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>> Hello, Mary. I see that you connected to the go to meeting. Just a quick test. Okay, great.

 (sounds good!)

We can see the captioning text appearing. Perfect, thank you very much.

 (standing by).

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Am I okay? Is the captioner hearing me? I don't know.

 (you sound a bit far away, but I hear you).

I'm going to start. My name ... I can. That is what we need for you to tell me. These mics, is this better.

 (much better).

We are going to adjust it. Which one is better?

>> Test.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: That is much better. I can even hear myself.

 (much better).

That's good. Kaoru and I can share if we need to. Okay, welcome to the Joint Coordination Activity on Accessibility and Human Factors. My name is Andrea Saks, for those of you who can't see me. We do have quite a few remote participants who I will name, because we have a list, and Kaoru Mizuno is the Secretariat who will be assisting me. She is the timekeeper. We have more stuff, in this agenda, than we ever expected.

So we may have to cut you short. If you can be concise which is something no one can accuse me of, we will try and carry on.

So, on the agenda, which is in document 336, revision 2, you will see that there is a JCA Web Page, so if you want to go there, you can get to the documents, and also the go to meeting remote participation, if you want to follow at the same time.

I'm not going to go around the room and have everybody introduce themselves, because it's already happened, we have a list, we don't have a list, where are the remote participants? I'll name them. We have Olaf. Pronounce your name for me, Mittelstaedt, and can you, where is the mic so you can spell your name? The other people, do we have the same captioner that we had this morning or is this a new person.

 (it's Mary Kay, Andrea, I wasn't here this morning. But I was here yesterday afternoon and the afternoon before.)

Change of plan. Everybody go around and introduce ourselves again because we have a new captioner. I would like to start with Christopher Jones. And the day before, so you know, have been basically.

The new people are just, go ahead, say your name.

>> Olaf and then Mittelstaedt.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Then we have Patrick. Since you are here, you are going to be ‑‑ Patrick is at the back. No, pay attention.

>> Yes, I'm Patrick Luthi.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Okay. All right. I think everybody is accounted for.

Also, the captioning stream is in that document, which is the same as this morning.

So thank you for coming, and the agenda is the agenda up completely, I don't know if you have all had a look at it, but the first thing we have to do is approve the agenda.

I've changed it quite a bit, since people have come at the last minute to add bits and pieces. If you are not where you want to be, please let me know now. Okay, that now is short. I think the agenda is approved.

Now we also have the report of ‑‑ sorry, we have a problem?

>> It's Christopher Jones here. Briefly, I'd like to ensure that the focus group on vehicular multi‑media is placed on the agenda just as a matter of record.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Right, thank you, Christopher. We are going to put that in any other business. Do we have that? We do have it. I think I already ‑‑ where is it? We are putting it in any other business. By the way, anybody else want any other business?

We do have one other thing, I believe, we have focus group on ‑‑ oh, no. Don't worry. Okay. We will get it in. We do have a film that Christopher ‑‑ Christian Vogler is going to present. The machine is frozen. We can't .... (pause).

Now she's got it. Okay. What was the title of the film? On, yes, can you repeat that, Christopher, please? Vehicular ‑‑

>> CHRISTOPHER JONES: Vehicular multi‑media. The focus group on vehicular multimedia. FG‑VM.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Vehicular, it's not functioning. All right, hang on. Let's get this ‑‑ okay. It's ‑‑ I can't even say it. Vehicular multi‑media. I know you will add it. Okay. We don't have to worry too much.

Okay, we are all right.

The film that Christian Vogler is going to show us is 48 minutes. He mentioned earlier in question 26 that will be added, and that ‑‑

>> Seconds, not minutes. Seconds.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Seconds, sorry, I meant to say seconds (chuckles) actually we could watch the movie and all go home.

The name of the film is? He gave you the name of the film.

>> Deaf/blind VRS plus realtime text.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Okay, deaf/blind VRS plus realtime text. We have this in the agenda in 8.1.

Lidia, you are going, the report you are going to be after me and you are going to be doing ‑‑ can you ‑‑ your European federation of the hard‑of‑hearing, we already had earlier today Dusan Caf and he may appear later, but we don't have to repeat that.

The report of the JCA is document 331. And we usually in the beginning say, can we approve the report, you should have read it before. If you haven't read it before, speak now or forever hold your peace. Okay, we are going to consider it approved. Going once, going twice, going three times. Fine. It's approved.

Lidia, accessibility organisations in Slovenia. Can you give us a overview and Daria is sitting next to you who is a resident of Slovenia, I'm very happy if Daria would like to make a comment or two as well. Okay. Floor is yours. Say your name.

>> I'm a little lost. I did not prepare myself.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Speak from your heart as you have done with us all during your visit. Just tell us a little bit about the organisations that you are a part of, because I think a lot of people don't realize what is here.

>> In Slovenia we have deaf and hard‑of‑hearing organisation, it is umbrella organisation of 13 clubs, which are in a different part of Slovenia. There is about 5,000 members on it, about, I think that about 800 is that, but other people are hard‑of‑hearing. And we are nongovernment of course organisation, representative organisation, and we work, we participate in, when they organise the new laws and so on, we try to have our voice there too. So maybe Matthias, you would like to, would you like to say something? He is not here.

Okay. It's okay. So, as I said before, the only problem which I saw is that people in our organisation is hearing and deaf, and there are no hard‑of‑hearing people employed there. So we work like volunteers there, and sometimes is that a problem, because we have our own jobs. And we don't have so much time to be included in all situations which are actual, because of we are busy.

So, I hope that that will change in the future. And I think that we really try to change something, and I really work hard, I think, what's this ... when I try to explain people the problem of hard‑of‑hearing and the problem with written information for us, that is ...

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Daria, this used to exist a lot in the UK and in the United States. I don't have experiences in other countries to be able to say the same.

But there was an uprising in the U.S., and there's been a uprising in the UK, nothing about us without us is the very famous phrase. I didn't think that situation still existed, I guess we get too comfortable knowing that we do have a voice with the American With Disabilities Act, and probably not going to say the correct terminology, but there is a disability act in the UK.

We would like to invite you to participate any time you would like in the JCA, and those of us who have had experience in opening up the doors for participation for persons with disabilities in the actual destiny of their own lives, I think there are plenty of us that will give you help and advice on that, because there is nothing like somebody saying, do what I say, and they don't really understand the situation as you have explained.

Thank you for telling us this. It's important. Lidia, you are on that list as well. Do you want to talk a little bit about this? You have a minute or two.

>> LIDIA BEST: Thank you, Chair. I've got actually a presentation, which is the ICT update on the European situation legislation.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Okay. Did you give us the presentation?

>> LIDIA BEST: I've sent it, yes.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Where is it? She's got it. Hang on. It's going up. I didn't see it. Oh, that is in 7.2. Is that the one in 7.2? Hang on. What is the title of your presentation, so Kaoru can find it.

>> LIDIA BEST: European ICT report.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Guess what, can you re‑send it, please? And we will put it in.

>> LIDIA BEST: Okay, yes, no problem.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: We will do it after the break. Okay? Because I didn't recall seeing it, I was a bit surprised. So we don't have it actually. Do you have it on a stick? Lidia. Lidia, do you have it on a stick?

>> LIDIA BEST: No, I'm just sending it now.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Okay, thank you. Who are you sending it to? Me or Kaoru? Lidia? Who are you sending it to?

>> LIDIA BEST: To both.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: To both, thank you. We will take a little delay on that. Masahito, I'm going to call on you, because the summary and follow‑up of the JCA workshop on achieving inclusive society by design and implementing accessible ICTs, you presented in a workshop at WSIS. And the programme and the presentation are in the ‑‑ can we put those up? You made a presentation, and Masahito Kawamori we have had as a Rapporteur all morning. But I don't know if all of you know, he is from Keio University as well as being a Rapporteur.

Would you like to give an overview, please?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Thank you, Madame Chair.

This is Masahito Kawamori speaking.

I think can you make the slide 250 percent? 250 percent will be the right size. Thank you.

So, we had a workshop during the WSIS event, as part of the, I think organized by JCA‑AHF, and we discussed some issues and how to promote accessibility services to be adapted by countries. One of the things that we came up with and also agreed by the group there is to compile a sort of statistics on accessibility services, and from the point of view of ITU‑T is that the statistics will be made on a questionnaire based on requirements of from the standards of ITU‑T.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Can you move it up?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: This will probably be done in conjunction with ITU‑D, because ITU‑D has been producing reports and statistics, so I think it will be a good idea to collaborate with ITU‑D to create such a sort of a index. In this report it is written KPI, but it was suggested that this word has very specific connotation, and would be, not be appropriate, it would not be appropriate to use this term.

So I would rather say just indices, or status report on accessibility services. For example, what we can do is to compile a set of items for questionnaires, like questions like is video relay service available in your country? If yes, then how many hours a week, how many days, is it 24 hours available? If the emergency relay service is available, things like that, and how the, for example, the funding is done, and also the same thing about blind situation, if any precautionary measures has been taken for blind people going around like navigation, audio navigation system as have been implemented as a policy, things like that.

We can make this kind of list of questions based on our requirements, I mean recommendations. Then we can pass this to ITU‑D, specifically ITU‑D Study Group 1, question 7, on accessibility, because their main topic is to discuss accessibility especially in developing countries.

So, we cooperate and collaborate with ITU‑D Study Group 1 question 7 to produce this list of questions.

 (microphone feedback).

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Sorry.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Okay? It is okay.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: It wasn't me.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: This is my proposal.

And the report, I mean this is the result of the WSIS workshop.

And, by the way, at the meeting, there was a representative from ITU‑D, there were representatives from ITU‑D, and he suggested that we work with the statistics department of ITU, and the Chair, the leader, head of that department agreed to work with us.

