FINAL COPY

ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE 2014

BUSAN, KOREA

03 NOVEMBER 2014

ROOM A

TENTH MEETING OF COMMITTEE 5

0930

Services provided by:

Caption First, Inc.

P.O. Box 3066

Monument, CO 80132

1-877-825-5234

퍍719-481-9835

www.captionfirst.com

\*\*\*

This is being provided in a rough draft format. Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) or captioning are provided in order to facilitate communication accessibility and may not be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings.

\*\*\*

>> CHAIRMAN: Good morning, everybody. And welcome to this Tenth Meeting of Committee 5.

I hope that you've all had a good weekend. For some, the weekend was a studious occasion, a very studious occasion in some cases. But I hope some of you also managed to visit a few things in Busan and the surrounding area.

The group work over the weekend proved very fruitful. And that's clear from the agenda which is to be submitted to us. There are many documents which we now have to examine and take a stance on today.

I suggest then that we begin with ADM/65. This is our agenda for this meeting and for the next meeting which will take place this afternoon.

Do you have any comments on this Agenda? Seeing none, the Agenda is adopted. Thank you very much.

Very well. I suggest that we move to Document 65. Item 3 is the report by the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Group on Resolution 166. Is the colleague from Argentina here? Yes? So I give him the floor.

>> ARGENTINA: Thank you, Chairman. I would like to request that we move on to Item 4 because the Delegate dealing with Item 3 is at a concurrent meeting and hasn't arrived yet. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Very well, we'll wait for your colleague. In light of that, we move on to the next item, Item 4. This is a report on the informal discussion on Resolution 21. Egypt will report on this. So Egypt, you have the floor.

Egypt, you have the floor.

It would appear that our Egyptian colleague is still occupied elsewhere. We move on to Item 5. We'll come back to Item 4 later.

Item 5, report on informal discussion on Resolution 22. Brazil, you have the floor.

>> BRAZIL: Thank you. We held informal discussions with some Delegates and have concluded that there will be no changes to Resolution 22. As I mentioned in the last meeting of Com 5 we agreed that no changes will be done in this Plenipotentiary, but I mentioned that changes should be noted in the Chairman's report. Therefore, the following statement should be inserted in the report of Com 5.

As there was no consensus on the proposed revision to Resolution 22, the revision inter alia portion of revenues in providing International Telecommunications Services, it was agreed not to amend this Resolution. The relevant ITU-T Study Groups are invited to continue their work for Internet connections and development of appropriate costing methodologies for international Internet connections. Thank you, Chair.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Brazil.

No amendments then to Resolution 22. And so we can invite the relevant Committees to pursue their work. I think that's the outcome of the discussions which were held with a number of Delegations.

Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. Good morning to everyone. We are grateful to our colleagues from Brazil to follow up on these questions. Perhaps if I understood it incorrectly we should not mention in the report of Committee 5 that there has not been consensus. We should mentioned we have decided not to modify, so on and so forth. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Iran. Yes, I think that would be a more positive way to word this. So we will say that we've decided not to amend this Resolution and that we invite the Study Groups to pursue their work. Is everyone in agreement with that? That seems to be the case.

This item is therefore concluded. I will include a paragraph in my report along the lines of what was suggested by Brazil and others. Thank you very much.

I would like to ask whether the Argentinian Delegate is now ready to make their report.

Please, go ahead, Argentina.

>> ARGENTINA: Thank you very much, Chairman. Apologies for that delay, but we are participating in a number of different groups at the same time.

I would like to present now the conclusions of the meeting which we had on Saturday morning in the Ad Hoc Group on Resolution 166, with participants from CITEL, UAE and representatives of almost all Regions in these discussions.

There was a consensus spirit and we reached an agreement which reflects the intentions of the original CITEL proposal with the other concerns and additions which we received from the UAE and from other participants.

