provides guidance, provides wide guidance and understanding about what accessibility means. In the case of the U.S., we know that the convention is important, Americans with disabilities act, influence a lot the process of the convention. It is interpretation agreed by almost 150 members of the international community. It does provide an authoritative interpretation for policies at the national level, definitely.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you, Christopher, we will have a bigger conversation on relay services later. I'll definitely call on you about the fact that there are four different types, and which one is sign, one is text, one is voice to voice, Christopher will come on and tell us more about that a bit later.

But are there any other queries, questions or anything that anybody would like to ask Mr. Jorge Araya while he is here? I recognize Beat and then Gerry.

>> This is Beat Kleeb speaking. I'm [inaudible] deaf and also living in Switzerland. I have been involved with developing VRS which are video relay services.

I have met with very high level people from the Swiss office for communication, and I recommended that Switzerland has to start using video relay services. But when I ask them if they know about the UNCRPD, they ask me what exactly that was.

Many people within the government are not aware about this convention. That is one point.

The other point is that has Switzerland signed the UNCRPD, that being the case, have they added that it cannot cost more than the law for persons with disabilities that are already in place.

That will block any progress for us, because they will always be looking at funding. And that becomes the end of the story.

>> JORGE ARAYA: I'm very thankful for this question. It brings to my mind basically two or three ideas.

First of all, the idea that I mean, and I clarify that Switzerland is a party to the convention, since last year, Switzerland is a party to the convention.

The first idea is that the convention introduces this paradigm shift, according to which disability is not attached to a person. It is not something personal. It is not related to the different abilities or different persons. The disability in society, barriers, cultural barriers, that we need to remove in order to allow persons to have impairments to enjoy their rights on equal basis with others.

This is basically, you think about why we are today trying to move forward to removing those barriers. We are not thinking about fixing people. This is not something that the convention ‑‑ no, it's about removing those barriers that prevent people from fully participating into the society.

The second idea is the idea of additional cost for introducing all these new accessible tools and services. It seems to me that there is well documented research that indicates that the cost of exclusion is higher than the cost of inclusion. If you have a inclusive society, anyone, at the long time you will have less costs.

This is the idea that is very appealing. And we need to sit down with more politicians and try to show them the results, evidence that shows the cost of exclusion is higher than the cost of inclusion.

I take opportunity to really convey that the organisation of the deaf is here, you have done an incredible, incredible work in promoting accessibility, and really, it's very impressive and I congratulate you again on behalf of the committee for all the work you have done in this area. Thank you so much.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you, the next person I promised to speak was Gerry Ellis. Please go ahead.

>> Gerry Ellis from Dublin, hello. Two points I'd say to you. One, we very much appreciate the enormous amount of work that the U.N. and yourself and the Secretariat and the committee has done on behalf of people with disabilities in the last ten, 15 years. We are really humbled and, amazed by it. Second, Ireland is working towards it, people with disabilities and our organisation goes are pushing very hard for Ireland to join the group that has ratified, we are pushing. We will get there.

My question is, Axel Leblois and G3ict monitor implementation of the UNCRPD in the area of technology and public procurement. Are there other groups who are monitoring other areas such as education, built environment and so on, and have you seen improvements in the time since countries have ratified? Thank you.

>> JORGE ARAYA: Thank you. Thank you so much. Really, I would sincere wish that Ireland will join the convention rather soon. I think you have worked hard for it, obtaining that type goal.

The answer is yes. We have seen that, I mean at the national level, it seems to me that attempting to enforce the convention opening a great opportunity for network of persons with disabilities, disabled persons organisations to say you know, participate in decision‑making processes.

While this is true for most of the world, we have also seen cases where because of the measures, restrictions in funding to persons with disabilities, in some countries, this has not been the case, with disabled persons organisations telling us that they are struggling for maintaining a relatively important level of participation in decision‑making processes.

But I think the majority of situations, the trend is a clear trend that organisations of persons with disabilities are more visible at the national level. And they are promoting of course I mean very grass root agenda at the national level.

The other thing that I wanted to say is that the participation of children with disabilities, participation of women with disabilities, is to be encouraged, because they are segments of the wider disability community that have traditionally been excluded from decision‑making processes.

We have seen that. We have been informed that, I mean organisations of women with disabilities and children with disabilities are starting to make their voices heard, you know, in many countries. This is still a area for improvement. And still a an area for further encouragement to contribute to their development.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you. Anyone else, Reinhard? Can you speak, please?

>> Yeah, this is Reinhard. What are the top three countries which are most advanced in implementing the U.N. charter?

>> JORGE ARAYA: I think that that is a difficult question, because the committee is in the process of reviewing the records of this 151 countries. We have not finished. So I mean it's probably too early. We have some let's say countries that have advanced in some areas for example in promoting inclusive education, in promoting participation. We have countries that have repealed legislation that prevent people from exercising their legal capacity.

So we cannot say this country is a model in convention. We can say there are some countries that have [inaudible] in some regions, some goals that are in line with the positions of the convention. I think that we can also say that our countries, countries could have done more with the resources they have. But I think it would be unfair to single out one country, countries that have harmonized their legislation, I think that most of the countries have moved in that direction. So we have very good laws, at the level, have good laws in most of the countries.

But the big challenges is of course the implementation, the implementation. There are a lot of implementation gaps. Basically, one of the major implementation gaps that prevent countries from developing programmes and policies, the lack of available data.

So, data about persons with disabilities is still let's say lacking in many areas. It seems to me that this situation will change, because we have these development agenda and political commitment of many countries to develop disability disaggregated data. We have learned from the work of the statistic commission of the United Nations that this is the case in many countries that are really trying to incorporate disaggregation based on disability, of course based on other factors as well.

But I think that this is a real challenge, without ‑‑ I would say a baseline is quite difficult, if you think about making policy and progress with persons with disabilities. I think that we will experience more in the coming years about let's say reliable, of having reliable data collected at the national level and this will be a positive sign for implementation of the convention. This is my impression.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you. We have a remote and that is how many? One or two? One. Okay. Go ahead. Who is it?

>> So Mrs. Mia Ahlgren, we have heard that PwD are not included in indicators for Internet and SDGs, can you confirm that, and second question, can you explain a bit more about remote participation at CRPD committee sessions? Where can we find more information about the work on accessible remote participation within the U.N.? Is there a central coordination?

>> JORGE ARAYA: Thank you for the questions. I think if I understood correctly about the inclusion of disability or related information ‑‑ yeah, I think that, yeah, it's, there has been consultation for ‑‑ I mean right now, we have development goals, development targets and there is a ongoing process for developing indicators.

I think that the work has been done, has been carried out, but the statistical commission of the U.N., this has been let's say the case. I'm not aware of any specific platform at the national level for engaging persons with disabilities.

I do know that at the international level, I mean the consultations were quite broad, you know, for engaging different stakeholders. And with regard to the second question, I think we are at the very early stage, remote participation is still experimental at the U.N. Secretariat.

But we have this experience that happened two years ago with the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and we have evidence that this can work.

So I think that we are right now, we also have right now a political will of the Director General here in Geneva. So we have let's say new programme officers, let's say a new vision about how confidence management needs to be done.

There is a space it seems to me for participation, it seems to me that we have the will, political will. We have technological awareness. This is something that we need to try again. Thank you so much.

>> Andrea Saks: I'm going to allow one more question, because we have taken more time, but it's been beneficial for us to listen. I'd like to ask Roland Hermann to make a statement.

>> Roland Hermann and I'll be using sign language.

The UNCRPD is a wonderful tool for us to have in terms of disability access as an issue. Oftentimes what we hear is that indeed there are problems funding sign language interpreters, for example.

Now, when the U.N. was developing the articles for the UNCRPD, and specifically mentioned sign language interpreting, I wonder why there is such a problem or why you think there is such a problem funding sign language interpreters as opposed to other technological accessibility means. It's almost as if when accessibility means a person is needed for access to communication, rather than a device, then it becomes something different.

So how does someone like me, how does the deaf community proceed, so that we are guaranteed to show up and to be able to follow the issues?

>> JORGE ARAYA: Thank you, thank you for the question. It seems to me that we have to bear in mind that when the convention entered into force, the U.N., I mean the Secretariat, I'm speaking now the Secretariat was not really prepared to let's say, to face the increasing demands that to enforce recognition will bring about. It seems to me that we have been learning, and then that organisations have also been quite instrumental in teaching us at the U.N. what it is required about let's say making conference accessible for persons with disabilities.

I will not deny that we are still struggling, providing accessible environments. The other thing that we are let's say working on, we have not really, I mean we are in the process of moving forward in this area, is the notion of the reasonable accommodation. We talk about accessibility in general. This is general dimension for promoting access to everyone, including persons with disabilities. But when someone with an individual asks us to accommodate him or her, through a reasonable accommodation, we are still let's say facing some challenges.

For example, we have general relatively low level of understanding in our organisations about what reasonable accommodation means. We need to raise awareness among our colleagues about that everyone can face at some point a request of reasonable accommodation. So we need to be prepared to respond to those individual requests.

I think this is an ongoing process. I think that we need to work more together between you and us in the Secretariat to really convince more people, and to bring more people on board. So that I mean at some point, when a person with a disability comes to the U.N. they can generally participate and feel that they are included ‑‑ genuinely participate.