So that is what I think will be a good topic for JCA‑AHF to work on. So question 26 can initiate the work with the experts in question 26, and then we can send documents or questionnaires to ITU‑D, if that's agreed. Thank you, Madame Chair.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Masahito Kawamori.

One of the things that was very interesting is that we haven't ‑‑ we are going to have a meeting in ITU‑D coming up in September on the 28th for question 7, and the Rapporteur will be on later in this meeting, and I think we might mention that in passing, if you could remember to say that. She is not on yet. But that we could say that again. So she is aware of that verbally at this point. Oh, Amela, are you on? Did you hear that?

>> Yes, hello, I'm on and I heard every single word you said.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Good. Okay. We have to work with you, in ITU‑D regarding statistics. So I hope you will take that in, and maybe we can make that an agenda point on ITU‑D. So some of you who are new might not know, the JCA works clear across the ITU, it works also in the JCA, I mean in ITU‑D and ITU‑R. ITU‑R is the radio sector, and ITU‑D is the development sector. Amela Odobasic who has just spoken is the Rapporteur for the accessibility question in ITU‑D. Thank you.

Ah, what a good idea. The real brains behind this joint is this one who just said, let's make a suggestion to send a liaison from the JCA to ITU‑D question 7, to share that information that we would like to work with the statistics department. Would that be okay? We will draft some wording up, and question 26 as well. If that is acceptable, go ahead, Mr. Masahito Kawamori.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Yes, Madame Chair, I agree and support that. And as well as I'd like to add in addition in the text or in the liaison statement, it will be nice if we can refer to SDG.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Okay.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Yes, so we are currently using UNCRPD as the basis of our activity.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Development goals.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Yes, that would be also good.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: We can add both because I still think people aren't too aware of the U.N ‑‑

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Both, that is what I mean.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: That would be good. Thank you.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Okay, let me just get that. I'm just trying to get the captioning link up here. Have you got the captioning link up? I can do it from there.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: That is what I'm doing it from. I want to make sure. By the way, if any of you would like to have the captioning on your own laptop, if you go to the JCA page, you will be able to link straight on and it will be on your own machine. Where is it exactly? Or do it from the agenda. That is probably just as good.

Okay. I haven't got the agenda up so I'm stuck.

Okay. Do we have the captioning on your laptop? You have a copy of it. Great. Okay. All right. I won't worry about that.

Thank you very much Masahito.

One of the things about just to mention about WSIS is that next year, for WSIS, which will be in March 22, 2018, the forum, they have asked for five or six workshops on accessibility. So it's open to make a suggestion. It will be in conjunction with other workshops, but the organiser would like to definitely have more representation and feature accessibility in next year's WSIS. If you take a note of that, and you would like to present something or do a workshop on accessibility for WSIS, just get in touch with us and we will help you and it will be good to organise. The JCA will probably do one, and hopefully in conjunction with question 26 and question 7 of ITU‑D, that would be important to do as well. I put that out there for your information. Others, okay, you have got it on agenda 9. Have I covered it all?

Right. You get to say that. Go ahead.

>> This is Kaoru Mizuno from ITU‑D. For next year WSIS Forum there will be accessibility special track, and where WSIS team would accept a showcase team from accessibility submissions. So if you wish to make demonstration on accessibility solutions, please let us know, and we will coordinate with WSIS Forum team.

Thank you very much.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: That's great. Thank you. You do that so much better than I do.

Are there any questions or any comments so far that someone would like to make with regard to that? Great. We will move on. We are now on section 6, a review of some of the recent ITU accessibility activities. Ah. Amela. Are you ready?

>> AMELA ODOBASIC: Hello. Yes, of course I am ready. (overlapping speakers) first of all, I would like to wish you all good afternoon from Bosnia Herzegovina from Sarajevo which is around the corner from where you are right now from Vienna but unfortunately, I could not be there in person.

So, allow me to introduce myself briefly. My name is Amela Odobasic. In my full‑time job I'm with the regulatory authority of Bosnia Herzegovina called communications regulatory agency.

We are a converged regulator for audiovisual media and telecommunication as well as managing of the radio frequency spectrum.

It is my real honor to be here today with you, because this is my first attendance at the, at your meeting and definitely not the last one. I would like to say huge thank you to Madame Chair as well as my colleague from the management team of question 7, Study Group 1, Miss Andrea Saks for inviting me just to deliver this brief presentation today.

There are three topics that I would like to touch upon. That is the presentation of question 7 work plan for the study period 2018 to 2021, collaboration, with other sectors and organisations, and I would like to, well, I thought to start with that I would introduce the challenges and opportunities in ensuring accessible ICTs in the rest of the Balkan countries, but after hearing what Dusan and other colleagues from Slovenia on what they reported at this morning's meeting of question 26, so I really, I will just follow up on that.

To start with, when it comes to the work plan of question 7 for the study period of 2018 and 2021, the emphasis is going to be on the implementation of ICT policies and practices on ICT accessibility.

As a result of the last study period, we have found out, we realized and it was reflected in the final report of question 7, that there is so many policies and practices available to the members, but what is presenting a key problem is the implementation.

So as a part of discussion at the WTDC 17, we all stressed the need to focus on the implementation. Having said that, the work plan question 7/1 work plan is going to focus on building continuation of building ICT accessibility related capacity to ITU members, particularly policymakers to support them in implementing ICT accessibility policies, regulatory frameworks, products and services, etcetera.

Furthermore, the objective is to encourage ITU members to develop a roadmap of requirements in ICT accessibility, that national policymakers should incorporate in their respective legal frameworks, including which is very important a range of measures to support the implementation of accessible ICTs products and services.

The next objective is sharing ITU key resources to support the members in implementing ICT accessibility. Furthermore, we are going to continue encouraging ITU members to develop ICT accessibility national and regional workshops and events to raise awareness and identify good practices and success stories which was also stressed this morning, in the field of ICT accessibility, that can be replicated at national, regional and global level.

Finally, we are going to focus on identifying suitable mechanisms to ensure that persons with disabilities are aware and can use accessible ICT products and services that are available to them.

So, what are the expected outputs? As a result, by the end of the study period, we expect the increased implementation of ICT accessibility policies and strategies, increased capacity in ICT accessibility, provided to the members and related stakeholders, increased awareness of ICT accessibility, and related implementation among governments and related stakeholders, as well as we expect that governments increase the level of inclusiveness by providing accessible ICTs, strengthening regional cooperation is also one of the expected outputs that we are going to invest a lot of energies and efforts.

And in short, that would be when it comes to question 7, that would be all that I would like to refer to question 7 work plan for study period 2018 to '21.

If you allow me, I will move on, because it is very closely linked to the implementation of question 7 work plan, I would like to move on to the next talking point, and that is collaboration with other sectors and organisations, where we say with other sectors and organisations, we primarily think of ITU sectors such as ITU‑T and ITU‑R and all the relevant organisations.

Madame Chairperson stressed on many occasions in the last study periods that collaboration with other ITU sectors is, all ITU sectors, is a must. And I'm very pleased to see that even in the last question 7 meeting reports, the members agreed to emphasize or to refer to the JCA‑AHF as a cross sector coordination group on accessibility for information regarding accessibility to work in the other ITU sectors.

So collaboration is very much needed, also to illustrate that we are very, how to say, serious, that we really put in efforts already in our now still draft agenda for our meeting that is going to take place on the 28th of September.

We do have a separate agenda item, that will include, that refers to collaboration, and that will refer, that will actually enable the members to be updated on the ITU‑T and ITU‑R activities, and of course we can always discuss about the further plans on how to improve this collaboration.

Then finally, when it comes to challenges and opportunities in ensuring accessible ICTs in the Western Balkan countries, let me allow to clarify, when we refer to Western Balkan countries we think of Bosnia Herzegovina, but also Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Albania. We are still not members of the European Union, in our region, we love to think that our next door neighbors Croatia and a little further Slovenia being a member of the European Union, they serve as role models on how to advance and in the implementation of ICT accessibility. When it comes to ICT accessibility in the countries of the Western Balkans, its, the problems from what I can hear, they do not much differ from what Slovenia is facing. When we look at the legal framework, it is the same case, in all of these countries, the legal framework as well as the regulatory framework is in place, but the implementation level is quite low.

When we look at the mobile accessibility, the situation is a little better, because most of, most of the mobile telephones that do have already incorporated accessible features. Web accessibility especially when it comes to public administration, its is mainly in place, but still there is a need to improve that area as well.

What is very worrying, the area that is worrying is the TV and video accessibility. It may come as a surprise to you, if I say that although we are small countries, but mind you we are a little bit bigger than Slovenia, but still we have Bosnia Herzegovina has population of 3.5 million, but in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as in other countries of the Western Balkans, the percentage of the programmes that TV or video programme that are available to the persons, accessible for persons with disabilities, does not exceed 2 percent. It's closer to between around 1 percent rather than 2 percent.

You would agree that that is a very worrying fact. And when I first started to be involved with question 7, I really did my best from the regulatory point of view to somehow, to start advocating, to engage in certain activities that are going to raise awareness of the policymakers, get in touch with the associations of persons with disabilities, make them aware of their rights and as well as to run advocacy campaigns for the situation to change.

Have we succeeded in that? Well, yes, in a way. We have achieved that the regulatory authority won to me a very significant thing and that is that the associations of persons with disabilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina look at it as a partner in the process of ensuring ICT accessibility. That is a good thing.

That on the other hand does not, we cannot stop there, as the regulatory authority, and since I had some technical problems this morning, that I could not really get connected, I really wanted to respond to some of the concerns that Slovenia shared. And I would like to say that for the associations of persons with disabilities in Slovenia and throughout other members, other countries in the region of the Western Balkan, that besides the policymakers, there are also regulatory authorities, and the regulators should be the driving force in changing the current situation which is not a glowing one, and really ensuring accessible ICT ecosystem.