Once we reached a consensual text the Secretariat made a minor comment about an issue which should be the focus of an editorial amendment. Because the meeting was on Saturday, it wasn't possible to physically meet with the other Delegations, but with your permission what we would like to do is to hold a brief discussion in the coffee break to make it clear what the final text would look like. We are going to include an "instructs" 2, "resolves" 2 and make sure we can reach a consensus with all the participants on that. So thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Argentina, for the report on the progress of that work. I don't think you are very far at all from reaching the conclusion of that work. I think the comment from the Secretariat should be fairly straightforward.

And invite, as you suggest, all those who participated in the work of your group to join you after this session to finalize the "resolves" 2 in light of the comments which have been received from the Secretariat. We'll come back to this item this afternoon.

Thank you, then, to the Delegate of Argentina. We'll come back to this this afternoon.

Thank you. I suggest now that we close this item on a provisional basis. Item 4, Resolution 21. Is the Egyptian colleague now in the room? Perfect. Seems not to be the case for now. So we can come back to Item 4 later.

Item 6, Resolution 119, France. France, you have the floor.

>> FRANCE: Thank you, Chairman. As I mentioned on Friday at the Committee meeting, the informal discussion which we held on Resolution 119 brought us to a solution which can be found now in DT/65. I would like to remind Delegates of the three key points here. The first is that no changes would be made to Resolution 119. The second point is concerning the proposal to the description of the process on reexamining, reconsidering previous RRB decisions. The proposal is that the text which you see under bullet point 2 of DT/65 be inserted in the minutes of the Plenary. And it says that they or the RRB are the appropriate bodies to decide on the conditions for this on the basis of proposals from administrations. So that's the second point.

The third point is as follows: Concerning the proposal regarding the conflict of interests, the Plenary will be requested to take the decision to require each RRB member to sign the following declaration at the time of taking office. And the declaration can be found in the third bullet point of DT/65.

And this is a declaration which states that the RRB member in question has familiarized itself with the relevant sections of the Constitution and is committed to subscribing to them.

I think with that, Chairman, we can close our discussions of this item. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, France, for that introduction of DT/65.

You have DT/65 before you. This is the fruit of the work of the group led by France. Iran, please go ahead.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, with our sincere appreciation to our colleague from France and thank you very much for getting the agreement from colleagues not to modify the language of 119. However, we have two comments with regard to this document. I take the easiest one. The easiest one relates to the declaration of RRB members. It is mentioned that two aspects at the beginning, mentioned that "I the undersigned declare that I have read and understood the provisions set forth in CS 98 and 99 of the ITU Constitution."

We believe that it is not appropriate that the member of RRB say that "I have read and I have understood." We could express that differently. What I suggest, Mr. Chairman, for your consideration, we take the second and last part of this document and bringing to the beginning and starting that: "I, the undersigned," we take the phrase as it is. "... declare that I adhere to CS 98 and 99 and will exercise" -- up to there. Not talking about "I understand" and "I read." Says what to do. They declare that they adhere to the CS 98 and 99, and they will exercise in all realities, so forth. It will be more, I would say, diplomatic rather than saying "I understand" and "I read." So this is what I suggest.

So in summary, deleting the first part, bringing the latter part at the end of the document to the beginning. Slightly amended that to read: "I, the undersigned, declare that I adhere to CS 98 and 99, and will exercise ..." and continue the matter.

This is the first one. I stop to see whether Distinguished Colleagues could agree with that, which is a more fruitful way and more diplomatic way to express the need for the declaration. This is the first point, Mr. Chairman, I suggest.

If you want to go a little bit further, you could say CS, the spirit and the letter of CS 98 and 99, but I don't think we need to go into too much detail.

What I suggest perhaps is a formulation that could meet the requirements of this first issue of the declaration. I come back to the other one after you treated this first one. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: We noted your suggestion, Iran. I give the floor to France. Would that be an adequate way forward? France.

>> FRANCE: Yes, Chairman, that would be a more diplomatic wording, so we have no problem with the Iranian proposal. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Yes, I agree that would be more diplomatic wording. So let's adopt that wording which is a bit lighter, or at least more elegant and appropriate.

Iran, I give you the floor again for your second comment.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. My second comment relates to the issue of having recourse to the RRB decision. The sentence, "It was noted that WRC in case of reconsideration of an RRB decision," this sentence is unclear. Could we suppress the second part after the first part mention RR 14.6? I think that would be better than to use what we currently have.