>> Andrea: Thank you, Mr. Jorge Araya, I appreciate the time you have taken to explain these things to people. We have run over this particular session but I don't think it matters. I'll figure out how to catch us all up. Malcolm, would you like to say a couple of words? I always know you do.

>> Thanks, Andrea. I'd like to thank Jorge for joining us. We all very much have appreciated what he's brought to this meeting this afternoon. It's very important that we have the very good collaboration with the committee. With any global challenge, coordination and collaboration amongst all the various entities and bodies that are trying to address that challenge is very important and very difficult task as well.

This link with the committee will help us to ensure that we are working together, with as many bodies as possible. We have quite a few different bodies participating in this group. And I think we will become much more aware of what is happening in the U.N. generally and even in Geneva specifically, through this contact with the committee.

For example, we learned today there will be a social forum specifically on accessibility in Geneva from the 3rd to the 5th of October, will feed into the human rights Council. That will be a good opportunity for us to bring to the attention of other bodies just how much work we are doing in ITU on accessibility. And we are doing quite a lot and have been doing for many years.

I think when we talk about remote participation, for example, and the provision of captioning in meetings probably ITU is in the lead in the whole of the U.N. for doing that. We have a lot of experience in that. We provide remote participation to many meetings. They have thousands of participants joining our meetings throughout the year.

So, in those areas, we can be a model for the rest of the U.N., and we can bring this to the attention of the rest of the U.N. through the committee. So I think that will be very helpful.

Also, accessibility is mainstreamed in ITU now. It's not just specifically in these groups with the title, with accessibility in the title. But all the groups we have in ITU, all take into account accessibility issues and requirements. For example, you mentioned to take into account the needs of childrens with disabilities. We have an expert group on child on‑line protection that has been working for some years. Last year, we drew to their attention the need to look at the specific needs of children with disabilities on‑line. Protecting them on‑line will require special measures. There are many areas of work in ITU related to accessibility.

It doesn't get a lot of attention perhaps outside the ITU community. But I think we should make it more known and the work that we are doing in ITU would be a model for others. We are also very pleased you came along and we look forward to continuing this collaboration with you.

Again thanks to all the participants in this group. The coordination group like this is very important, and especially those coming from the organisations, special relationship within the disability, particularly grateful for your participation in this group and in the ITU's work, because clearly you can't provide for persons with disabilities without consulting persons with disabilities on how to do that.

So thanks very much for your participation in this group.

We have a lot of presentations, as you say, on the agenda. One of the benefits of being here I think is to learn a bit more about what we are doing in ITU as well as other participants in the room. So [inaudible] listen to them. Thank you very much.

>> Andrea: Thank you, that means you are going to stay. I'm happy about that. Thank you very much. I'd like to personally thank you too. We have met before and we got loads to do now that I've been listening to you.

We are going to march through our agenda. The first one we are going to do and thank you very much for being patient with us, because these two ladies both Roxana Widmer and Susan Schorr are tireless workers towards accessibility in the development sector. Would you like to present what you have been up to, please?

>> Thank you very much, Andrea. Perhaps for the benefit of people who are first time visitors at the JCA, perhaps I can give a little background before I just update on the activities since your last meeting in October.

As I mentioned, when I introduced myself, ITU and G3ict teamed up to develop a model ICT accessibility policy report, and it's all based on article 9 of the convention. What we tried to do in this report was for our membership and our membership is largely our government membership is comprised of ministries of ICT and national regulatory authorities, that we wanted to help assist them to identify concrete steps that they could take the kind of over arching general language of the convention on ICT accessibility and put it into daily practice.

We came up with a report that covers various issues, including mobile accessibility, website accessibility, public access centers, how to make them accessible and their services accessible, how to change national ICT legislation, and how to use public procurement to promote ICT accessibility, because indeed as Mr. Jorge Araya mentioned we have found that is probably one of the most effective tools for ensuring that accessible ICTs are actually available.

That report is now available in four of the U.N. languages, English, Spanish, French and, who am I missing? It will come to me. Sorry.

 (chuckles).

And we also have it available in accessible eBook versions, because various stakeholders have been asking for print copies of the report, and ITU is moving into a print‑free environment. But with an eBook version, if people have kindles or they have an iPad or some other device, they can actually download the eBook version and bring that with them when they are having discussions with key decision‑makers.

I wanted to make you aware of that. Then based on the model ICT accessibility policy report, we are doing a lot of work in terms of awareness‑raising and advocacy and capacity‑building. I'm going to tell you about a couple of those things.

In the development sector, we have a series of regional initiatives, in the Europe regional initiative is probably the most active. We also have one in the Arab region and one in the CIS region. In Europe last year, we organized a number of meetings, and the main meeting was in the republic of Serbia in October, where we got stakeholders together from across Europe. We had the European Disability Forum participate, I know Mia is participating remotely and we are honored to have her join us. I know you had Sonali from the royal national institute of the blind who was trying to connect. She was with us as well and that meeting came up with recommendation. We teamed up with the European broadcasting union where everyone tries to identify the steps they are taking for audiovisual media accessibility, and exchange their best practices. We participated in that.

I also had the pleasure of participating in a meeting organized by our colleagues at U.N. DESA and U.N. habitat that was all about urban development and how to ensure that persons with disabilities are included in that, and I had the pleasure to share our work on ICT accessibility. And as I'm sure you must find in a lot of your meetings, many times when people think about accessibility who are active in this field, they think about transportation and housing but forget about ICTs, which is clearly written into the convention. It was a similar discussion there.

So we were able to raise awareness on the importance of including accessible ICTs in urban development plans. We also in line with the public procurement issue, we had an on‑line training course on public procurement. ITU has an on‑line academy, the ITU academy. It was delivered on‑line there. The materials had been reviewed by the European Disability Forum, and also informally by the European Commission. That was a very successful training programme, so that we can train people on how they can start procuring accessible ICTs every time that they are procuring ICTs.

At the end of last year and now this year, we are going to be developing our next on‑line course on audiovisual media accessibility. I'm sure my colleague Roxana will complement this.

>> ROXANA WIDMER: Thank you, Susan, I can complement the information that was just provided by Susan. I will begin with a gentle reminder for all participants to the Study Group, one, on question 7, which deals with ICT accessibility issue, in which the members agreed to launch a competition on the best strategies, policies and projects developed by the ITU members in area of ICT accessibility, and just to remind that the deadline for the submission it will be 19th of February, which is actually the deadline for the Rapporteurs group meeting.

What I would like to highlight, that also at the end of last year, on October 19, I had the pleasure to participate at the cinema and accessibility session, was a session, special session organized during the field festival in Rome and actually we try to encourage industry and content producer and filmmakers to consider the accessibility feature from the design stage of their content.

It was very, very interesting, because as the colleagues just highlight before people were completely unaware about over one billion consumers that they are losing without considering this, to also take the opportunity to highlight the joint project between ITU and our colleagues in WHO, regarding the youth who, due to unsafe listening devices can be also potential person with disabilities in the future, if the industry does not consider this decision.

Then I would like to speak about big success that it was in Latin America, in Colombia last year, the second accessible Americas, I don't know if Mr. Jorge Araya had the opportunity to already learn about this original event because it became a regional event. Actually BDT provided intensive training on ICT accessibility to over 180 participants from countries and 71 institutions in different topics covering ICT accessibility, legal policy and regulatory framework, ICT accessibility framework on public access, mobile communication, TV video programming accessibility policy framework as well as web accessibility policy framework.

What I want to highlight is that all about topic also included presentation on best practices, Latin America is really very interested in promoting this subject. Actually, well, we had the chance that at the same time we also manage to launch the Spanish version of the report that Susan was just mentioning, and yes, the country manifests a big interest in this area.

I would like to highlight that we accounted with over 30,000, hundred, over streaming access and over 200 hours of watch time so we were forced to open another room which was not foreseen, because we had much more participants than foreseen. So what I want to say is that the members required that at the end of the event, required to ITU to consider this application from now on every year and already two countries proposed to host the third accessible Americas event, Mexico one, so yes, in November, so it will be held third accessible Americas. ITU already began last week to negotiate with host country on this event.

Last, I would just want to mention an activity that happened in CIS region where 32 representatives from this region from countries from this region participate in the round table on use of information and communication technologies from human development. Child on‑line protection, assistance of persons with disabilities and building confidence and security in the use of ICT. On 8 of December 2015.

As a last word, I want to remind that the Rapporteurs group meeting will be held on 5th of April, 2006. Thank you very much for your attention.

>> Andrea: Thank you, Roxana. I'm always impressed how much you guys get up to. Could I request that you and Xiaoya link up so we have direct links to what you are doing on the JCA page, so some people who know to go to the JCA page will link directly with you and some of your future activities as well as some of the past achievements.

I think we have some of them but we don't have all of them. That's okay? Thank you.

Now, I take it, we have a remote participant who wants to make a comment? Who might that be?

>> It's Sonali Rai, she wanted to mention she is listening and is here.

>> Andrea: Great, thank you very much for popping on, and you will be coming fairly soon on the agenda. I hope you will stay with us as long as you can.

The next one is the ITU‑R. I have a question. Sergio couldn't stay, is that right? He left?

