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| INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION | **Joint Coordination Activity  On Accessibility and Human Factors** |
| **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**STUDY PERIOD 2013-2016 | **Doc 210** |
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| Source: | Chairman JCA-AHF |
| Title: | Draft meeting report of Joint Coordination Activity on Accessibility and Human Factors (JCA-AHF), Geneva, 17 June 2015 |

1. Opening of the meeting

The JCA-AHF meeting was held in the afternoon of 17 June 2015 during ITU-T IPTV-GSI (15-19 June 2015) and chaired by the JCA-AHF Chairman Andrea Saks (USA).

Vice-chairman Christopher Jones (UK)Christopher Jones who is deaf was attending with two British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters. Christopher signed to the interpreters who then spoke for him by translating his signs into voiced speech. Beat Kleeb is deaf too and the representative of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) also attended and had the interpreters voiced over his speech so that his comments could be understood. His normal sign language is not BSL but his contribution to keeping JCA-AHF budget low was to use BSL if the interpreters are experienced. This is a special technique and not all sing language interpreters are trained in this form of interpretation. Both men and others with hearing difficulties and those without or those who may not have English as first language used the captioning to follow the meetings as did the remote participants. Vice-chairman Gerry Ellis (Ireland) attended remotely.

There were 11 participants attended this meeting onsite. A total of 12 participants to this meeting.

2 Agenda and allocation of documents

The Chairman introduced the draft agenda and document allocation as contained in Document 207.

The complete list of documents is available on the JCA-AHF website (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/jca/ahf/Pages/201506-docs.aspx>) and the list of participants can be found in Document 209.

3 Approval of the last JCA-AHF meeting report

The “JCA-AHF 18 Feb 2015 meeting report” (Document 199) was approved.

4 Review of ITU accessibility activities

**4.1 JCA-AHF parent group change**

Upon proposal from ITU-T SG2, TSAG (2-5 June 2015) changed the parent group of JCA-AHF from SG2 to TSAG. JCA-AHF Terms of Reference was updated accordingly to reflect this change. JCA-AHF secretary has updated the homepage of JCA-AHF accordingly.

**4.2** [**M Enabling Summit**](http://www.m-enabling.com/) **(1-2 June 2015)**

Ms Roxanna Widmer-Iliescu of ITU-BDT reported the ITU participation in M-Enabling Summit 2015. She mentioned its successful projects developed in North America and inspiring exhibition during the summit. She reported that ITU-BDT is inviting G3ICT to showcase concrete accessibility solution during ITU-D SG meetings in September.

Mr. Gerry Ellis, who joined the meeting at the end from remote, added on this subject that The M-enabling summit is a gathering once a year and this is the fourth year of academia, of government, of business, people with disabilities and organizations of people with disabilities met in one place to look at the future of access to mobile devices. This year it went strongly looking at the area of the Internet of Things.

Gerry also mentioned a $20-million ‘Call for Projects’ by Google to find new accessible opportunities for people with disabilities, and an new interesting device ‘firefly’ produced by Amazon. He emphasized the importance to make sure that needs of PwD are taken into account with new technologies, new products, new services, in standards, acadmia and training. Andrea appreciated Gerry’s contribution.

**4.3 BDT work on accessibility**

Ms Roxanna Widmer-Iliescu of ITU-BDT also gave a detailed report on an expert group meeting on ‘[Accessible TV in Converged ICT Ecosystem: Emerging trends, challenges, opportunities](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Europe/Pages/Events/2015/AccessibleTVinConvergedICTEcosystem/Accessible_tv_Rome.aspx)’ in Rome, 11 June2015, organized jointly with Roma Tre University to develop a list of recommendation for implementation of the TV accessible solution related to legislation -- regulatory measures for governments to be implemented in the Congress of the regular initiative for Europe on accessibility. A contribution will be submitted by this expert group to the next Study Group Meeting on Question 7 in September in Geneva so that all ITU members will benefit of this recommendation. This expert group is also peer-reviewing online training courses that these experts from university in Barcelona is developing for ITU.

She reported also that there was the fifth international symposium on subtitling and respeaking on 12 June 2015 in Rome where 15 universities throughout the world discussed TV accessible services. Roxanna invited them to join ITU to work on accessibility in both ITU-D and ITU-T sector.

In the discussion following Roxanna’s oral report, it was clarified that a written report of BDT work on accessibility will be prepared for Q7 meeting in Sepetember, and this report will be included in the agenda of the next JCA-AHF meeting in Octboer. Andrea also highlighted the ongoing vocabulary work item of Q.26/16 when clarifying the different terms used such as captioning, subtitling and respeaking.