So I will conclude by recommending the question 7 final report from the previous study period, where you can find a wide range of guidelines, recommendations, and most importantly good practices that could be replicated in other countries. I'm looking at my notes, and I probably have forgotten something. But I will be here with you and I would be very happy to answer, to be part of the further discussion, and answer any other questions. Thank you very much for your attention.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you very much, Amela. That was very comprehensive. The meeting is on the 28th of September. We have Dusan Caf, who is from, Director of the Digitas Institute of Slovenia who is extremely active with accessibility and gave a presentation earlier. Are we not getting me? Is that better? Thank you, in question 26, which was the meeting that just preceded.

Do you know Amela Odobasic?

>> Yes.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: You do, you guys know each other. That was kind of the reason I mentioned it. Is there any comment you would like to make to the group regarding some of the situations that Amela has described?

>> DUSAN: Thank you. This is Dusan Caf speaking, thank you for this nice presentation.

I agree entirely with you that the role of the regulators should be strengthened. In Slovenia, the regulator is not very involved in this area, it has powers only in the field of the universal services. But regarding other services, the legislation has to be changed.

So this is one of the reasons that we decided to launch this original project. I'm looking forward also to working with you and the regulator in Bosnia and Herzegovina on this project.

>> AMELA ODOBASIC: If I may, thank you, Dusan Caf for that. You are absolutely right. In some of the countries regulator authorities are more active, and some others are not. Mainly, the reason is lack of knowledge, lack of ‑‑ that is why what we are trying to do, I'm trying in my capacity of being the former mandate programme Rapporteur and now Rapporteur of ITU‑D question 7 and trying to mobilize regionally the regulatory authority to start with, because we can do it as the regulators, okay, and then to implement, you know, all sorts of regional initiatives.

I assure you that since we do have under the ITU‑D Europe region, Europe region, there is a regional initiative that we submitted and that has been approved, and submitted by four countries, Bosnia Herzegovina, Serbia, Macedonia and Croatia, and we are going to, and then a fourth and other countries joined in, but as a result in following in the course of implementation of the regional initiative, we will definitely organise the meetings between the regulatory authorities, especially on this particular topic, so the regulatory authorities of Slovenia will be included. We have a good cooperation with them. They are also in converged regulatory authority. We are regulators, so called one stop shops. So we really when it comes to this topic, this situation is so worrying, that we cannot and we should not have any excuses for not making any advances.

As you said, Dusan, in this morning in your presentation, this is a slow process, things do not happen overnight. But the most important thing that we collaborate, we work together, and we keep on pushing and keep on educating, and the results, I'm sure that the results will be visible very soon.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you both for that commentary. That is useful information. I would like to see you guys collaborate.

Dusan, is there any possibility you might be able to attend ITU‑D at some point, question 7?

>> DUSAN CAF: Yes. I think so.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Great. Amela, can we arrange a invitation for him to come?

>> AMELA ODOBASIC: Definitely, I will get in touch with Dusan, get the details and pass it on to the Secretariat.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, it is important we have more participation from this area directly in ITU‑D. That is great.

Does anybody in the room have any other comments? Yes, go ahead, Christopher.

>> CHRISTOPHER JONES: As a deaf person myself, I feel, we are talking 2 or 1 percent of captioning on television, that really upsets me, because in the UK, act from 2003 states that broadcasters must provide 100 percent of programmes captioned. And that hundred percent is full accessibility. So it needs to be taken as a really good example, and held up by your group. Our regulator is OFCOM and they regulate quite sternly to ensure that we do the major channels do achieve a hundred percent. The newer channels that are emerging begin with 10 percent in the first year. They then build that up over a period of time until they reach that maximum level.

>> AMELA ODOBASIC: May I make a comment to what Christopher said? Thank you. That is, yes, we know that. We are fully aware. We do have, we know what OFCOM, all about all these brilliant things that OFCOM does. And we are in contact with OFCOM. Also, I would like to take a moment to say that one of the recommendations that came to us by the associations of persons with disabilities is exactly introduction of mandatory quotas, okay.

That is not in place, not only in Bosnia Herzegovina but in most of the countries in developing countries in Europe. So that is a big problem. We as the regulatory authority are taking this really seriously. We may, because we are still a very long way from accessing the European Union so we still feel that we should take advantage of this and we can do things, we can simply, even to be first do this in the region, we are seriously considering introducing mandatory quotas for the public service broadcasters to start with, and then for other TV stations, because it is really, you are absolutely right, it is very worrying for the deaf persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina when it comes to having access to TV or video programmes.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Amela. We have a question or comment from Lidia Best from the United Kingdom.

>> LIDIA BEST: Thank you, Madame Chairman. Thank you, Amela, for a interesting presentation. I represent the European Federation of Hard‑of‑hearing People. I welcome you to look at our resources on our website. You can Google us and you will find us.

We have two reports on the subtitling in the European Union, one was from 2011, and another one was 2015. This could be a great source of reference. But also I'd like to say that from European federation, we will be actually very happy if we could maybe connect and have more information about the state of subtitling captioning in Balkans area, because we actually did not have that kind of information.

Also later on, you will hear my presentation on some updates, and one of them is relating to, relates to the audiovisual media services directive, where actually we shall have stronger requirements put in place including requirements on the broadcasters and the regulators of course to implement that, increase, gradual increase of accessibility on the audiovisual media services. That is something what we definitely are slowly working on. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Lidia. What I'm going to do now because we could spend a lot of time talking to Amela, so say there, Amela, there will be more to come, we are going to move to the next bit. We have all just attended question 26. So ITU‑T is question 26 and it's also question 4 in, sorry, question 1 in Study Group 20. I'm going to ask if Yong, can explain, Yong gave a presentation on the document that he and Daniel, Daniel Hark Sohn, and Yong Lee are from Korea, that they gave the presentation already to this group.

But I want Amela to know, you want to add to what your work is doing, just briefly, Yong or Daniel so Amela knows you exist. Are you there?

>> Yeah, thank you, Madame Chair. This is Yong Lee speaking. So, well, I want to mention that in the question 20, the Study Group 20, which is the Internet of Things and Smart Cities and Smart Communities, the question 2 have two ongoing work items which is related to the accessibility issues related to the IoT and Smart Cities, especially smart public transportation services. One is ongoing item, which is going to target for consent is December this year, 2018. The other one, the accessibility requirements for smart public transportation services is just initiated this May. And it will be the target for consent is, I believe it's 2020.

That is what is going on in question 20, Study Group 20, the question 2 of the Study Group 20. That is about it, I think. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: What I'm going to propose to Amela is that we get some information before the, what is it, second of August that is the final deadline for contributions to Study Group 1, question 7, ITU‑D, that we have some kind of information from both you and Daniel, that so the ITU‑D can know what you are doing, and I'll assist you with that, since I'm one of the editors of your document, would you be agreeable to that?

>> AMELA ODOBASIC: It's the 26th of July. (overlapping speakers) contribution.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you. That is with translation.

>> AMELA ODOBASIC: Yes, well.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: There is another one without translation. But we will take the one with translation. 26th of July, there is another one which does not have translation. We can figure that out later.

>> AMELA ODOBASIC: We can figure that out. Andrea, I'm really sorry, I just, that would be useful but allow me another 30 seconds, and I promise I'll be mute again. Just I would like to say to Lidia, to thank her for her initiative, for the interest, for the expressed interest to have more data when it comes to the captioning in the Balkan countries.

What would be a good idea, maybe, and Lidia and I can get in touch and discuss it in more details, to create a questionnaire, to send a questionnaire to me, and I can act as a focal point between the countries on the accessibility issue, and then we can distribute the questionnaire, gather the data and then we will have a real clear picture what is the situation. That will be also useful for us, you know, to generate the data later on, when we advocate for the creation or implementation of the legislation and regulatory framework.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Would that be agreeable, Lidia, for you to do that? (pause) Lidia? I've just asked you a question. Would that be agreeable for you to do that? Yes, that was a head shake yes.

>> AMELA ODOBASIC: Lovely.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: We will get that questionnaire organized, Lidia and I will work on that.

>> Gerry.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Don't worry, I was going to ask Gerry Ellis would like to speak, he is a remote participant. He does not have the ability to raise his hand. He is allowed to interrupt at any time he likes. Go ahead.

>> GERRY ELLIS: Briefly, you were talking about subtitles, and I'm wondering, could you also include in that survey other access services, such as audio description and sign language?

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Gerry, that is a real good point. We have a comment from Masahito. We need the microphone. Where is it? Lidia?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Thank you, Madame Chair.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: You will be punished (overlapping speakers) go ahead.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: I think this is a sort of repetition of what I proposed at the WSIS, because this is all access service questionnaire, isn't it?

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Yes. I think that is probably true. But we have different participants here who are not aware of what you have done.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: No, no, I just reported the result of the WSIS workshop, and I proposed to work with ITU‑D, Study Group 1, question 7, on questionnaires, about accessibility service index, which will be a collaboration also with the statistics department of ITU. I'm just wondering what will be the result of this, and how is it being ‑‑

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: How is it different? If it is.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Lidia.

>> LIDIA BEST: Thank you, Lidia Best speaking. Thank you, Masahito. I actually would like to learn more about the questionnaire you have proposed. The questionnaire we have done, as European federation at the time when we were doing reports, we were simply collecting data on the percentage of accessible subtitle caption programmes. We did not define live or just recorded. So it is not very specific questionnaire, just generally want to know percentage wise how much accessibility is for persons who are hard‑of‑hearing and deaf in Europe.

So it's not maybe in the same way. Maybe it is the same way. But also European Broadcasting Union has done some questionnaires, asking the broadcasters what percentage they are offering, and what we did, we did the user perspective, for example in Czech Republic we discovered how percentage was counted, was not what actually provided accessibility to hard‑of‑hearing people.