>> He left because he has a meeting at 3:30. Appointment.

>> Andrea: You are going to do ‑‑

>> [inaudible] earlier. I can wait.

>> Andrea Saks: Then we will move back to Jose Maria and would you like to present the ‑‑ two things. You would like to present what the progress is that is going on, and also the meeting that we all had with all the focal points in the ITU. Please go ahead.

>> Good afternoon, again. This is Jose J.M. Diaz Batanero, I'm working in the general Secretariat as part of the accessibility task force, which now is part of the ITU Intersector coordination task force. For reference, last year, there were a number of task forces which are internal coordination mechanism of ITU, that were merged into a single team that we look at how to make our activities more coherent and to optimize resources. This new intersectoral task force is chaired by Malcolm Johnson, U.N. Secretary‑General and it covers the mandate that was previously given to the accessibility task force. That was for reference.

This document presented today, document 217 was a meeting that the task force organized with experts on accessibility, precisely to guide our work on the next three years, implementation of the resolutions from our governing bodies, mostly from Plenipotentiary but also from the other work in progresses our link to accessibility. We have resolution 175 as well as a number of resolutions from WTPC, WTSA and now from the WRC actually from the assembly linked to the area of accessibility.

The proposal was a initiative to mobilize input from experts on this ground, and Andrea Saks and Axel Leblois joined us in this meeting, precisely to get the inputs on areas in which ITU would be looking with more attention. This documents presents the summary of the discussion. We summarize the meeting had two main areas of focus. One was to review additional activities the ITU could be doing in the area of promoting ICT accessibility.

Here we had a extensive discussion about some of the elements discussed today by Jorge on the CRPD, and how ICTs could be fundamental tool to support implementation of the convention, and the role of ITU could play working both with ministers of communication but also with the agencies assigned by each party to the convention to implement the convention, how we should reach out to those agencies and work together to see how the use of ICTs could support implementation of the CRPD.

There were a number of recommendations that you will see in the document that is attached to this meeting. There was a second part of the meeting that was dedicated to looking at how to make ITU a more accessible organisation, which as you know is also a important part of our work as we have discussed in this opening of this meeting.

Here we had good suggestions, the very good progress that ITU has made in this 25 years working on making our organisation more accessible, but also looking at the challenges and the next areas in which we should focus to make ITU more accessible for staff, delegates and for the general public with disabilities.

The report is attached, it includes the summary of the discussion. With this, I hand over to Andrea, with a invitation to disseminate this information to the members of the JCA and also leaving the floor open to mobilize more input, so if any of you or your organisations have additional ideas or suggestions that we could incorporate in our work plan, don'ts hesitate to send it to us via E‑mail. You can send it to the JCA Secretariat. And they will send it to us or you can send it to accessibility in‑box which is accessibility @ ITU.INT. With that, I hand over the floor.

>> Andrea: Thank you. I'm not going to do questions. I'll take that lead that you said, please communicate in that way because I want to get to, we are going to move a little and you can talk to him at coffee break. He is not allowed to leave.

Anyway, I would like to turn the floor over to the Council working group Internet open consultant ‑‑ I can't do this.

>> Consultation.

>> Andrea: On access to the Internet for persons with disabilities and specific needs. Go.

>> Thank you very much. Good afternoon again. As I said before, I'm from the ITU general Secretariat and I'm representing the Secretariat of the Council working group on international, interrelated public policy issues. Thank you for this opportunity to brief the JCA on our ongoing open consultation.

A bit of background, the Council working group launched in October 2015 a open consultation open to all stakeholders, specifically on the topic of access to the Internet for persons with disabilities and specific needs.

This open consultation comprises two phases, as per our resolution 102, and Council resolution 1344. First of all there is the on‑line component of the consultation, where all stakeholders are invited to send inputs on specific agreed questions, using a on‑line tool. You can find these questions on‑line.

The on‑line consultation on the topic of accessibility is still ongoing. It closes on Friday, this Friday the 29th of January, after an extension of two weeks. So far we have received 34 responses from different stakeholders. We have inputs from member states, private sector as well as organisations dedicated to disability issues.

There is still some time left. We invite the members of this group to view the responses on‑line, the already submitted responses and to submit their own views before the deadline this Friday in order for us to be able to collect as many inputs as possible.

The next step of the consultation is the physical meeting. This is organized on 15th of February, right before the next meeting of the Council working group. This meeting will be based on the responses that have been submitted on‑line. On‑line respondents will have the opportunity to present the views. They will be discussed during the meeting with the rest of the participants.

The meeting will be kicked off with a panel session where all the different stakeholders will present their experiences and best practices. Registration information is on‑line. I can see that there is the invitation to the meeting submitted to this group.

Remote participation will be available as well as live captioning and transcript after the meeting.

To recap, two important dates, 29 of January we have deadline for on‑line consultation and 15 February is the date of the physical meeting. Everybody in this group is invited. Thank you.

>> Andrea: Thank you very much. We are approaching coffee break time. I'm going to indulge one more person to contribute, because we are really behind, and we will then let you go outside and get some coffee and some cake.

That would be Junko, could you please present? Sorry. I beg your pardon. Was there a question? Sorry Beat, please. I beg your pardon. Go ahead.

>> This is Beat Kleeb speaking. We have talked a lot about the involvement of people with disabilities. This is just one example. I learned about this meeting yesterday, while preparing for, I learned about the meeting you just spoke about only yesterday while I was preparing for this meeting.

I'm a volunteer here. Roland is also a volunteer here. We get a lot of invitations to join meetings, and we understand that it's very important to have stakeholders like us at these meetings.

I will indeed try to come to the meeting on February 15, if you are available to provide the same accessibility that is provided here today. So my question is, will there be the same level of accessibility at the meeting on February 15?

>> Andrea: Go ahead and if you don't know, we will figure it out.

>> I have to read out the question, actually.

>> Andrea: If I can surmise that, Beat will come if you can give him two sign language interpreters and we have to have captioning. I presume you would be captioning.

>> We have captioning as we said, yes.

>> Andrea: The thing is on request if he is going to participate he will request sign language interpretation. And that usually what we have is, within ‑‑ that is going to come. So there you go. So we might have to take a look at that, because you are going to have a quick consultation on that. What is the story?

>> We will investigate this possibility, because usually our group is dealing with different Internet policy issues, accessibility is part of those, and we will be discussing on next meeting.

We have gone beyond our budget to request the captioning for this meeting. And in order to accommodate the inputs from people that need this service. We investigate since we now have the specific request, we will investigate different ....

 (no audio).

>> Andrea: And request, that is how it happens. It is good to give everybody a bit of a shake up on that one, because we will be accessible. Thank you.

Okay. Junko, can you do, please, the resolution 67, please?

>> JUNKO KOIZUMI: Thank you, Chairman. I wish to report the progress about consideration of accessibility issue, and in the Radio Communication Assembly last October, there was a proposal from the United Arab Emirates administration about to create a resolution, regarding the accessibility and in during the RA meeting the resolution ITU‑R 67 telecommunication ICT accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs is approved in the meeting.

So now this resolution is closely related to the question ITU‑R 254, under the Study Group 5. So in the next study period it will be considered together with this question. This question was already created in 2014, and the study is already going on.

During the RA meeting this question scope, just the target year will be amended to the 2019, but study will be continued under the working party 5A. So this resolution will be considered under this question. Thank you very much.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you, Junko. Do you have a copy of the resolution in front of you?

>> JUNKO KOIZUMI: Yes, I have.

>> Andrea: Can you go to resolves, I think it's number I, where it speaks specifically about not creating new barriers and read it out?

>> JUNKO KOIZUMI: Which one?

>> Andrea: Number I. It's one of the Rs, either resolves or recognize, maybe recognizing. That is probably it.

>> JUNKO KOIZUMI: There is no i, I think.

>> Andrea: That was recognizing, what about resolved?

>> JUNKO KOIZUMI: Resolve to invite ITU‑R to continue conducting study, research guideline and recommendations related to telecommunication ICT accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, taking into account recognizing B and C and in close collaboration with ITU‑T and ITU‑D.

>> Andrea:that is not it. There is ones that a, there is one that is a number I. I can see it in my head, it speaks about not creating barriers.

>> JUNKO KOIZUMI: There is one, but it's not ‑‑

>> Andrea: Keep going. (overlapping speakers) here it is. Recognizing. Here we go.

>> JUNKO KOIZUMI: A is ongoing work.

>> Andrea: It says it's in recognizing, and I forgot there is a V. It's IV. I can't stand Roman numerals. I can't read anything anyway.

It says the work of relevant ITU‑R Study Groups regarding improved access to hearing aid prosthesis worldwide and recognizing any barriers created by uses of spectrum without considering the requirements persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs.

That was the big one that went through. And later Brian Copsey, are you still on, Brian? Is he still on? Okay. Brian, after coffee break, you are going to speak about that. He will talk more about that.

But that is one of the big problems that we have, and I want to point that out, and thank you very much, Junko for presenting that. We will come back to that later.

Go and get some coffee, everybody. You have, we will come back at, yeah, make it 20, but that way you go lag over and we will start at 4:25. So thank you very much. I want to check, is Catherine Data on? From OFCOM? Not yet. Okay. That is fine.