So would the French Delegate be willing to alter this sentence to say that we simply refer here to RR 14.6? Would that be a possibility? Because this sentence isn't clear as it currently stands. I wouldn't like there to be useless discussions over how to interpret the intention of this sentence. I hope that the Distinguished Delegate of France could offer a simple wording which would simply mention the main detail here rather than getting bogged down in anything else. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. France? What do you make of this Iranian proposal?

>> FRANCE: Thank you, Chairman. I have no problem in simplifying this sentence. It is extremely complicated in the French version. Less talented version of Marcel Proust, is how it seems. What we might say is that the WRC or RRB are the competent bodies in this regard.

So we would delete, after "WRC" we would delete "in case of reconsideration of an RRB decision taken under number 14.6 of the radio regulations."

And after RRB, we would delete "in other cases." So the sentence would simply say: "It was noted that the WRC or the RRB are the appropriate bodies to decide on such conditions on the basis of proposals from administrations."

Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. So that proposal has been noted. The aim of it is to simplify this sentence. I see no requests for the floor. So everyone appears to be in agreement with this simplifying amendment which makes the text clearer.

So with that and the other amendment which was put forward by Iran earlier, I suggest that we adopt this Document 65. It is so decided.

Thank you, France and thank you to all the other Delegates who made proposals on this. France, I give you the floor.

>> FRANCE: Thank you, Chairman. I would like to thank all the Delegates who have been involved in the informal discussions for their spirit of understanding and their desire to cooperate and find the solutions which were acceptable to everyone. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, France. I suggest then that we move to the next item, which is Item 7, report on informal discussion on access to ITU documents.

Mexico will make an introduction to this document, Document 61. Mexico, you have the floor.

>> MEXICO: Thank you very much, Chairman. Good morning to all Distinguished Delegates. It is an honor for me to present this proposal, this proposed decision on ITU documents to Committee 5. This is a very balanced compromise text which we have here. And the effort has been not to contravene any legal provision of this Union. I would like to extend my thanks to all the administrations and representatives of Regional Groups here at the ITU who made it possible for this Plenipotentiary Conference to make this great step forward to transparency as we reach the 150th Anniversary of the International Telecommunications Union and allow us to present this here today.

Three main principle have guided this: Openness, transparency and continued continuity of the work which is being carried out to save time with our work.

We have before us Document 61, where the Informal Group on access to ITU documentation recommends that Com 5 recommend the following in the report: Com 5 recommends to the Plenary of the Conference that on the basis of the 2015 principles, it provides public access to all important output documents of all Conferences and Assemblies of the Union unless where disclosure would cause potential harm to a legitimate private or public interest that outweighs the benefits of accessibility.

To instruct the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources to continue to review Document Access Policy in ITU to determine the extent to which documentation should be made publicly accessible and to prepare a draft Document Access Policy for submission to Council, and consider the necessity to establish a dedicated group for that purpose.

Third bullet point: To instruct the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources to transmit the proposed Access Policy to Council for its consideration and provisional approval and its implementation as appropriate.

To instruct and authorize Council to consider the report of the Council Working Group and as appropriate approve and implement the policy on an interim basis and to instruct the Council to submit the policy to the 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference for final decision.

In conclusion, Chairman, I would like to thank all those who participated in this Informal Group. In particular, the legal representative of the ITU and the Chairman of the Working Group of the Plenary who assisted us to solve the doubts which arose as a result of this line of work.

I would also like to extend infinite thanks to everyone for their patience and the time which they've given to this. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much to the Delegate of Mexico for presenting this Document 261. Now I give the floor to Kenya. Kenya, please.

>> KENYA: Thank you very much, Chair. I certainly want to thank the Distinguished Delegate from Mexico who has done a commendable job on an idea that there were fundamental differences between the Delegations.