It was a very interesting way of looking at things. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: I think this is interesting that we have a little bit of a duplication here. We might be able to combine the efforts. Go ahead, Masahito.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Exactly. I agree with the Chair, because European Union or hard‑of‑hearing already has some results, then we could use that in our questionnaire, and also Christopher, for example, has some KPI, what we called KPI document, but actually it was just a statistics about the relay services in the United Kingdom as well as Australia. So and Gerry actually just suggested that we expand it to other accessible services.

I think it is a good idea to just collect within question 26, and then to standardize sort of, rather than having different reports from different places, but rather to combine them, so that we can see and compare which country has what, because otherwise, we wouldn't be able to compare. For example, Christopher's result, contribution to question 26 about the TRS, telephone relay service, it's a very good report, but the comparison measurement is different from each report. I mean, so one in the UK is different from Australia's and we are expecting to find something from the United States as well, but we don't have the common denominator. It will be very difficult read for the readers.

I think it will be easier to have just one sheet of paper or something to ask questions about those things, rather than having all the detailed information. That detailed information can be referenced later on. But what we would like to have is a simple indices that will indicate each country. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Let me put something out. This is what the JCA is for is to prevent duplication of work. We have now established that there is duplication of work and people are doing pieces of perhaps what should be combined.

Let me ask you a question, Masahito. Since you did propose that for question 26, would you like to be the responsible individual of coordinating, if I get everybody else to work with you on that?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Yes, exactly. I would like to invite everyone here and as well as outside to make contributions again to question 26, which we will take into account and to create this list, with the consultation to the experts in our group, and then propose it to SG 1, ITU‑D SG 1 question 7, to distribute to everyone. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: This is a good idea. I quite support this. Amela, the deal that we have got, the difference is in the meeting times, and your meeting on the 28th of September, we do not, we are not meeting ‑‑ do we have ‑‑ go ahead, Masahito.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: I think we can work with liaison statements.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: We can work with, Amela, would that be satisfactory to you? We can at least say that this is a process that is happening in conjunction with ITU‑T during the meeting of question 7 in September? Would that work for you?

>> AMELA ODOBASIC: Well, Madame Chair, I should say would have worked for us because we are together on the 28th of September, aren't we? Yes. That would be, liaison statements would be good. I think that what is also very important and to bear in mind that I'm speaking here on behalf of the question 7 and not on behalf of the ITU‑D, so I would also encourage the further consultations with the ITU‑D for the statistics, you know, in order to harmonize the questionnaires that will be sent out to the members. But that is why there is a starting point, the liaison statements will be, to have a liaison statement will be very good.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Let me ask Masahito a question. We have closed question 26. Hang on one second. Let me say what I want to say. I have an idea. Can we send the liaison from the JCA? That is what you were going to say. Yes. We think alike occasionally. Go ahead.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: I'd like to propose, we just reported on the WSIS workshop results, and also took note about mentioning SDG, things like that.

So we will send out the liaison statement from JCA‑AHF.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Yeah.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: JCA‑AHF is the sort of, the body that handles this document in a sense.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Okay.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Okay? This is the work of JCA‑AHF to coordinate between question 26 and SG 1 question 7, ITU‑D.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Right.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Also as I said, the head of the statistics department has agreed to work with us.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: We should send that liaison with a copy to them as well.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: It's not necessary.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Not necessary? All right. Is that agreeable?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: He will be informed.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Is that agreeable to you, Amela?

>> AMELA ODOBASIC: It looks as if we have a plan.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Okay. We will send, does the group agree we send a liaison from the JCA to coordinate this particular, shall we give it a name?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: You can send it to JCA, I mean sorry, from JCA to ITU‑D question 7, Study Group 1, which will be meeting in September, right?

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Right.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Also, I suggest Lidia, and other bodies, if you have information, you can let us know. That is a question 26.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: The other thing, we will also copy question 26 as well, what we say. The thing is the JCA has the ability to communicate with outside groups. It's in their mandate. We can also copy EH ‑‑ European Federation of the Hard‑of‑Hearing, the International Federation of the Hard‑of‑Hearing, and anybody else who we think we would like to have in on that, since that is what the affiliation is, if that works.

Christopher represents DAC, D‑A‑C. We will send him a copy of the resolution, I mean of the liaison, as well, since he has some of those statistics. If everybody is agreeable to that, that is what we will do. Okay.

That's fine. We will do some wording. We won't be able to have that ready at the end of this meeting due to time limitations, but it will be posted on the website. Right. Okay.

Moving on, thank you, everybody, for that. Speaking of Intersector coordination ... (pause).

I'm going to do one small section of it. Okay. We are going to briefly bring in IRGAVA, which Masahito is the Chair or Vice‑Chair, I can never remember who does what, between ITU‑R and ITU‑T, and that was created on broadcasting and some of the problems that ‑‑ go ahead and tell us what it is, please. Where is the microphone?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Thank you, Madame Chair, I'm one of the Co‑Chairs of the IRG‑AVA, Intersectorial Rapporteur group meeting, so this is a coordination group as well, but the difference is actually it's a combination of body of questions, so that means we can actually create documents.

So that's it, and we are meeting, we have a report from IRG‑AVA, obviously. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you very much. We did need to ‑‑ AVA stands for audiovisual accessibility, and they deal with some of the facts that, it's to also avoid duplication and it also coordinates similar standardization projects that could overlap, and possibly have problems. You want to go ahead?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Rather than coordinating, I think this group creates documents of common interest.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, that is an excellent way of putting it, documents of common interest. Thank you.

We are going to move on. We have mentioned the Zero Project in question 26. You did mention that there was an award given to Wayfinder for indoor navigation. We do have their document listed, standard document on Wayfinder which is F.921, which is about that. Rather than talk about that, since that's already been done, you can look at the document and see.

Wayfinder, oh, you want to make a comment, go ahead, Masahito.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Thank you, Madame Chair. It is not Wayfinder. It is ITU‑T, ITU that alongside with Wayfinder that have been awarded this.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: That is correct. Thank you for clarifying that. You got to receive the award too, didn't you?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: It was given to, I think Mr. Zhao. It was given to ITU, not just ITU‑T or ITU question 26. It ‑‑

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: But you were there.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: I was there to receive it. Yes.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: That was the point I was trying to make. That is great.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Thank you very much. This is the first award that ITU has ever given by an external body on accessibility. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Very important point. Thank you very much, Masahito for clarifying.

Now, until the break, okay, this is madame timekeeper. We have three minutes, and we have somebody on line who represents the next, it's Grigory Miloradov, I'm not going to say it right. (overlapping speakers) say it one more time.

>> GRIGORY MILORADOV: Miloradov. Thank you, Madame Chairman.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: It's Grigory with an I, Miloradov. I'm going to allow you to do the last three minutes before we part for a break, and explain world global Telecom's plan for having a numbering for persons ‑‑ you want to do it after the break? The timekeeper boss is telling me, you may not ‑‑ would you be able to do it in three minutes or do you want to do it after the break? We break a little early.

>> GRIGORY MILORADOV: I will be very very short. Three minutes would be okay.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Go ahead then and do it if you can do it within three minutes. We didn't even get a break in question 26. So go ahead.

>> GRIGORY MILORADOV: Ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much. Briefly I inform you of what World Global Telecom is, it is a noncommercial organisation that aims to create a global platform design for especially for people with disabilities. We are persuaded that the problem of disabilities is so important and huge that every person who has disabilities needs to be addressed specifically, according to his or her specific profile. That is why we are creating an IT and Telecom platform for these purposes. Last week actually, since 4 through 13 of July a Study Group in Geneva, Study Group 2, we have presented the first service, the prototype of the first service on this platform, which is the assisted conference call with text, voice to text simultaneous conversion, which means that we are able now to organise live communication between a person who is blind and the person who cannot hear or speak, which is enabled by the bot technology and the messengers connected to the Telecom network.

Basically what WTGT and GLEOSS platform is doing is enable the call by calling inside the network which would enable additional communication, having the lowest possible cost on the platform to organise such a call.

This is quite important, because for the first time, we can organise the communication of people who have such different profile of disability, and thus we can engage them and involve them in to general scenarios of social life, work and so on, and of using some, any specific services like calling to a consultants, advisors, doctors and so on and so forth.

How this service works briefly is described on this slide. Here one person who writes words into the messenger, in form of text, and immediately this text is through the phone line spoken by the bot, to the person who is blind and has difficulties to see. This person can answer by voice, and this voice is immediately converted back to text, so that the person, the first person can read the text, as answer as a text.

This is the communication scenario which we are developing now, of course it's work in progress. We will be working further. We have now got the decision of the Study Group 2 to assign trial codes in E212, and E164, resources, we will be assembling the trial network for this. We think the problem of disabilities globally requires creating a special probably country code, dedicated specifically to the problem of disabilities. This in our view should be the direction where we should somehow move the work on the numbering and the routing and so on and so forth within the Study Group 2.

That is basically the information that I would like to share with you today. We are WGT is open to your feedback and to communication, and we welcome everyone to provide to us, provide me or my colleagues, and we can discuss whatever proposals, suggestions you might have to improve or enhance or prioritize the development of the platform. Thank you very much.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Grigory, that was great. I think that we want to keep an eye on what you do and continue to have your updates to see how far you progress with this. And congratulations on getting a temporary trial set of numbers to be able to create this service.

So we will definitely look forward to hearing more from you. Does anyone in the room have a question about this? Christopher.

>> CHRISTOPHER JONES: Christopher Jones.

I'm really interested in this system, because I think it's important for us to remember that not all deaf people can read in their national written language. But they use sign languages instead.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Christopher. That is absolutely true. Have you taken that onboard, Grigory?