Please, there is coffee outside. And refreshments. Please have some coffee.

 (standing by).

 (coffee break).

 (standing by).

>> Andrea Saks: I'm going to start now. We have probably more people to speak than we can accommodate in the original amount of time that I actually gave you.

So you are going to get cut a bit. But the one thing I need to do is to have, Brian, are you still on? Brian Copsey?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Yes.

 (echo).

>> Andrea Saks: Okay, Brian. You have, I'm going to give you the floor, but I'm going to limit you to about 7 minutes. Can you do it?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: I'll do my best.

 (echo).

>> Andrea: Do we have a document for you?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Yes, you do.

>> Andrea: Xiaoya is going to put it up. I'll tell you when it's up and you go, okay? Just one second. Then we are going to have Masahito present the ITU stuff after that. The document is on.

Can you see the document, Brian?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Yes, thank you.

>> Andrea: You can move it up as you want. Please go ahead.

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Given the time constraints, I will simply give a brief overview of the issues and leave you good people to read the detail in the document. In brief, one is power transfer a technology which transfers electric energy without the use of wires over a short distance. Examples are domestic items, such as electric kettles and a range of domestic appliances as well as many other types of commercial equipment.

The problem is that the frequencies that are being proposed are either very close or, in the one case, on those used by what is called T coil which is the inductive system present in almost every hearing aid that is sold.

This is not a radius, it is a inductive system you would see.

 (echo) railway stations and similar places.

 (echo).

While I'm following this, I would suggest ‑‑ I'm very sorry.

 (echo).

Feedback, is it possible to [inaudible]

>> Andrea: Patricia, he has a hearing aid, something is happening, actually you are probably suffering from what we are talking about. Do we have any idea what the feedback is? We are not getting it here, Brian.

 (i'm getting it).

>> BRIAN COPSEY: I'll try and speak and if I sound confused it's because of the feedback.

The problem is this is going to affect as I said, a very very large number of hearing aids. And I would suggest that liaison statement is prepared over the next few days to present to both the ITU group which I think is Study Group 1, and also the ETSI group preparing standards for this, in order to highlight this particular issue.

It comes back to what we have been talking about previously, in the resolution. And also the fact that this will again be interference that people will not understand where it's coming from. That is my first issue.

The second point is OFCOM UK. I'm extremely happy to be able to say that OFCOM UK, the radio sector which up until now has not been part of our community, has come into the community, and is talking in terms of regular meetings, and I believe Christina is remotely on the meeting. And we look forward to a great deal of interaction and useful discussion in the future.

The UKFM working group is primarily concerned with children's hearing issues, and consists of charities, teachers, professors and some manufacturers. They are well aware of the issues raised by the use of mobile phone technology in the 2.3 to 2.4 gigahertz band and are actively considering a publicity campaign based on our Parliament to highlight these issues.

Continuing, ITU‑R Radio Assembly and the resolution 67, while disability was not covered by the agenda, UA introduced a proposal which has become ITU‑R resolution 67, and without reading through all of the words, my comment is for the first time, we have a method of covering the various issues of those with disabilities as a single joined up entity rather than separate approaches by the various ITU‑R sectors.

And I think the wireless power transfer and the issue of 2.3, 2.4 clearly highlights the need for that joined up thinking.

Going on to existing issues, in addition to discussions with UK OFCOM which emphasized the disruption to those with AODs, especially score systems, the European Commission has requested the joint research center to investigate the interference issue of this allocation to all devices using 2.4, 2.480 gigahertz band ‑‑ ALDs. This includes ALDs, wi‑fi and other commonly used devices ranging from remote controls of curtains through to various medical issues. I've been discussing the ALD issues with the joint research Council and engaged members of EMA to supply equipment for these tests and we await dates for these compatibility tests.

I would suggest the meeting considers a liaison statement, which could be prepared off‑line over the coming days and sent to the European Commission and JRC highlighting the concerns on this spectrum allocation and identifying mitigation and information to users from the mobile industry should be considered ‑‑ EHIMA.

The last part is the ETSI harmonized standard for assistive listening devices, EN 300‑422. The radio commission has a directive replacing conditions in the market. We have receivers covered but more importantly there is now no frequency unit and this is brought inductive loop systems T coils into the scope of the standard. We are literally this afternoon in the process of working on the standard, and the standard itself has been used in a number of countries outside Europe. And I hope the new standard will follow in the footsteps of the old.

I hope I have managed to cover the points. I will be very happy to answer questions, either now or at a later stage. Thank you.

>> Andrea: I can't hear a word you are saying. Am I unmuted now? Fine, thank you.

Brian, did you that admirably and you did cover all the points. My question to you is, you are requesting two liaisons from the JCA, one directed to, who are we ‑‑ Study Group 1 of ITU‑R, is that correct?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: That is correct.

>> Andrea Saks: Okay. I'm going to ask you for some text. I'll edit. We will send it out to the JCA mailing list for approval before we send it. We will do that shortly.

If you can provide me with text that, and I'll just, we will figure it out from there. The second one, you want to go to ETSI. Correct? No? Is that not right?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Sorry? The first, liaison statement should be going to ITU‑R Study Group 1 and also to ETSI. The same statement to both groups.

>> Andrea Saks: Got it. That is fine. The second liaison, would you clarify that.

>> BRIAN COPSEY: I suggest sending it to the European Commission and joint research Council, sorry, joint research center, in order to highlight the issues that we have previously discussed. Thank you.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you. Brian, would you give me some text on that one?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: I will prepare some text over the next day, and [inaudible] currently which makes life a little difficult.

>> Andrea: Don't worry about it, you do it when you can, send it out. We will go through the process. But if you give me the text, then I won't get it wrong. If I have questions, I'll come back to you on that. Don't worry, it doesn't have to be in 24 hours.

I want to say, does the group have any objection to having these liaison sent, would they be for information or access?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Information initially.

>> Andrea Saks: Fine, there is no problem with any of that. Thank you for hanging on and being consist. You did that in ten minutes. Junko, would you like to speak?

>> JUNKO KOIZUMI: Yes, thank you, Chairman. Right now, regarding the WPT, wireless power transfer, this is the working party 1A is responsible for this technology. So it's better to send a liaison statement to the working party 1A and Study Group ITU‑R. And also it might be better to send to the working party 5A as an information, because they are talking about wired hearing aid, but this is not really related to this wireless hearing aid because they are talking about the T coil. But just information.

>> Andrea Saks: Is that fine with you, Brian? Is Brian there?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Yes.

>> Andrea Saks: You have that information and we have written it down too, is that okay with you?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Certainly.

>> Andrea Saks: Great. Thank you very much, Junko, that is very useful information.

The next person I'm going to introduce is Dr. Masahito Kawamori, the Rapporteur for question 26 in Study Group 16 which is the lead Study Group on accessibility. There is quite a bit here. I will leave it to you to go through it as well as you can. You can start at the top, if you would, please. And which document do you want up first? We can do it in any order you want.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: We can start in this order.

>> Andrea Saks: In the order. One moment. We will get it up for you.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Thank you, Madame Chair.

I'd like to introduce four documents from SG 16 question 26. The first one is the technical paper, SST P.A. cc. RemPart ‑‑ FSTP. It is guideline for supporting remote participation in meetings for all.

This is a document to be used in preparing remote participation in meetings such as this one, editors is there. I think you know ...

 (audio breaking up).

>> Andrea: I'll say one thing, it's a little textbook on how to do. We have demonstrated it. We sometimes have technical difficulties. But I'd recommend all of you who are going to do a meeting to download it, and it's, the link is there. It's free to download from the ITU website. Thank you.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Okay. So that's the purpose of this document. And given to the United Nation as well.

>> Andrea Saks: Yes. Edmund is here, Anders Norsker actually sent it before we consented it, has sent it to the I.S. department in the U.N. I haven't gotten feedback on that. Perhaps at some point you would ask him if he heard anything regarding that, that reaction? I got a yes nod from Edmund. But yes, that is correct.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Thank you. If there is no question, we can go to the next document, which is FSTPAN guideline for accessible meetings ‑‑ AM. This is a companion document with the previous one. The previous one was for remote participation. This one is meeting in general. It gives some points to be taken into account in preparing, in preparation as well as in organizing as well as in running meetings, especially in an international setting.

This has also been submitted, shared with United Nations. These two documents are not necessarily ‑‑ we call technical papers, and they are not recommendations. But I'm thinking of proposing them to be part of the supplement in the F series of SG 16, so that these documents will not be lost when searching for documentation and accessible ‑‑

>> Andrea Saks: That means they will become recommendations.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Not recommendations but they would not be lost. They will be listed in website.

>> Andrea: That would be service description. Supplements. Got it. Thank you.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Okay. And then I'd like to go on to the other two documents, to recommendations. 791, this is previously, it was called AAC term, and it's a recommendation for accessibility related terminology. Because there is quite a lot of confusion as to what sort of language to be used in an international standardization setting, we have agreed to create this document as a recommendation, and also to be shared by our sister organisations such as IEC, iso, so United Nations has a reference to the vocabulary which refers to constants related to accessibility.