I think the one issue that probably maybe I didn't here it, but was quite clear in the discussions is that in the report to you there would be a mention of the fact that the name of the Council Working Group that is already dealing with this subject may need some review in the sense that the amendment is now broader. That was mentioned during those informal discussions. I thought I would mention it here just by way of highlighting the fact that that issue came up, and that it may be worth just noting that the issue of the name of the Council Working Group came up. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, sir. The Delegate of Canada and then Iran. Canada first, please.

>> CANADA: Thank you, Chairman. Good morning to you and to all colleagues. Mr. Chairman, first I would like to thank our colleague from Mexico for all the effort and work and success in the meeting he convened.

Mr. Chairman, Canada is, of course, fine with the document that is in front of us. But we would like to call the attention of the floor to recognize, of course, that within the Council's Working Group on Financial and Human Resources the issue of access to ITU documentation is already taking place. We would like to encourage Member States and Sector Members to contribute on this issue and submit the contributions to the next meeting of the Council Working Group on Financial and Human Resources that will take place in 2015 and it is also our understanding that the ITU Secretariat will do so as well. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: I thank the Delegate of Canada. Iran, please. Iran and then China. Iran?

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. We also appreciate very much the kind efforts of our Distinguished Colleague from Mexico for the hard work which he has carried out.

Chairman, we have some clarification to seek with respect to indent one to provide public access. We understand that without the need of the TIES password, this is our understanding to all input and output documents of all Conferences, Assemblies, meetings of that nature. We do not go to the level of Study Groups, Working Groups, Special Task Groups, Workshops, so on and so forth. We limit ourselves to the treaty-making Conferences and Assemblies meetings. That means that RA, Radiocommunication Assembly, WTSA and WTDC. This is quite clear. We do not go to the subordinate part of those or we go -- I don't know. I am asking questions because Assemblies, they have a Study Group. ITU-T has ten Study Groups; ITU-D has Study Groups; ITU-R has two Study Groups. And they have working parties, so on. It should be quite clear to avoid misunderstanding. That is the first point.

The second point, in the indent, "unless their disclosure would cause potential harm." Who decides that disclosure would cause potential harm? Secretariat decides? What criteria do you use? Is it personal decisions? Committee decisions? Is it Coordination Committee decisions? How do they make these decisions? Or the membership could say that the disclosure of this document is not authorized. That's all. So this is the case. So I don't think that is quite clear here. I think it is taking from some proposals is good, but the decision making is not clear. Who decides on this very difficult task? So we have to be quite clear.

Then with respect to the second indent, as we understood the current Council Working Group of Financial and Human Resources is already doing the job. Do we instruct them to continue to do that? Or we instruct the Council to ensure that this work is to be continued? Are we directly going to that level or just giving the Council, perhaps we should say to instruct the Council that the work in the Council Working Group for Financial and Human Resources will be continued in regard to -- so on and so forth. Take into account in order to consider the need or otherwise to have dedicated Council Working Group.

That is my questions, that we should be very clear in the two instructions. The first instruction is as I mentioned to instruct the Council, to ensure that the activities relating to document access will be continued in Council Working Group, so on and so forth; and number two, to instruct the Council to amend the term with reference of current Council Working Group to a study or examine the need or otherwise to having dedicated group.

Chairman, the document is not clear. We have to be quite clear and give quite clear instructions to the Council. We would not instruct the Council Working Group. We would instruct the Council only. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: I thank the Delegate of Iran. China and the United States. China, you have the floor.

>> CHINA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to thank Mexico for efforts made in convening the informal discussions.

We agree with Iran that it should be the Council to conduct a study on the issue of access to the ITU documents. In the next step we suggest to consider the ideas expressed by all Delegations on this issue. We should consider the categorization of the documents in the establishment of the policy so that we can ensure the access policy can reach the influence of ITU. At the same time we should avoid any harmful influence by doing so.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, China. United States and then Australia. United States, please.

>> UNITED STATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning to all colleagues. The United States would also like to thank the Chair from Mexico on this Working Group. They were very challenging discussions and he expertly steered us towards a fair and balanced compromise on the issues. We therefore support the document before us, the principles that are enumerated.