>> GRIGORY MILORADOV: Yes, of course, thank you very much. This is exactly what we are planning to do. We think that every person has the right to be addressed in the way which is acceptable and convenient for the person, including the specific language, sign language and so on and so forth.

The modern technologies allow us to do this, and to combine by means of IT and Telecom all possible ways how to realize it in practice. We are doing that practically. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you. Are there any other comments or questions? I think what we will do now, thank you very much, Grigory, I think what we will do now is take a break, and we will come back, boss timekeeper, when are we coming back? 4:15. You can have a decent break. 4:15. You even have time to get a cup of coffee. We are on time. My goodness. Thank you very much. We will be back at 4:15.

>> GRIGORY MILORADOV: Thank you, bye.

 (short break)

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Meeting fairly soon.

Lidia is going to be next. Lidia, are you ready? Dusan, we are going to start. We will start now. We are going to, not everybody is back from coffee. We are going to start now. We will [inaudible] when they come back by whipping them with a wet noodle around the feet and ankles.

(chuckles).

So, okay. I would like to introduce Lidia Best who is going to give us a presentation, a little out of sync because she has a plane to catch, so we are altering the, it's still not close enough? I guess I'm going to appreciate ‑‑ we will start again. I appreciate ITU equipment. Is it working? Is it working better? All right, that's good. Thank you very much. I'm going to start again.

Lidia Best from the European Federation of the Hard‑of‑Hearing and also the National Association of Deafened people, is going to present a, the European ICT report for us. And it's up. Lidia, if you would like to go ahead, please. Thank you.

>> LIDIA BEST: Thank you, Madame Chair.

It's a pleasure to present quite a few things we have been working on together with the European Disability Forum and in general, as associations communicating in our work and lobbying.

The first one up is audiovisual media services directive. We have worked last year together with broadcasters as well to ensure what we have common text agreed, which everybody is happy with, which works best when we come to legislation.

Now we have new obligations which are no longer encouragement which used to be, which is in the current directive, but more like a requirement now, have been agreed in negotiations between the European Disability Forum and European Broadcasting Union. We are a member of EDF. The directive is scheduled for formal adoption by November 2018. But main points are as follow.

Next slide. Thank you. Obligation for member states to ensure that public and commercial TV channels which wasn't there before as well as video on demand platforms such as Net Flix will make their services continuously and progressively accessible to persons with disabilities. Recital, is legally nonbinding part of the text in which the four main access services will be mentioned, are subtitles for the deaf and hard‑of‑hearing, sign language interpretation and audio description and also spoken subtitles.

Obviously, the directives are not regulations. The governments can still have flexibility on how they implement the text in the directive. The reporting obligation on accessibility for audiovisual media services providers and for member states, which will report to the European Commission about the progress they made in the area of accessibility. They already do that. But it's stronger.

Also, a new thing is a single and accessible contact point to provide information and to receive complaints from viewers regarding accessibility.

Lastly, member states will also ensure that emergency information, including public communications and announcements in natural disaster situations, which is broadcasted to the public through audiovisual media services, is provided in accessible manner. And I have added the source for everyone to be able to access the official publication of the first agreement.

Thank you. The next one, thank you, is the European Electronic Communications Code. This European communications code must talk about just general Digital Europe and digital single market, but some points have been, something good interesting to us related to the interference issues we have raised previously.

They will be enhanced deployment of 5G networks, by ensuring the availability of 5G radio spectrum by end of 2020 in EU and providing operators with predictability at, at least 20 years in terms of spectrum licensing. This is including on the basis of better coordination of planned radio spectrum assignments.

Additionally, we also have by the code will facilitate the rollout of new and very high capacity fixed networks. This is important for technology which we also need to use, but the most important part of this code is now what we are talking about benefit, that it should benefit and protect customers.

Next slide. This one will be irrespective of whatever end users communicate through traditional calls, SMS or web based services, Skype, what's app, etcetera, by giving equivalent access to communications for end users with disabilities.

It also, there will be increasing protection of citizens in emergency situations, including retrieving more accurate caller location in emergency situations, broadening emergency communications to text messaging and video calls, and establishing a system to transmit public warnings on mobile phones. I believe it's something similar to USA, when you have similar kind of wordings.

The source again is added on at the bottom.

Lastly, we have European Accessibility Act, there are still ongoing negotiations and dialogue to ensure correct narrative is included in the final text of the European Accessibility Act. There is an example below from recent lobbying efforts which will be very much of interest to this group, from European Disability Forum and all European organisations of persons with disabilities.

What is this, is accessibility of goods and services as part of this accessibility act. We call, where we have done a letter, open letter to the European Commission and Parliament. We call the European Council to accept mandatory and common accessibility requirements for services handling emergency calls, due to Council decision to exclude all requirements for PSAPs, which is the, I forgot the acronym, one second, I'll explain that, in its position regarding the Accessibility Act.

EDF has issued a open letter urging their reconsideration. In that issue what the letter we have, and I've included the link to it, is that to make emergency services accessible, somebody needs to respond using realtime text or total conversation services, just public safety answering point. The center that answers emergency calls must be able to appropriately receive and handle communication as they do with voice calls. It makes no sense to require smart phone manufacturers and network operators in the European Accessibility Act to support accessible ways of communication in emergency services if PSAPs are not required to be handle response to them. Excluding them would simply break this vital communication chain.

This letter is very new thing, we have done it not very long ago. The issue is ongoing. Most likely, hopefully I will be reporting back to you that the issue has been resolved, and our requests have been taken fully into account of the text of European Accessibility Act. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Lidia. Would anybody like to make a comment on Lidia's presentation? Christian.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: From Gallaudet University. The issue with PSAPs in America, we are facing the same challenge. The only requirement that we do have is that a PSAP must have a TTY. And that's it. Nothing else.

>> LIDIA BEST: Thank you very much, Christian. That is a very useful comment. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you very much. We have a copy of that. We will update the agenda so that document will be available if that is all right with you, Lidia. Because it isn't on the agenda linked. So we would like to have that linked on our agenda, that's okay. All right. We will do that. We are moving on to the next bit, briefly, if we go back to the number 6, because we interjected Lidia because she has to catch a plane, we have the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference of 2018. Every four years, and we just call it PP18 the ITU revises its leadership, we have elections, there are five positions that are elected. You are still not able to hear me? Is this better? Thank you.

I'm sorry, Avi. Just keep doing that if I fade.

But you do have the captioning. (chuckles).

But that's fine. Okay.

So I don't have to repeat. What happens is that the Secretary‑General, the Deputy Secretary‑General, the three directors, one each for the ITU‑R, ITU‑D and ITU‑T, which we are now involved in, are elected. The deputy directors are not. So it's a five position electoral, well, I can say fiasco, but it's a extravaganza. It also is a time when resolutions that run the ITU are created or updated.

In 2008, the original ITU accessibility resolution PP 175 was created. I was part of the team that wrote it. And the late Cynthia Waddell, who some of you may have had the privilege of meeting also was involved in that. Later it was in 2010, that it was actually accepted.

It's been revised in Busan, PP meeting. This is the document that is presently on the web. It's updated for a variety of reasons. One, it can be the fact that a resolution or a document or standard has changed that is applicable. But in this case, there is not only are we going to update the years of different events, but we are going to extend it a bit, there are different aspects that, with technology and certain things that have changed, that we are doing a revision.

This is done country by country. Each delegation of a country could in fact make a contribution to change PP 175.

The United States is the delegation that I sit on, and I have done at their request my view of what the update should be. It's gone back to the U.S. State Department to also be checked, because they may or may not wish to have certain things that I want in there, in there.

But it will all come about. There are other countries also adding to it. So in PP, Plenipotentiary is, I'm not sure of the date, but it will be coming, it's November, isn't it? It's in November this year. And it's going to be held in Dubai. Thank you. (chuckles).

I'm doing, there is so many meetings, you just go bananas. Anyway, it's going to be held in Dubai. Thank you, Mohannad. We are not going to go through it at the moment. But in the event you have time to look at it, and you do note that there is something you would like to see different, just drop us a line and we will take it into consideration. I can certainly forward this, at least on to my delegation, but I would welcome anybody's suggestion, and, or if you are working with your own department of state or your own country, you send it in to theirs and see what they want to do.

But it does maintain that persons with disabilities are to be included in the standardization process, how they are to be treated, how they are to have access. It's a good document for you to take a look at. If you want a copy of it, of course we can direct you to it.

Does anybody want to make a comment on that? Or ask a question? Okay. News bulletin over. Now we are going to go to, okay, I'm being told what to do again. Okay. I'm going to just briefly go through the incoming liaisons that have been sent to us by different organisations, and also in the ITU.

Okay, all right. I'm being told by the time police that we don't have time to bring them all up. Some of them we just note. There is a liaison from CD IEC TS63134 active assisted living. They sent us a draft on what they are doing on use cases.

As it was mentioned also in question 26, there really is no need for us to go through it. It's the same liaison. We have shared it already with our mailing list, and we just are going to take note. It's the same one that Masahito Kawamori mentioned earlier.

The next one is ITU‑D, a liaison on collaboration on multimedia application frameworks and broadcasting. Now, this is ITU‑D, question 2, and I believe the representative was here earlier, but he is not here now.

It says action required, but it just says that we are taking note on it. Strategies, policies, regulation, methods of migration, adoption of digital broadcasting, and implementation of new services, kindly invites ITU 16, Study Group 16 to provide a group with updates on recommendations, and reports and work items.

Masahito also dealt with this. But we got a copy. So we have just taken note. It's already handled in question 26.

The liaison on accessibility matters from Study Group 20, again the JCA is just to take note, and again information on the question 2, 20 progresses regarding the work of accessibility requirements for IoT. We had a extensive report from Yong ‑‑ wait a minute, where is my names? From Yong Lee, who presented his work. So all these are available for you to look at in detail. We have got the documents hyperlinked. We don't really need to do any more with those. They have already been handled.