This is a recommendation. So this is normative standard. I believe this will be developed further, because there are some words that are not listed yet, and there are more words to be introduced as context. So accessibility terminology recommendation.

Finally, I would like to go to accessibility profile for IPTV service systems. This is one of the first recommendations, technical specifications to be used alongside with broadcasting and IPTV. IPTV is an Internet protocol TV, and it gives profiles so that more ‑‑ how shall I say ‑‑ easier features of accessibility services will be implemented more rapidly than others, so that the people who need accessibility features would benefit as soon as possible by the development and deployment of these services, and also implementations in the equipment market.

We have three profiles, one is basic profile, next step is enhanced profile and main profile. And our intention is that main profile should be the ultimate goal of all the equipment for IPTV to be implemented.

So this is a recommendation, be implemented in IPTV services.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you. That is clear, could you comment on IG RA V.A. and what it is and what is going on there, please?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: IRGAVA is intersector Rapporteur group for media accessibility, audio and visual accessibility. Intersector means that these groups come from both ITU‑R as well as ITU‑T, and in particular, ITU‑R Study Group 6 and ITU‑T Study Group 9 and ITU‑T Study Group 16 all get together to standardize documents, recommendations of common interest.

Currently we are working on TV broadcasting related accessibility issues including the profiles that I have just mentioned. We are trying to promote H .702 accessibility profiles to be looked into by other organisations such as European Broadcasting Union, and other organisations. That is current work.

We are also working a safe listening as well as audio enhancement for the people with hard‑of‑hearing, as well as other features, for enhancement of technologies for people with disabilities. That is the current .... (pause).

>> Andrea: We have a incoming liaison which we might as well handle right now, which is for information to the JCA, put it up so we can ‑‑ it's from Study Group 16. I'm confused. Put your mic on.

>> 16, priority [inaudible]

 (audio breaking up).

 (no audio).

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Yeah, okay. So this liaison statement actually relates to the discussion we just had before this discussion. We have been given a liaison statement related to the issue we just discussed, and we actually wanted, we communicated this liaison statement to IRG‑AVA because IRG‑AVA includes ITU‑R.

And this is to ask them to do some action, to take action related to the discussion we just had about spectrum issues especially that would affect the spectrums of hearing aid and this is just for information for JCA.

>> Andrea Saks: To be clear, the IRG‑AVA is the, IRG is the interRapporteur, Intersector Rapporteurs group between two Study Groups on audio, visual accessibility.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Not two Study Groups, two sectors.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you. That's right. They are sectors. (chuckles) thank you very much. Because we often don't have the ability to work together, unless we create something, that both members can participate. That is what we have done. Are there any questions that anybody would like to ask Masahito Kawamori? Thank you.

Yes, one is coming from, who?

>> Actually to comment that Miss Christina Data from OFCOM has left the conference, five minutes ago.

>> Andrea: She heard everything, that's great, because she heard what was done with Brian's ITU‑R. That is fine. Thank you very much. That is good. I'm glad she was here for that period of time. But she made no comment. Okay. She just took it in. Brian did say that it was a great, it was a good meeting, which it was.

Okay. The next one is going to be a presentation by Michael Pluke from ETSI. He has two. Michael, you are going to be to be, you know, okay. We will get one up for you.

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: Good afternoon. Michael Pluke here, this is a bit of work that is ongoing, just being halfway through the work, trying to look at the accessibility issues of people with cognitive disabilities specifically in relation to mobile technologies, for two other activities actually going on in ITU, in ISO and W3C as well, in the same area of cognitive specific to mobile technology.

 (audio breaking up).

Next slide. Basically there is a lot of accessibility stuff out there. It's largely physical, and sensory, but cognitive is not generally being looked at explicitly, although some of the current accessibility [inaudible] beneficial to people.

 (audio breaking up).

Next slide, please. So that this special task force has been set up, it's cofunded by the European Commission. When I quickly mention that, they [inaudible] evidence that we have been talking to people. I have this sheet here. I would kindly ask people if I can pass that around if people could sign the signature sheet, to evidence that we are talking to people. Thank you for that.

That is the title of the work. Next slide, please. We are producing two documents. One is where we are looking at the technical report, where we actually look at different cognitive disabilities, and find out what their specific difficulties are. Then an ETSI guide, where the guidelines addressing those issues, it is not actually just trying to get rid of the problems that people have using the mobile technologies, mobile technologies themselves can [inaudible] people to do their every day ...

 (audio breaking up).

In particular we have learned early on that if you try and just look at somebody with a disability, they have lots of different issues with reading, being able to memorize things. There is no single solution that suits somebody with a particular disability, so the need is to focus on what those specific [inaudible] try to map the guidelines to those. We believe that somebody, an individual [inaudible]

 (audio is breaking up, I'm only getting fragments of words).

The source we went to, the world [inaudible] international classification of functioning, disability and health, documents all of these types of cognitive issues. Next, please.

Those are the actual disabilities we looked at initially to gather together the set of functional needs that we focus on. We look to it mainly on the prevalence of those and how likely it is that people will be helped with mobile.

Next slight. We then took these ICF functions, actual descriptions of issues and came up with a set of user needs, where several are grouped together. We will try to then link the guidelines rather than into the hundreds of ICF functions [inaudible]

 (audio breaking up).

This should make it clearer what each guideline potentially does. So with each guideline we say what [inaudible] guideline to meet. Those will be published in the ETSI guide as mentioned earlier.

While addressing people's problems as I say, the way in which the actual mobile technologies we hope to show how it can benefit people and actually improve their lives. We have early drafts of both of the documents. We have done all the mapping of the functions, the activity [inaudible] now we are, as I say we formed together these user needs from groups now defining guidelines. We are meeting tomorrow, where we have a fairly advanced ...

 (audio breaks up).

My contact details.

>> Andrea: Thank you, the question that comes to my mind, I usually don't say things that are determined but are you having groups that have these disabilities comment or evaluate what you are doing?

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: They are difficult to get some of the groups together. What we have done is worked with other people who are dealing with the same topic, in particular the ISO group, we had a workshop where we invited people and there are quite a number of people who were working with ...

 (audio breaks up).

Had a workshop early on when we started to look at what the, what were the relevant things ....

The early stages ....

 (no audio).

Getting hold of some of the people can be ...

 (sorry, audio keeps breaking up).

Made some effort. We do the same. Now we have got some of the guidelines. We want to go back to the same group ....

>> Andrea: Would it be possible for some of us in the JCA to review it, some of the contacts we have just to make suggestions to be helpful?

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: I'll see what can be done because we certainly want to try and make drafts. There is always a problem ... draft documents out ... generally done. We have done it on some projects. But we certainly, we already have a group of people. We can add individuals rather than do it formally.

>> Andrea Saks: No problem, I have dyslexia, so please, yeah, everybody knows. So can you send it to me, please, personally?

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: We will add you to the people who are ‑‑

>> Andrea: Thank you very much. Some of us can look at it. Thank you. That solves that problem. We have a question. Thank you. Go ahead, Patricia.

>> Mia Ahlgren from the Swedish Disability Federation would like to ‑‑

>> Andrea: Perfect. Go ahead.

>> Mia: Thank you very much. I have been trying to coordinate an increased participation in standardization, both national and international from the Swedish Disability Federation. And on the issue of what we call cognitive accessibility, we have a very very active group with participants with different cognitive disabilities who are involved in the work you mentioned, that is going on in ISO, TC 173 working group 10, where they are participating very actively and they are also developing methods for remote participation in meetings, so that they can influence what is actually needed for them.

We also, some people from that group participated in a meeting at the ETSI group that Michael Pluke had in Stockholm. I think there are some differences, because you are working more with diagnosis, a certain amount of diagnosis. And the work that is coming out of this group with the participants with different cognitive disabilities is more wider and not so much linked to diagnosis. So there is a lot of work, very active work going on with participants that have like autism, yeah, intellectual disabilities, etcetera, etcetera.

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: We did start off looking at the diagnosis stuff but we are very much now looking at the actual functional cognitive issues and not the diagnoses anymore.

The diagnoses are not actually even mentioned in our [inaudible] not even mentioned in fact in our guidelines. So our guidelines don't map to the diagnosis but to the ICF function.

>> Mia: That is great. Are you liaising with the other ongoing work that is ongoing in other areas?

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: I'm participating in the W3C group. And I have a meeting a week after next, I think, with your ISO group, where we hope to work closely with you after that. We are doing our best to try and coordinate and harmonize ....

>> Mia: Great.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you, if there are no further questions, we will go to the next one. I'm going to cut you to about five minutes.

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: I'm vice‑chairman of the technical committee. A little history there. It's one of the three European standards bodies, ETSI, for those that aren't familiar, and describing ETSI I think we have already had ... I won't go through the details of that slide. Next, please.

ETSI is probably most famous for things like the technologies ... hosts meetings ...

 (audio breaking up).

Generation, mobile technology ... GSMs.

 (audio breaking up).

Next slide, please. Yes, essentially even though a lot of the work that goes on in ETSI is very technical, all of the services are really made for ... wonderful quote at the end here. I have always wished for my computer to be as easy to use as a telephone, my wish has come true because I can no longer figure out how to use my telephone. I love that quote. Next slide, please.

ETSI is organizing the technical committees, human factors with use ability and [inaudible]

 (audio breaking up).