Andrea introduced Ms. Shelly Chadha from World Health Organization (WHO) who has presented in Q.26/16 to this JCA-AHF meeting. Ms. Chadha briefly introduced WHO’s ‘Make Listening Safe’ initiative which addresses the issue of young individuals at risk of having hearing loss due to the habits of listening to music at high volumes and for long duration of time. WHO realized that it is this habit which is posing a risk to the hearing, putting them at potential risk of permanent hearing loss, something which can be completely avoided through good listening practices and awareness. One of the activities of this initiative is to get on board the manufacturers to have a common vision for promotion of safe listening habits amongst users through the devices. Andrea suggested that WHO work should also be presented in the upcoming ITU-D SG meetings, and
Mr. Beat Kleeb who is representing the WFD should also bring this WHO work into WFD.

**4.4 JCA-AHF workshop** [**'Innovation in Accessibility Technology and Policy'**](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Agenda/Session/277) **during** [**WSIS Forum 2015**](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Agenda)

Andrea informed the meeting that an JCA-AHF workshop on ['Innovation in Accessibility Technology and Policy'](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Agenda/Session/277) was organized on 29 May 2015 during [WSIS Forum 2015](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Agenda) and invited participants to look at the good collection of presentations of this workshop which are available at the workshop website and refered to meeting to its findings which is included in the WSIS Forum 2015 preceeding.

**4.5 Anticipating the dangers of unprotected spectrum to Persons with Disabilities (Doc 204)**

Andrea introduced Document 204 which is a G3ICT contribution to ITU-R Working Party 5A on the dangers of interference and blockages to hearing aids and other assistive listening devices in 2.3-2.4 GHz spectrum. JCA-AHF has sent several liaisons to ITU-R study groups on this subject. Andrea will followup with BR directors to find out how this information could be best handled by ITU-R as G3ICT is not an ITU-R member and the deadline for contribution was also missed.

**4.6 ITU’s 150th anniversary celebration – accessibility as the theme of July 2015**

Mr Diaz Batanero presented the themes designated for every month of 2015 and celebration activities organized by ITU membership allover the world for ITU’s 150th anniversary. Accessibility has been selected as the theme for July 2015 but he emphasized that it doesn't mean that one theme has to be covered only on that month, so he repeated the invitation to all ITU membership in this meeting to submit articles, blog stories, organize and announce activities, etc.

Andrea mentioned that she will attend an IEEE accessibility event in Singapore on 14-15 Oct 2015. The meeting discussed the possibility to organize a workshop during next ITU-T SG16 meeting on 12-23 Oct 2015.

It was mentioned that 3 Dec is the World Disability Day. And cooperation with the World Fedreation for the Deaf was discussed – Andrea will follow up for ITU to fund 250 memory sticks for ITU accessibility publications and to organize a side event on ICT and accessibility to the WFD Congress 28 July-1 August 2015 in Istanbul Turkey. Other events mentiond in this discussion include TDI in August in US.

5 Contributions

Beat Kleeb introduced the [MoU between WFD and IFHHP](http://wfdeaf.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/MoU-IFHOH.pdf). The world view is that there are deaf people which cannot use any acoustic information. And there are hard-of-hearing persons which very much depend on good acoustic information. So WFD is the worldwide federation one for the deaf, IFHHP is the one for the hard-of-hearing. With this MoU the two organizations got together to address issues such as definition and requirement of hearing disability. Andrea acknowledged that issue of terms such ‘disabled’, ‘impairement’ etc are being addressed in the vocabulary work in Q.26/16.

Christopher Jones made presentation on ‘Accessible PowerPoint Presentations (Doc 203 rev.1)’ and made concrete proposals for ITU to provide accessible presentation template.

 Christopher Jones made another presentation on ‘[Am I able to use a telephone?](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Uploads/S/277/S5-Christopher_Jones-accessbile.pptx)’ which introduced different telecommunication relay services and suggested that to be included in national ICT policy.

6 Incoming Liaison Statements

Ms. Xiaoya Yang, secretary of JCA-AHF, briefly summarized the two incoming liaison which were copying to JCA-AHF for information only.

7 Future events

JCA-AHF Chairman drew the attention and encouraged participation to the following future events:

* APCET 2015 (14 – 16 Oct 2015, Singapore)
* Next ITU-T SG16 meeting (12 - 23 Oct 2015)
* IGF 2015 (10-13 November 2015)
	+ [Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/accessibility/dcad/Pages/default.aspx) (DCAD) workshop ‘[Empowering the next billion by improving accessibility](http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/wks2015/index.php/proposal/view_public/253)’

8 Any other Business

The issue of sign language interperation for ITU-R WP 6B and/or IRG AVA meetings was raised. The meeting agreed to invite Prof. Pilar Orairo to bring this issue to the attention of ITU-R SG6 Chairman.

9 Next JCA-AHF meetings

The next JCA-AHF meeting will take place during the next SG16 meeting (12 - 23 Oct 2015) for a half day.

10 Closing of the meeting

The JCA-AHF Chairman, Andrea Saks, thanked all the participants, in the room and remotely, for having attended the meeting. The Chairman thanked the sign language interpreters, the real time captioners and the all of the staff from the ITU- IS department for the demonstration of the remote particaption and all of ITU staff and the TSB staff for its help, the JCA-AHF secretary Xiaoay Yang for the smooth running of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 17:45.

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