The draft, the next suggested outgoing liaisons, draft liaisons of urgent need for standard setting activity on wireless connectivity between hearing devices and consumer electronics. Now, that is going to be ‑‑ okay, Christian. You're on. This is your bit.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: Hello. The text is pretty long. I'll just make a summary if that's all right. So the consumer electronics basically it's how you hook them up to your hearing devices. Let's think about hearing aids, cochlear implants in this instance. Before it was easier and now it's becoming harder and harder, the reason for this difficulty is that the way that people connect consumer electronics to consumer devices is with a 3.5‑millimeter jack, right? And now, some companies have started to eliminate the 3.5‑millimeter jack from their devices, and other companies are following suit.

That is the real concern here. That means that right now, we are stuck in limbo, right? So some consumer electronics are not fully reliable, in the way that we connect them with our hearing devices. So four years ago, EHMA made a publication that said with Bluetooth SIG special‑interest group on hearing devices, they promised that they would be working on new technology standards that, and that part would solve the problem.

Four years on, we have seen or heard nothing of the sort. We know nothing about what is going on with that SIG. It's problematic to say the least.

The only other wireless connection option available right now is made by Apple, and that is iPhone specific. That is the only other option that is out there. That option is not, I mean it works, it's not great, because it's only limited to Apple products, and only supported by very very limited hearing devices.

And the hearing devices, the cochlear implants and hearing aids that support it are the more expensive ones. That is not sustainable for consumers. So with all of that on the table, with EHIMA, the Bluetooth SIG they need to work on making sure there is compatibility now, or at least know, let us know what is going on in terms of their commitment to work on this, and to actually finish it.

They need to also make sure to live up to their commitment to implement technical standards in their devices, and work with consumer electronics manufacturers to make sure that that is built in as well.

Now, if that doesn't happen, we are going to be very very behind.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Sorry, I was just ... Lidia, would you like to make a comment, please?

>> LIDIA BEST: Thank you, Madame Chair. Lidia Best speaking. Christian, thank you very much for a great introduction and voicing similarly our concerns. I would like to add to what you said about how manufacturers should be working. They should be working with the user groups, and user organisation. In this case we have organisations advocates, and we need to work together and make sure that we are really working in the interest of the hearing aid and cochlear implant users. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Masahito.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Thank you, Madame Chair. Consumer electronics standards are being made by IEC. And ITU Study Group 16 has a coordination relationship with IEC, TC 100 and also with AAL, SyC AAL. So I think it's natural for JCA‑AHF and this, I think this liaison statement should have come to ITU SG 16, question 26 in the first place, to ask for coordination, or bridging the coordination between IEC and Bluetooth and ITU.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: The reason why it didn't, it was only created today. And obviously, it missed the deadline. So we popped it into the JCA, so you could have it.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Christian has a comment? Andrea.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Yes, go ahead.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: Sorry, Christian speaking again. And you are absolutely right. This was done very last minute, and I only started seriously investigating this for personal reasons about two weeks ago, and I realized that we are in the mud with this, yeah.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: May I, we just made a decision during your meeting that we would put it in the JCA, so at least it would be recorded. Go ahead, Masahito.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: So I think ‑‑ thank you, Madame Chair. What we have in the working party 2 plenary tomorrow, so it might be an idea to send a liaison from that group meeting to IEC TC 100 as well as question 26, well, maybe question 26 doesn't have to be included at this stage. But anyway, so I will talk with the management of working party 2 whether it's possible to issue a liaison statement from the working party plenary tomorrow to IEC TC 100 on this issue.

>> Madame Chair?

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: One second.

>> I think it would be most better that either question 26 issue the liaison statement or the JCA, what is going through the working party directly, it's not related.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: I have a remote participant who wishes to make a comment. I believe that is, which one? Brian. Brian is Brian Copsey from ITU‑R. Can you go ahead, Brian?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Thank you very much. I believe we need to separate two parts of this action needed section. Currently, a range of hearing aids including the ones I'm wearing currently offer a Bluetooth on a one‑to‑one basis, i.e., I can use my mobile phone and hear and talk via my hearing aids.

The EHIMA and Bluetooth SIG system is looking at what is referred to as broadcast which is one too many. From that perspective, that is now, for public use or use within a conference type environment, rather than an individual's use of a hearing aid.

I hope that's, that clarifies some of the issues with the Bluetooth SIG. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Yes, go ahead.

>> This is Christian speaking. Brian, if you are right, then that would mean the problem becomes even more significant. So the issue, the example that I explained, if we focused on the one‑to‑one connection, yes, in that case it's true. You can use a hearing aid device with a mobile to make phone calls.

However, for an A2DP with a quality stereo, like what is being used now, it wouldn't work.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Lidia.

>> LIDIA BEST: Thank you, Madame Chair. Thank you, Brian, for your explanation. And to add to Christian's comment, what the problem is now that hearing people are able to use all the different devices using even Bluetooth connections whatsoever. For us we are not able to. I am wearing a device which is also Bluetooth enabled, but I cannot connect to my laptop, for example, via Bluetooth, because I don't have a code number or anything.

So my device is not actually enabling me to connect to all the different consumer electronics. So we are still having quite a big problem in ensuring that we have accessibility.

Now, when I would be able to, for example, to use my mobile, to listen to the music if I wanted, with the jack, the moment the jack has been removed, the only way I can use music on my mobile would be via Bluetooth. However, Phonak as we know at the moment have hearing aids has access for all, but actually it is only for the phone calls, but it is not to be able to listen to the music.

I just discovered it not very long ago from another user. We were exchanging information what I can do with my Bluetooth connection and what she can do with Bluetooth connection. This is a big issue. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: This is Christian, if I may. I wanted to add, Lidia, to what you said. This is the issue with Phonak. I have the same exact frustration with it. It's very challenging to get accurate information as well, about what you can and cannot do. So okay. Phone calls are important, yes. But the most important thing, for the current generation of older users I'll say, is these individuals or for younger individuals, right, so I consider myself somewhere in between these generations. We are not interested in making phone calls.

We care about all of the other auditory features, music, videos, and other applications that have audio. I can't use any of these, it doesn't work with that system. Phone calls I don't need.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: I'm sitting here thinking, procedure, if we, how do we send from the JCA to the plenary tomorrow, how do we do it? Sorry, would you explain, please?

>> Madame Chair?

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Brian, can you hold one second? Brian, go ahead. Go ahead.

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Thank you. All I'm trying to say here is there are two separate issues. The existing issue of Bluetooth connectivity between a one‑to‑one system, whether that is a mobile phone, a PC or a player, and the work that the Bluetooth SIG is doing on a broadcast system, I'm simply suggesting you ensure that you separate the two issues out. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Brian. Masahito, please.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Yes. As far as this, thank you, Madame Chair, as far as this liaison statement is concerned, I don't think there is any mention of the broadcast yet, I don't know, but anyway it's more of a procedural matter.

The Chair of working party 2 suggest that question 26 issues on outgoing liaison statement and we haven't drafted all the liaison statements yet, so maybe we can just issue a liaison statement from question 26. That would be the best way probably.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: I have personally no objection. Does the rest of the room feel this is a satisfactory way forward? Especially the author of the liaison statement.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: Can I ask a clarifying question? This is Christian speaking. Are you suggesting then that we submit the liaison statement through Q26?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Nothing has to be done, except this will be handled, I mean this will be given to question 26, which issue with a different header, that's it.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Basically, we send, the JCA sends the liaison to question 26. Question 26 then sends it to working party 2. We theoretically can do that.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: Christian is saying I'm on board with that.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: We can do that. It's simply a little bit of paper shuffling. So that is what we will do. We will just issue that. Hang on one second. There is confrontation ‑‑ confrontations ‑‑ consultation going. Lidia, do you have a question? Lidia, do you have a question? You are okay with ‑‑ both of you are okay with that?

So, in other words, this, Masahito ‑‑ one second, Masahito was correct, but we explained that this only came up this morning, between Lidia, you and I. Theoretically, we can't do anything more in the JCA than take note of this, and communicate it to the correct place. Masahito has conferred with the Chairman of working party, Vice‑Chairman of working party 2, under which question 26 functions. And as the Rapporteur of question 26, Masahito can take this liaison, we send it to question 26, we can do super‑duper fast, emergency airmail, whatever, and he will have that, and he will then submit it to working party 2 plenary, where it will end up in the right place. Does that make sense? This is just fiddling about but it's a way of getting the place, in the right place where it can be properly dealt with.

Is that acceptable to you? I see a nodding of the head yes. Okay, Masahito, that is perfect. Thank you very much, Mohannad as well.

This is what the JCA is for basically, is to help facilitate these kinds of situations. Okay. We are moving on. We jumped that. Lidia is ‑‑ we are here. 8.1.

We have two people down for 8.1 which is a overview of realtime text, RTT, interoperability today, interoperability gaps, and a future outlook. That is with Lidia Best and Christian Vogler. Which one of you would like to do this particular? And there is a document 340. They are both pointing at each other and saying you do it, no, you do it. Come on, guys. I know, it's patting your head and rubbing your stomach at the same time.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: I'll do it.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Great.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: This is, I'll begin.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: We will get the document up.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: Thank you, I'll be brief with this as well.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: We are going to get the document up. Hold on one sec.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: Sure.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: That is not the document. Do we have the document? We don't have the document.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: I only have a movie for you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: It's the movie, ah! The movie.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: Yes. Let me explain before we show the short. Can I ask you not to show the movie, please?

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: She is setting it up.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: It's playing already.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: She is going to stop it. Hang on.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: Thank you. Please hold off on that.