Quite a number of [inaudible] two slides where we highlight it. Next slide, please. Here are some of the standards. One of the most recent and probably most well‑known is the EN301549 although that standard [inaudible] sendelak and ETSI actual work was done within ETSI ‑‑ CENELAC.

At the end of that list, requirements for relay services has been updated.

 (audio breaking up).

 (sorry, I'm only getting fragments of words).

In terms of guides, there are a number of guides that are mentioned there. By mentioning the last one, because guidelines to identify design for all aspects [inaudible] bit of work recently [inaudible] here we very much recognized and tried to follow some of the great work that's been done in ITU‑T in this area, in particular a lot of what we do is based upon the accessibility checklist. What the main object of that is, that ETSI has a, already has a very detailed on‑line system for documenting new work items and so forth, and work progress, we have to initiate that.

We have actually injected something into the process so that any new work item ... up on line but in fact .... [inaudible] that you will have to make, have to go through something like the accessibility checklist, and say whether or not you believe there might be a possibility ...

 (audio breaking up).

Other expert [inaudible] you cannot initiate a new work item, in the future you will not be able to initiate a new ... paying some attention to ...

 (audio breaking up).

>> Andrea: Design for all, is a antiquated term that we don't use anymore, because in actual fact, it's, I'm just going to inform you and you can go back is that title firm? Because we use ‑‑

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: It is on the document. To be honest it doesn't matter too greatly.

>> Andrea: It does, I'll tell you why it does. It does. Can you substitute the correct term which is the U.N. recognized term of universal design? Because design for all is impossible. But universal design is really what I think you mean to say, and that is in the vocabulary document that we just passed, which is now going to the U.N.

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: The reason, what I was going on to say, this is again a European commission funded thing. It is all part of a mandate 473 I think it was, and that is all in the title as a mandate for naming used in ETSI's response to that mandate, reproduce the same wording. I understand what you say.

We can actually double‑check and see whether the term is used within on‑line but in terms of change the document that was all done to align with terms of the ...

 (audio breaks up).

[inaudible]

>> Andrea Saks: I'm going to ask if the group would mind if I sent a liaison to this group via you presumably that says can you recognize the fact that we no longer, because it's not U.N. language, use universal design. We have done this to other people. I mean you may not like it, Mike, but I'm going to ‑‑

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: You can do it. It's not going to change this document.

>> Andrea: Whether they change it or not and it is a passed document, if it's already correct but they must not do this in the future. That is the best point.

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: Understood.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you. Go ahead.

>> Mia has information.

>> Andrea: I need you to keep it brief, go ahead, Mia.

>> Mandate 473, I can just confirm that this is a mandate from the European Commission, we fully agree with you, Andrea, from the disability movement to replace with universal design but it's also mentioned design for all actually in the public procurement directive article 42. That is all.

 (echo).

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you for that. They will be getting a bullet as well. We have two liaison. We will copy that group as well. We have got that down. Thank you, Mia. And maybe you can give me a hand with that, you have identified it for me. I may come back to you.

Michael, thank you very much. I appreciate your time. We are going to move straight along. We actually have approximately 17 minutes left. I have two people left that, three people left to present. I have Shelly from the World Health Organization, who has given us a document. I have a brief overview, please?

>> SHELLY CHADHA: Thanks, Andrea. The WH [inaudible] blindness and deafness [inaudible] rehabilitation made a small contribution to the ... okay, this is our activities report for prevention of deafness and hearing loss. As part of this team, I work on in the area of hearing, and this report just summarizes briefly the activities which we have had over the last one year, 2015. I'm thankful to Andrea for putting it up. I invite all of you to go through it.

The W.H.O. programme for prevention of deafness and hearing loss, it works with the vision of the world in which no person should experience hearing loss due to avoidable causes, and where hearing loss occurs, all people should be able to achieve their full potential through access to intervention, education, and through empowerment.

That is a vision with which we work. Basically, we work on four key objectives, which are to undertake advocacy, to raise the profile of hearing loss, to raise awareness about hearing loss, and have our member states dedicate resources to this particular area of work.

Secondly is to provide countries with technical tools, in order to undertake work in the field of hearing. The fourth objective, the third objective is to provide technical support to countries where they are developing strategies for ear and hearing care and fourthly is to promote partnerships to develop partnerships across the world.

One of the initiatives we have in this regard is the world hearing day. The world hearing day is observed on the 3rd of March, and this year the team of the world hearing day ‑‑ the theme is childhood hearing loss, is on childhood hearing loss, the theme is childhood hearing loss, act now. Here is how.

For last year, we worked on the team of making listening safe, and working on this, we developed a collaboration with ITU which was referred to by Roxana as well as by Masahito, and under this initiative, we are working with the idea of creating awareness about the dangers posed by exposure to loud sounds in recreation settings, and we are trying to undertake a number of initiatives under this which I won't go into in detail, in view of the shortage of time. But it's there in the report.

I invite you to see this. I invite you also to send your feedback to the, to me, at any point, about our work as a whole, as well as the initiative.

I'd also like to briefly say that on behalf of my team we have made a contribution with respect to this particular meeting. And we want to highlight two issues in the context of accessibility, some of which has already been discussed here.

One was the need to focus on research, especially in the area of cognitive disability, and the second is also to focus, not just on accessibility of the materials, but also on accessibility of the environment, through which we are accessing information.

So the contribution is there now on, it has been uploaded. I have sent out as well, if you like, I can hand it over to you, Andrea. Yeah. That's what I had to say.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you. I have a funny feeling we have captioning beyond 5:30. I'm going to ask the captioner, are we going to 1800 or are we going to just to 5:30. If we go to 5:30, can we have about ten minutes extra, please?

 (yes, you were scheduled until 5:30 but I can stay, no worries.)

 (you're welcome!)

We have a little extra time.

Thank you very much.

I don't want to add any more to what you say, but we are going to be working with Shelly Chadha quite closely because it's extremely important, especially with the hearing aid problem, and interference with hearing aids, that we have people that deafness looks like it's rising, and people who are hard‑of‑hearing is rising, so this is a very important work that she has undertaken, and I'm grateful for her for coming and sharing with us. Thank you very much.

>> SHELLY CHADHA: I appreciate the opportunity.

>> Andrea: You can have it any time. I'm going to do a Dusan Caf first before I do Roland.

I didn't schedule you for a presentation so I'm going to put you at the end. If that is okay. Is Dusan Caf there?

>> Hello, Andrea.

 (echo).

>> Andrea: Hi, you are there. Sorry I mispronounced your name.

>> DUSAN CAF: That is okay, it wasn't the first time (chuckles).

>> Andrea Saks: Would you, we did a workshop, Mr. Masahito Kawamori and myself and several others did a workshop with you and your other colleagues in Slovenia which you organized, which we cohelped you with. What I would like is for you to give a synopsis of what happened, and what you think came out of that meeting. Go ahead.

>> DUSAN CAF: Yeah.

 (echo).

Thank you.

 (echo).

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to you, Andrea, for long hours that you spend discussing the programme and the accessibility issues in Slovenia with me.

One of the objectives of the meeting were following the analysis and opinion of the electronic communications Council of the republic of Slovenia adopted in July 2015. We realize that we have very good regulatory framework, but the implementation is weak.

We decided to organise a workshop, and invited Andrea and the ITU to participate. The aims were to promote, to present findings of our opinion and analysis, and to discuss accessibility solutions, standards and practice, with media executives, regulators, policymakers, suppliers and organisations of persons with disabilities, and organisations dealing with older persons or with or without disabilities.

We are going to prepare a report based on the workshop discussions, and based on our original opinion. And we would like to help from ‑‑ well, the ITU to help us with drafting the report, because we think that it is important not only to address the issues that we emphasized in our opinion and analysis, but also the issues of technology to be used, actually in Slovenia, we have IPTV almost half of, 30 percent of households have IPTV and 30 percent of the households have cable TV. But now the question, the main question is whether to go with IPTV or HPVTV. There are two different views on that.

We would like to help the ITU provides us some guidelines on that. The workshop was fully accessible. There were more than 100 participants. We provided captioning, live captioning, two streams in Slovenia in English with live captioning and also sign language interpretation, that was actually the requirement that Andrea imposed (chuckles).

>> Andrea: With a wet noodle, didn't I?

>> DUSAN CAF: Yeah, (chuckles) after the meeting actually we discussed what we can do next. So apart from the report we are now preparing, we would also like to prepare original event this year on the digital accessibility, and also we would like the ITU to get engaged in the project.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you. I have Dr. Masahito Kawamori here and I'd like him to make a comment. Thank you.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Thank you Dusan for the very nice summary of the workshop. On behalf of ITU‑T and ITU, IPTV related accessibility as well as media accessibility, I would like to ‑‑ Thomas, we will be happy to work together with you to make this report, so that we can make a good recommendation to Slovenia.

>> DUSAN CAF: Okay. That will be great.

>> Andrea: One thing that might be interesting for us to look at, I can request from Caption First with your permission the transcript of the captioning, and I think that would be beneficial if we had that, unless you already have a copy.

>> DUSAN CAF: I already have a copy of that. So I can share it with you.

>> Andrea Saks: Fantastic, that would be great. That would be beneficial because we can look at that, and that can augment what we do, because what I would like to do is also put that report into the JCA, so that eventually anybody could look at that as well. If that is okay with you, Masahito Kawamori, thank you, that is a nod yes.

Thank you so much. I want to say, we had a great time in Slovenia and it was a great meeting. The deaf community was there in force as well as other persons with disabilities. I met a whole bunch of codas, who were absolutely fantastic. Some of them were the interpreters, it was a really great meeting. We had a wonderful time in Slovenia, you, especially, you were a wonderful host to us and thank you so much for allowing us to come.

Now, I'm going to move on to the next person. What we need to do is ask Roland Hermannn, to present his presentation, and he is from the Swiss, he is the President of the Swiss Federation for the deaf. So let's get that up. And does he have a clicker? You have your clicker.

>> Roland: Great, hello. I'm very very pleased to be up here representing the Swiss Federation of the Deaf. This is my first time at ITU, so I thought I'd open up with just a general overview of what we do, and who we are.

We were founded in 1946. And we work for the achievement of equal rights for the deaf in Switzerland. We are the umbrella organisation for a local Swiss deaf societies, of which there are about 55. They are local deaf clubs or deaf societies in the different Cantons. We have three different offices in Switzerland, and the three different offices represent the three different sign languages we have. We have German, French and Italian.

And the Swiss Federation of the Deaf, one of our aims is just to connect to the deaf community in Switzerland, because traditionally they had been very disconnected, because of the language barrier. So we are financed through private donations, government subsidies and foundations.

We also collaborate with other international and national organisations of the Deaf, for example, inclusion handicap, which is the Swiss umbrella disability organisation.

Next. So, here you can see the map of Switzerland. And the main places we work. These are the main regions of Switzerland, you have the eastern part, the Italian‑speaking area in the south, central Switzerland, northwestern Switzerland, the Bern region, it's kind of Bern and obervalis and the western region which is more the French speaking area where we are now.

We have three offices, and these points don't represent our offices but these represent the different regions that we represent.

The real point of showing you this map is to show you how we lobby on a political level. It's very, very inefficient in Switzerland to lobby on a national level. It's much, you are going to get much farther lobbying within the Cantons, so all of our networking and all of our kind of on the groundwork happens within the Cantons, and the main centers are the kind of bull's‑eyes up here.

Next slide.

Here is our organisational structure. Our board of which I am the President, and I have four lovely ladies working underneath me, two are German from the German‑speaking region, and two are from the French‑speaking region. Normally we have 7 Board members, but we have unfortunately three vacancies at this point.

Normally, we also have a representative from the Italian sign language region. You would ask yourself how do we then communicate if we are all communicating in different written languages and sign languages? We do not use international sign. We have interpreters that come from each region to interpret between us, so that's Swiss German sign language, Swiss French sign language and Swiss Italian sign language.

Our aims for the future are to have the recognition of sign language in deaf culture on a legislative level, equality in education, equality in work and employment and equality in access to public life.

And what that means is access to information, like what we were just talking about, television, subtitling, interpreting, interpreters, the interpreter bubble that you sometimes see on your television.

Like I said, we promote and emphasize the quality of information technology, like you have seen throughout today's meeting, Beat and I are looking at the interpreters, we are looking at the captioning. What we want is for governments to recognize that this is best practice, and it is not only the government's responsibility but it is the people, it is institutions that receive money from the governments' responsibility as well to cough up the services.

We also cooperate and work with the United Nations with the UNCRPD committee. We submit parallel, we have submitted a parallel report. We started the process two years ago with the ratification of the CRPD. And in the past two years, we have been working on the shadow report and in May, we have to go in front of the committee, and who will read our report.

In the next four years, there is a lot more of that type of work to be done. We also cooperate with different schools for the deaf, public schools, that have bilingual education and sign language and written language. We advise them on how to implement teaching in practice throughout schools that have deaf children in them. We also campaign quite heavily about sign language awareness in Switzerland. We have three sign languages in Switzerland. Right? That is in addition to the three spoken languages.

So people in Switzerland are very proud of the fact that they are tri lingual most of the time. But we try to tell them that you should be even more proud that your country has six languages in such a small area.

So we developed a dictionary which means that anyone can use this as a resource, and it's on‑line. If you want to look at, oh, what is the sign for this specific word.

We also have job coaching seminars. So we train individuals how to properly communicate and interact. A lot of people don't have an idea about deaf culture, about the deaf way of communicating. So we want, as a federation, to be able to give everyone in Switzerland the same message, whereas traditionally, it was divided by linguistic region. I could say a lot more, but I will move on to the next slide.

I've already done most of this. Our network is the central European alliance of the deaf. European Union of the Deaf, European society for mental health and deafness, World Federation of the Deaf, on the international scale, also here, ITU, Inclusion Handicap, pro com. So we use this network as a foundation.

It's just like the way that we, that you work here at ITU. The network is probably the most important part in getting things done.

That's me. Thank you very much. If you have any questions, I'm very very happy to take them. Thank you for your attention.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you, Roland. Thank you very much. I hope we can have access to the link and post it on the JCA page, so people can see it, since we are in Geneva.

So I'll have Xiaoya get in contact with you to get the link, and then your ‑‑ is it a dictionary? Or a guide? What do you call it?

>> Roland: My colleagues who have come with me, we have a public affairs, who can show you where the link is. Yes. And she will send it to you, Andrea.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you. Okay. I'm going to ask, one second, I'm going to ask Mary Kay, can we have ten more minutes.

 (you can have as many as you need, Andrea! That's okay.)

:‑)

We can relax a little bit and we will get through all this stuff. I'm going to eliminate the Brazil IGF DCAD thing for the moment because there will be a meeting which we will let you know about and there will be a report on the DCAD page.

But briefly, Dynamic Coalitions are getting recognized and the Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability made a lot of inroads, and we did do the guidelines for accessible meetings there.

The rest of it will be on the DCAD Web Page, which is on the same page where you find the JCA, because I don't think we have time for that.

Now, there is one tricky thing, about the future events. Ah. The 9th meeting of sendlack meeting, the ninth meeting of the meeting of the accessibility under the mandate of 376 at Cenelac meeting in Brussels on the 10th of December, where EN301549 was not fast tracked to ISO, because it became clear that there were some issues regarding realtime text.

So there will be further meetings regarding that. They also agreed that we could include persons with disabilities. So I'm going to make arrangements with, what is Fernando's last name? Thank you. Machiavo. I'll give spelling later to Mary Kay how to do that. Mike was presents at the meeting.

One thing that Axel Leblois wanted me to say is that, and it's also part of what the FCC has asked me to say, is that they support international global interoperable realtime text for communications for persons with disabilities and not have them fractured by country to country.

So that's what I'm saying, from G3ict. Work has to be done I think on those, the passages that included that. And I believe that that will be coming in the future. Have you heard of the next date, Mike, of when ‑‑ no, it isn't happening yet. But there is a report of that meeting on the JCA page.

You can take a look at that, and you can see, we didn't even get to all of the agenda. We got stuck on realtime text and stayed there, because realtime text, there is the possibility in the future that maybe everybody can call any phone call using realtime text, and that means that there are possibilities of voice recognition too in the future.

But that is in the future. So I wanted to say something about that.

Now, you had your hand up, Olaf and I'm sorry I forgot to come back to you.

>> Olaf: That was a question for the last presenter. As a curiosity question is one, the other is factual. What, in what language were you signing? And was, if it was with German sign language, then did your interpreter do the translation?

>> Roland: I'm using American Sign Language because it's one of my languages, because the working language is English for this meeting, I chose to request an American Sign Language interpreter. But normally, in my everyday life, I use Swiss German sign language.

I do know Italian sign language a little bit, and I know Swiss French sign language as well.

>> Impressive. My hat is off. The next question is, does romunch have a sign language as well because it's in fact a fourth language of Switzerland?

>> Roland: There is no romunch sign language. There are many deaf Romunch Swiss people go to the Swiss German schools or they go to the Italian speaking schools. They don't have a romanch school for the deaf, because the population is so small, it doesn't warrant having its own school for the deaf, and so therefore, the deaf children either go to the German speaking or German signing or Italian speaking or signing.

>> Olaf: Thank you.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you very much. Beat Kleeb also speaks American Sign Language because he went to school at Gallaudet in the United States. So I killed two birds with one stone with American Sign Language, didn't I? But Beat does German and French. We have, the deaf community is multilingual.

So anyway, now, the next subject is the ETSI workshops from research to standardization, a call for abstracts and the deadline for these abstracts is the 10th through the 11th of May, 2016.

I'm first going to hand that over to Mike and then I think Beat has something to say. We are nearly done, folks, thanks to Mary Kay's willingness to work.

 (love you too!)

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: Happens to be ... ETSI.

 (audio breaking up).

 (no audio).

>> Andrea: Thank you, Mike, I made the assumption you know everything going on at ETSI but that is fine. Beat, you wanted to say something about that.

 (sorry, Michael was completely inaudible).

>> This is Beat Kleeb. I recently got information about this meeting. I'm just curious to know if ETSI is going to provide access in the same way that ITU is providing access today.