Realtime text in the United States, this is the context. Since December 31, of 2017, we have a new FCC ruling in place, which states how the setup for the transition from the TTY to realtime text will take place on mobile phones solely.

Since then, we have had three major phone companies working on this transition, AT&T, Verizon as well as T Mobile.

AT&T decided to provide a app that you can download on to the mobile device, and this works mostly on iPhones and Android phones.

Verizon has agreed to work with Apple, and they provide a built‑in realtime text function, I think it's 11.3 and above in terms of the operating system. That is also true for the T Mobile relationships. Verizon and T Mobile are also working with LG in creating realtime text ability software onto the device itself.

Currently, AT&T and Verizon are interoperable. They are able to communicate with each other, via the RTT. So right now, what is happening is T Mobile, if you call from an AT&T or Verizon phone, it becomes a TTY call, and then also becomes a realtime text call, depending on the device that is being used.

We are working on a fix for this. RTT to our emergency services 911 is also working, the 911 receives what looks like a TTY call, but is actually being placed as a realtime text call. There is a conversion.

The same is true for R711 relay services, so from a mobile device you can call via realtime text to a mobile device and on the realtime ‑‑ on the relay side on the 711 side they receive what looks like a TTY call.

Later on this year in October, we are expecting to make a proposal to the FCC and which will tackle two different issues. The first issue being deaf/blind access to relay services, and the secondary issue being how we can transition relay from TTY which is becoming obsolete to realtime text. We expect to have a response to that in November of this year.

That is the wireless mobile device function.

The other issue to talk about here is the video relay service context. We currently have two VRS providers, who were supporting this feature, using the same technology standards. The great thing about this is for the first time, VRS is supporting phone calls taking place between signers and deaf/blind individuals. In the video, you will see how this works. So the video call between myself and a deaf/blind friend of mine, the deaf/blind friend uses sign language to communicate to me, I can watch my friend sign, but my responses to him are via realtime text.

He is able to receive that information via Braille. Please go ahead and press play. For people in the room, who may not be able to see or who are listening elsewhere, there is a, it's Christian and another gentleman, the gentleman is signing, and Christian is viewing this and then typing back to him via the text. Brian who is a deaf/blind individual is saying yes, that's right, I forgot to send you my E‑mail address, would you like it. And then the deaf/blind man also has access to typing with realtime text back to Christian what his E‑mail address is. That is what we are seeing right now.

The deaf/blind video software comes from MMX which is a European software provider, and we are using the same software for and relay services in Europe, but they have adapted it to equipment that deaf/blind people use in order to access information via Braille. It's also been modified to work with other American devices and equipment that are being used.

Sorenson video relay services is also using the software. I use it myself in this video. As you can see, I was perceiving the sign language that Brian was signing to me, and I was able to type back to him, because that is a more comfortable way for him to understand my participation in the conversation.

Instead of him having to finger spell to me the E‑mail address and me potentially misunderstanding it, he also has the option to type his E‑mail address or any other information to me which I can receive in realtime text and avoid any sort of miscommunication.

In brief, that was it, in brief. Thank you for your attention.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Christian, you are going to make me cry, it means that TTY lives forever in another form. (chuckles).

People always said TTY will die, and I said no, never. For those of you who don't really know my background, my father was deaf, with two other deaf guys, Andrew Sax is my dad, Jim Marsters was his colleague, a deaf orthodontist, and Robert Weitbrecht, a physicist who worked at Stanford, started the first text phones in the United States, and I took it over to England. Christopher and I started working together way back then, starting up relay services. And I won't go into too much detail, but the dream has always been for a global possibility, a global possibility that enables deaf people to call internationally and now that I'm seeing that this is entirely possible, if it's being done in Europe, Christian, I'm asking you a question, is this the possibility that this could evolve into a global relay service just like the regular telephone is used for hearing people to call any phone in the world, is this really what we are looking at as a future consideration?

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: Thank you for your question, Andrea.

Technically, yes.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank god.

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: But the technical standards, because the technical standards are basically the same, they would have to be slightly modified, but basically, yeah. However, of course, there are two problems.

First of all, the service, the services have to become compatible. And so far, that's not happening. So we have to figure out the billing, and all of that back system, and how the person can benefit in using the service. So that's the complicated part.

Unfortunately, there is also some national organisations who refuse to follow technical standards. Unfortunately, the UK is one of those who refuses to follow. So I don't mean to point them out, but I'm afraid that the UK is going to once again kind of try to find an alternate route of their own.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: This does not surprise me. I've had a long run‑in with the UK on this sort of thing. If it's not invented there, it doesn't exist. I know from my own experience.

I basically think we have got to make a plan of some kind of way and Masahito, I hope you are following this, please, where we can use our ability in the ITU to do some form of standardization without calling it a standard. Maybe it has to be a technical paper or something, because as Christian has pointed out, there are some groups that will not follow standards.

This also requires if UK is one of the people that, or one of the groups that is being obstinate, I think the deaf community has to really do a hell of a lot of lobbying and screaming and yelling, and stamping up and down, or it's not going to change.

Christian and, is Lidia there? I don't see her. She is gone. Okay, we have to bring Lidia ‑‑ oh, she has gone to go back. Okay. I'll send her the captioning, so she will have that.

But it's very important that we stand together and try and get a possible global communication service internationally using the telephone and other devices. This is the first time I've seen this really possibly be a reality.

Seth comes from, Seth Bravin is in the back there, and I can see his brain ticking. (chuckles).

Do you want to make a comment, since you come from a telecommunications provider?

>> SETH BRAVIN: Sure, this is Seth. One of the challenges that deaf people today face is that they can't do cross border calls. So I find in the States I can't call someone in Japan using text relay. I simply can't. The FCC doesn't allow it.

A lot of other countries have similar challenges. So I think the accomplishment, the possible accomplishment here is to enable international calls. And I do see that happening, and I see that happening via a team effort.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Yeah, I agree with you, Seth. Christian, would you like to comment, please?

>> CHRISTIAN VOGLER: Please, this is Christian. I think Seth is right on the button with his comment. So, I submitted a comment, I submitted a new work item last year for question 26, and the purpose of that working item was to figure out how to make relay services work across international borders. And nothing has come up, along with that working item, because we have been busy with other things.

But I think this will indeed be a catalyst for us to look at this again. I'm not sure of the exact documents number. I can look for it if you need it.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: We just got a nod from Masahito, I think he's taken that in. It's not only just doing the standard but you have said that there are certain groups that will not accept standardization. They always go their own way, like England.

I think we also have to get all the deaf organisations on board, to do something. I've got somebody in the room from Israel, who is the Vice‑President of the international federation of the hard‑of‑hearing. Have you any thoughts on how we might accomplish getting an international relay telephone service for the deaf with this particular idea that's being implemented in the U.S.? Put you on the spot.

>> You mean how to make an RTT system.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: No, the system is being made, how we get, for instance, your government to allow it to exist in your country, so that you can join the international telecommunications system for deaf and hard‑of‑hearing people, which is beginning to start in the U.S. and also apparently in Europe in conjunction.

>> I need to better understand this system.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Fine. Okay. You are going to be drafted.

>> Yes.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: We will get you involved, if you would like to be.

>> Yes, I would like to be.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Okay.

>> Thank you, Chair.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Great. Masahito.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Yes, thank you, Madame Chair. The work item Christian was referring to was created because we started talking about international relay service, and then realized that we need to do something similar to roaming, and I think there is several issues we have to be clear about.

One of them is funding, how the money should be fed, because it is kind of related to, it's not just in international setting, but also in the case of Japan, it is also prefectural, like I don't know about United States, but maybe some countries like Bosnia Herzegovina, they have 13 different regions, and if they have different, you know, funding system, for example, money comes from the local municipality, then that money may not be used for other people, people from other municipalities or things like that, like, for example, in broadcasting case, BBC is supported by broadcast text in United Kingdom, that means the content made by BBC can be freely available to the citizens of the United Kingdom, but not to citizens in principle in other areas.

So it's the same, for example, the funding came, for example, relay service, funding for the relay service partially supported by some government funds, then there will be a question, if you have a roaming and then you have to decide how much share should be divided. You see what I mean? For example, when United Kingdom and France made a call, then who should bear the cost, and things like that.

I think there should be an international agreement on that as well. Otherwise, I think it will be very difficult for especially commercial entities to do this. Okay. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you very much, Masahito. I think that is very informative and very important.

I think we have opened up Pandora's box. I can't say that we should discuss this any further right now in this particular group. We have started. I think Christian, I'm going to ask you to make a contribution to the next meeting of question 26 regarding this, if you wouldn't mind. And also Seth, if you could also contribute from your company as well, and that would be extremely helpful. That way, we can begin to maybe do some work on that, and that would also mean Study Group 3 which does the money stuff in ITU. Am I not correct? Study Group 3, so we may have to invite Study Group 3. Okay.

I will just make a note of that. Thank you for that. Go ahead.

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: Also now Study Group 2 because of number, numbering.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Numbering, Study Group 2. Okay, so you and I have to talk about this as well. You have opened the box, Christian. It's good. It's good. We have a chance. We will penalize everybody if they don't go along with the game. We will get mad.

Now, how much time have we got left? Not a lot. We have 15 minutes. Now, I'm going to lightly go over safe listening, because Mark isn't on. And I'm here. And so Masahito and I attended, it was a convention where more was discussed regarding the fact that people are blasting their hearing into outer space, by not using their ear buds correctly, and that work is ongoing.

I think we won't go into that in detail.

Brian has spectrum threats and issues, are you still on, Brian?

>> I am.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Yes, you are? Are you still on?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Yes.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Brian, I'm going to ask you if you would mind, rather than not have you doing something very very quick, we want to note that you are working on this, would you make a contribution to question 26 about that? Because it will have far more effect in being in ITU‑T, or the AVA, if that is an appropriate place to put it, because Brian comes from ITU‑R. Masahito, asking you a question, where should we have this contribution?

>> MASAHITO KAWAMORI: IRG.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Right. Okay. Are you familiar with the Intersector Rapporteurs group on audiovisual accessibility, Brian?

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Yes.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Will you make a contribution there? But also copy the JCA on that, please? And probably ITU‑T as well. Okay? But it will be submitted.

>> BRIAN COPSEY: Okay.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: All right, that's done. Where are we now? We have done ‑‑ now, hang on. We are almost at the end. Right?

Yeah, we are doing all right, actually. There is more on the WSIS business, but there will be more coming. I've already mentioned that, so about the workshops that they want, five workshops on accessibility. I mentioned that previously.

So if anybody is interested and to work with me on that, or make a presentation, or have part of a workshop, please write me an E‑mail and we will bring you into that and we will send you information on that.

Now, there was supposed to be an open discussion from the invited guests on their experiences on the attending ITU‑T question 26. We have two people in particular who are new, who are still, well, three who are still with us. One of them is Gamze, would you like to give a two minute upon about what you think so far? Can we give Gamze the microphone, please? It's in between.

>> Hello, everyone. This is Gamze. First of all, I am so glad to be here, because I learned so many things, especially about deaf and hard‑of‑hearing people. But I think there should be more topic about blind people as well, in order to make this, it should be made collaboration with blind associations, for example maybe NFB National Federation of Blind in USA, or RNI in England and some and other associations in Turkey.

I would like to participate and make contributions for the topics about blind people in the future. Thank you so much.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Gamze. We did speak at lunch that you were going to bring contributions to question 26 of ITU‑T, and the JCA just talks about things. So you have brought up an important point. We need more participation on blind issues, and that will go in my report for sure.

The other person I would like to have speak is Avi Blau. Would you like to ‑‑ the question is, what do you think of your experience in attending ITU‑T question 26 meetings? What is your ‑‑ item number 10.

>> AVI BLAU: Okay, thank you. Thank you, Chair. This is Avi Blau. I think it was a very interesting and also important experience. I still have to digest all the information and all the details that is running here in the meetings. But I see a lot of potential in such things to promote accessibility for persons with disabilities in general, and also for hard‑of‑hearing people in particular.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you. I'm not going to pronounce your name right, Majet, you, yes, would you like to say a few words, please? We have to get the microphone over. Then Olaf we will have any other business for you.

>> Thank you, Madame Chair, for giving me a word. My name is Mataj Debuilds and I'm coming from University of Maribor, Slovenia.

In these days, I have found a lot of interesting things, and I think, I hope that I also contribute something to the meeting here in these days. From my point of view, it is important to see that we are all trying to find a way to make comfortable devices first thing and then to give possibility to have subtitles, sign language in both ways, unicast, multicast and broadcast way, and as well audio descriptions. I think all these are important for blind and deaf/blind people and sighted people and also for deaf and hard‑of‑hearing.

We should go further with the standardization in this way, and to make more promotion of the government, to the legislation, to the agencies in countries with all these requirements which we need for persons with disabilities. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you.

Now I'm going to come back and do a close, but I first want Olaf, he asked me if he could make a announcement about some of his work, and we have just time for him to do a quick one.

>> OLAF: Thank you, Andrea, I'm with the DAISY Consortium. We produce software and standards for the blind and visually impaired.

What I want to talk about is, briefly training we had in WIPO in April where we talked, secretaries, I shouldn't say secretaries, people who produced minutes and things like that, to make them accessible. That is hyper easy, if you know where, it's now a ten year long cooperation with Word or with Microsoft, accessibility is now a integral part of Word and it can be easily used if you know what you are doing. So it was kind of a Word workshop.

This is enlightening in certain ways as it is a unprecedented step, or the first step. We have been ever since the United Nations has passed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2005, have been asking WIPO ITU, the W.H.O. and other agencies if we could help them to produce accessible documents.

ITU now produces at least as publications in the accessible format, but any kind of minutes or what we have presently here screened on the, see on the screen, is not accessible. It is to note that a big part of, first of all it was something like 40 people that were trained, that a big part of the discussion that then ensued was about the templates that are used by organisations such as WIPO and ITU to make those accessible.

So after a mere 15 years, these organisations have actually started, started a small step in the right direction. I just thought it was worth mentioning. Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Olaf. I'm glad we had the time to devote to that. Dusan, we heard your presentation in question 26. We weren't sure what was going to happen with you. So we did have you in our agenda in the beginning. But you were covered so if you would like to make any parting statement, I'd be happy to hear it and put it in the record here. Could you pass it to ‑‑ no, he doesn't want to say anything. We don't have to deal with that.

Does anyone have a comment that they would like to make before we close? Yes, Seth, please.

>> SETH BRAVIN: Quickly, this is Seth speaking. I'm not sure if you are aware that on September 27, M‑Enabling Summit Forum will be taking place in Germany. It started in the U.S. and has been in the U.S. for several years. But this is the first time the summit will be taking place, the one day event it's happening in Germany, and I wanted to put that out there for your information.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Seth, I forgot that, because we did have M‑Enabling down, but I skipped over it because of the fact of the time. And we have mentioned M‑Enabling constantly before, because it was usually eminently present.

In actual fact, would you like to mention briefly about M‑Enabling and your boss participating in the one in Washington, D.C. while, we have got four minutes, so you can have two of them.

>> SETH BRAVIN: Sure. M‑Enabling is sponsored by nonprofit organisation called G3ict, which is being rebranded as IAP which is a international association for, it's a group that takes place in Washington, D.C., involves a lot of different Telecom companies, nonprofit organisations, universities to talk about accessibility issues in ICT. It's a massive event, I would say about 500, 600 attendees come to these events in D.C. The last one was in June. It was three days. These nonprofit organisations really want to expand internationally, and for the first time this event is taking place in Europe as I said in Germany.

In Washington, D.C., the conference offered multiple tracks, a educational track, an aging track, aged track, telecommunications track, Internet track and so forth.

You can easily Google M‑Enabling, their website, and if you are in Europe good news for you, you get to go because it's local for you instead of having to pay to come to the United States. I would imagine the one day conference, there will probably be smaller attendance at the one in Germany in September. But it's worthwhile going. I'm sure it will grow over time. There is also going to be a event eventually, hopefully in a Asian country as well.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: It's in Dusseldorf, and we have the dates somewhere but we don't have them ready. We are running out of time.

Dusan would like to say something, if you can pass that mic over. Would the captioner and interpreters indulge for five minutes, because we have one minute left and we will go over, if that's all right with you, is that okay?

 (no problem).

Is that okay with interpreters for five minutes? That is okay. Thank you, interpreters, and it's okay for the captioner. Please go ahead.

>> DUSAN CAF: Thank you, Madame Chair. I would like to reiterate the need for cooperation in various initiatives, like Amela mentioned before and our initiative, because they are regional. We are going to work together, I'm sure, also in our group, there is a Director of one of the national regulatory, regulator, and I think if we can expand this initiative from the Western Balkans to other countries in the region.

One thing I was a bit late before, when you discussed this indicators, I think that there has been done some work by the U.N. on disaggregating SDGs to indicators dedicated specifically to accessibility.

I think that it should be, you should check that work. It was I think the first paper drafted in 2015. Then probably you should go through the CRPD and prepare the indicators related to all the critical or important articles, not only the ones that we discussed here, but there were other areas, digital accessibility is important.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you. One of the things that is interesting about the JCA is that we have the ability to communicate directly with any outside group we choose to. It isn't always true that Study Groups can do that, except under certain circumstances with a purpose in mind. However, I'm going to put that in Masahito's basket if he would accept that what was just done. (chuckles) You just woke up. Okay. We will go through that in the Council, but we were talking about indicators and coordination of the different kinds of graphs and information that we talked about earlier.

We are going to coordinate with that.

I still, I got my five minutes extra. I'm going to take a few minutes to say, I think this has been a really interesting JCA meeting, because we have had some different kinds of work, erupt in here but belongs in other places and they can be directed to other places. This is the function of the JCA.

I really encourage any of you, if you want to have people participate in this group, you do not have to be a member of the ITU.

This is one of the few little groups that will enable us to ... outside people are allowed to attend upon request and invitation from me. Don't forget that.

Any parting shots, any comments? Thank you to the other interpreter, thank you very much. And they all have to catch their planes. So, if there is not any other questions or comments, which I don't seem to think there are. Nothing?

>> Madame Chair.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Yes, go ahead. Who is that?

>> This is Daniel speaking.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Who is that?

>> This is Daniel speaking.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Hi, Daniel. You have to be fast.

>> DANIEL HARK SOHN: Okay, thank you. Thank you, Madame Chair.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Say what you want to say.

>> DANIEL HARK SOHN: Yeah, let me introduce myself, hi, everyone. I'm from Korea, my English name is Daniel. Just call me Daniel, please.

Dr. Yong Lee and I, we are double A member, the most important thing is I'm the first, Yong is the second. Everybody thank you very much.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thank you, Daniel. You are my accessibility boys. They function in Study Group 20. So they are the ones that reported earlier in question 26 on Internet of Things. Thank you, Daniel.

Thank you, Yong. Thank you to remote participants who have listened.

>> Thank you.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Sorry, who is that? That must have been Yong.

>> Gerry, just to say thanks from Dublin.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thanks from who?

>> Gerry in Dublin.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Gerry, did you want to say anything?

>> GERRY ELLIS: No, thanks and good‑bye.

>> ANDREA J. SAKS: Thanks and good‑bye. I think we are done. Thank you very much. I'm closing the meeting. It has been great, and thank you to the interpreters and to the captioners, thank you very very much. Good night!

 (end of meeting, adjourned at 1734)

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