Deaf people are a group in society which are the most influenced by telecommunication issues. I believe that surely, because of this, you should be obliged to include delegates who are deaf and hard‑of‑hearing to know what is happening on the ground.

So, if ETSI can please follow the example that ITU has set and offer accessibility, that would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

>> Andrea: Beat, I have an idea. Would you like the JCA to send a liaison to ETSI regarding this meeting? You sent us the details, didn't you, in an E‑mail to me. Let's, Mike, you want to say something. Just a second. One second.

Mike wants to say something about that. But I don't think it would do any harm. But the group would have to review it. So go ahead, Mike.

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: I've seen no point in singling out that specific workshop, that is why I say I don't what the relevance of that particular ... ETSI has a lot of standard meetings, it does hold workshops and regrettably I don't think that facilities are, they are certainly not [inaudible] anything like as great as they are here.

 (audio breaking up).

On the other hand, obviously no ‑‑ there is just no specific facility like that. On the other hand, of course, everybody is invited. But, yeah, I mean there is no harm in doing it but I wouldn't target it that workshop, because that seems not relevant. In general, workshops, one can make a point, I have no problem with that but don't pick that one.

>> Andrea: Go ahead, Beat.

>> Beat Kleeb: Okay, so I get a lot of information about ETSI meetings, and I always thought, okay, what happens when a disabled person shows up? I just happened to pick this meeting to break the ice, and to ask the question. But it doesn't really mean that I'm going to ‑‑

>> MICHAEL PLUKE: Certainly, we have had, for example, we held a workshop there, we had a deaf/blind user, the deaf users came with their own interpreters. The blind users, I'm trying to remember how that was dealt with. Obviously, in fact, the presentations are available and we made sure that they were actually accessible presentations.

 (audio breaks up).

The meeting organisation itself doesn't make available but people can turn up.

 (audio breaks up).

Things can be done. One of the things that is being, going to be looked at, is what improvements can be made. I see no harm in putting a liaison towards ETSI saying you should have your meetings to this high standard. But I wouldn't single out that one workshop. They would be confused as to why that's ...

>> Andrea: Because they are lucky. Because they would learn more.

I think I take your point now. I think what we have to do is give this some thought, and maybe work by correspondence, decide what to send to ETSI along with, don't use design for all. I think I'll combine the two. Believe me, Mike, I will send you an advance copy so you can help me do it, where we don't offend them too much. We can't help but offend them but let's do that. Because I think this group needs to communicate. So Beat can help me on that, yep? Okay. I think we have five liaisons going. Right. Okay. We are getting close to the end. Mary Kay gave us permission to just go, so we are, because we were so far behind.

 (maybe I shouldn't have said that! Lol).

I want to go through just briefly and you can get a copy of the meetings that are future events.

We have heard about the second physical open consultation meeting of the Council working group, which is about accessibility and access, which the deadline for contributions, okay, deadline for contributions is going to be on the 15th of February.

Did we have a comment on the previous?

>> From Christopher Jones.

>> Andrea: Christopher, go ahead. I'm sorry. (pause).

>> I've unmuted Miss Karen.

>> Andrea Saks: Karen, are you there? Christopher, have you lost your interpreter? She is typing. Read it as he does it. Don't wait for the end. We can't hear you as well. We want you to yell into the mic. Just read it as he is doing it. Don't wait for the end. (pause).

>> I think she is trying to talk but it's not working.

>> Andrea Saks: Christopher?

>> Can you hear me now?

>> Yes.

>> Andrea: Yes, go ahead. (pause).

Now we can't hear you. Christopher, I'm sorry, I'm going to go on until we rectify the sound problem. I will come back to that in a minute. I'll come back to you and Karen in a minute.

I wanted to read out quickly that the 7th meeting of the Council working group is in Geneva on the 17th and 18th of February, 2006 ‑‑ apparently we are going to have some captioning so we know that that will be done and other accessibility features are going to be considered.

We have the IPTV GSI meeting in Tokyo, Japan, 2nd to the 9th of March, which is about question 26, and that will be dealing with relay.

The ETSI workshop from research to standard ‑‑ (pause).

I'm just giving the dates. The 2nd, 9, March, 2016 is IPTV in Tokyo Japan. ETSI workshop from research to standardization called for abstract deadlines. I believe we have established that we are not going to comment on that one right now. Is that correct? Mike? Except, okay, so I think it's an interesting title, because they also shouldn't be ‑‑ they will take accessibility into consideration. Go ahead. Sorry. We have a question.

There is three questions. Have we got the remote one back yet?

>> Try again.

>> Andrea: Let's try again for remote. Then it's between you and Dr. Masahito Kawamori. Go ahead. Karen, can you speak?

>> Thank you, sorry, I wasn't sure if you were passing it to us or not. Yes.

>> CHRISTOPHER JONES: This is Christopher here. And I just feel that there seems to be a kind of paradox, that ETSI requires input from people with disabilities, but at the same time, it is being made quite difficult for us to attend meetings, because of the lack of communication support. I think that it's important that that paradox is resolved.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you, Christopher. We will use that comment in the liaison that we are going to prepare for the future.

Okay? Thank you. We are on the same page. Yes. Go ahead. State your name.

>> Yes.

 (audio breaking up).

 (sorry, no audio).

>> Andrea: Can you get close and speak a little slowly?

>> Is it okay now? This is Saradaki from the ITU Secretariat of the Council working group Internet issues. I wanted to clarify because you mentioned earlier the dates of the meeting. I want to clarify that there are two dates, so there is this open consultation meeting on the 15th of February, where the on‑line responses on accessibility are going to be discussed. And where the services like captioning and also the service of interpretation will be provided.

And then the meeting, the Council working group meeting of the 17th, the 18th is actually a separate meeting. This is open only to member states. So yeah, service will not be provided. Thank you.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you for that clarification, somehow I think I knew that but I get to plead the flexibility, we have the 15th down correctly. I looked at the 7th meeting of the Council working group Internet and I didn't realize that was in there, that really shouldn't be because it's not necessarily dealing with accessibility for us.

I will be there.

The next one we have is the M‑Enabling workshop, and that is done annually from G3ict in Arlington, Virginia, which is next door to Washington, D.C. and that is going to be held on the 13th and the 14th of June.

There will be more information on that sent to the JCA membership. One of the things that we did want to say, I had a message from Axel Leblois, I already said that one about support of RTT, forget that. That is okay.

I think we have two liaisons. We have handled one. The only one incoming one we haven't handled is the one from question 20. Oh, I beg your pardon. Sorry. I'm concerned on the time. Please go ahead.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: I was just going to say that March 4 is scheduled for JCA‑AHF meeting, and also I'd like to, there might be a workshop on accessibility that day in Tokyo.

>> Andrea Saks: Thank you, I'm quite happy with that idea. Thank you very much Masahito. Okay, great.

So where is ‑‑ we are just going to handle that. I think this is a reply and it's for information only, because Study Group 20 is a brand‑new Study Group, that deals with ‑‑ can you move it up, please, so I can see? Which deals with smart cities and the Internet of Things.

Of course smart cities should be accessible. We have asked to work with them in a previous, liaison that we sent and they have replied to us. It is not anything that we have to respond to. It is just giving information to us about what they have done and what is going on.

So we will just note that, we don't have to reply to that. That is absolutely it.

I think we have come to the end of the road.

We have managed to cover everybody I think. If I've forgot N someone, I'm terribly sorry. I can't think of any, I've looked through this a couple of times and I think we are okay.

I want to thank everybody for coming. I think it's wonderful that we had such a good turnout. I want to thank Mary Kay, the captioner, who is absolutely wonderful, for staying another half hour beyond the time we scheduled.

I want to thank Mark Antoine, I want to thank Patricia. I don't know your name so say it. Put it in the mic. Speak.

>> Drini.

>> Andrea: Who is part of the AV department, and also who did all of that plus our interpreters, all of our, I'm never going to say your name. Speak into the mic. Tell us your name properly. I will mess it up.

>> Ayat.

>> And arian leverett.

>> Andrea: Who did a wonderful job of interpreting what is rapidly going on. Any comment, Gerry Ellis, our Vice‑Chair, go ahead.

>> Gerry Ellis: Thanks to yourself, Andrea for very well chairing a very hard meeting. One comment, people were talking about accessing people with disabilities and finding people with disabilities. Within Europe I would comment, talk to the European Disability Forum, they represent 8 million people.

 (audio breaking up).

Contacting the international disability alliance. There you will find loads of people ....

 (no audio).

>> Andrea: Thank you, Gerry. You are absolutely right. We will ask you to help us be able to contact them directly at later date when we need to have them comment on the EN301549.

I also want to thank my Secretariat, Xiaoya, Yang I couldn't have pulled it off without her. And Karu, last name again? Mittsuno, sorry if I said it wrong who put that report together for us and did a fabulous job and did all the printing of the documents and is a wonderful, wonderful help.

Thank you very much. And without any comments, thank you, Florence for coming, our other Vice‑Chair, you didn't say a peep. Thank you everyone. It has been a very successful meeting. With that I'm going to close. Again, Mary Kay you are a angel. Thank you very much, the meeting is closed!

 (applause).

 (it was my pleasure! Take care, everyone! Until we meet again).

 (end of meeting at 11 :02:00 a.m. CST)

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