We simply have one question on process. This document recommends that Committee 5 include in its report this text. Our question is, is the intention that the Plenary of this conference will adopt a decision that effectuates the text here so that we can have implementation? We are just looking for clarification about the procedural next steps to make sure that this text gets carried forward. Thank you, Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. We've noted your question. Australia, and then the U.K. Australia, please.

>> AUSTRALIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can be very brief because as I listen to the intervention from the United States, I could hear that they are asking the exact same question that I wanted to raise. We do support the document before us, but it is not clear how Plenary will be able to take a decision on this matter if it's not housed in a Draft Resolution or decision.

So we would also request a clarification on that point. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. U.K., and then Burundi.

>> UNITED KINGDOM: Thank you, Chairman. Well, on behalf of Europe, I would like to thank the Mexican Chair for what was a very difficult and long discussion. We started out with a number of proposals which were very different. And indeed, I think we ended up with a very carefully crafted compromise which ended up satisfying no one, but at least it meant it is a compromise we could reach. Therefore, I would not wish to reopen it.

We had the Legal Adviser present at the meeting and he looked at the text and there are some aspects of the text which are very important. And in that respect, I would raise the question that the U.S. and Australia has, that it is important for the Plenary of this conference to instruct and authorize Council to consider the report of the Council Working Group and to provisionally approve and implement the new access policy once it has been delivered to it by the Council Working Group.

I'm not sure that including a text in a report is sufficient legal approval for that. So I was expecting a decision, a draft decision. I think what we have is the basis of a draft decision. It has no recitals or preamble. I think that's a good thing. Let's keep it short.

But it is something that we have agreed after long discussions and I think the text should not be reopened. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Burundi and then Mali.

>> BURUNDI: I thank you very much, Chair. Burundi would also like, as others have done, to thank Mexico for having stewarded the discussions on this subject. We would like to support this draft document. However, as has been stated by the Delegate from Iran, we are also of the view that the document is not sufficiently clear on how we shall decide or how we shall resolve the cases where sharing information, disclosure of information might represent a potential harm which would weigh heavier than the advantages of accessibility.

I think the document doesn't speak loudly enough on that subject. It can be improved on that subject and needs to be clarified. I thank you, sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: I thank the Delegate of Burundi. Mali, please.

>> MALI: Thank you very much, Chair. I would join others in thanking Mexico for its efforts. However has been mentioned by Burundi, Mali supports the proposal with regard to our mandate to the proposal.

This Working Group has to report to Council. Therefore, this instruction should go to Council. I thank you very much, sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: I thank the Delegate of Mali. So I now have a request from the floor but I cannot see who is requesting the floor. Qatar, please. Qatar.

>> QATAR: Thank you very much, sir, and good morning to everyone.

I would like firstly to thank the Working Group which made considerable efforts to arrive at a compromise.

So that I do not take too much time, I will just agree with the Delegate of the United Kingdom. He indeed said that this is a consensus and compromise document. So we do not need to reopen the debate on this question here. We support this consensual text, this consensus text and I thank again the Working Group for its efforts. Thank you, sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much to the Delegate of Qatar. I have another Delegate who seems to be sitting behind a number which is not his or her own. 405. But I would invite the Russian Federation, Uganda and then I will close the list of speakers after Uganda. So Russian Federation, Uganda and then Nigeria? Nigeria? Zimbabwe? I would just remind you that we are discussing a text which is supposed to have already been agreed by consensus in the Working Group. I do not wish to reopen the debate.

Russian Federation. The list to be closed after Zimbabwe. Russian Federation, please.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Thank you very much, Chair. We would also like for our part to thank the Delegate from Mexico who prepared and organized the deliberations on this subject. It has been my understanding that only one day has passed since our reaching consensus. Therefore, I would not wish to break this precious consensus. I don't think that many changes have taken place in the period of 24 hours. I don't think we need to change the agreed text and the agreed approach. For us it would be sufficient just to reflect our agreement in the protocol documents of the Plenary and to not open the debate again after this decision.

We only have a few days until the end of this conference before the Plenary. And we need to continue our work. Thank you very much, sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Uganda and then Nigeria. Uganda, please.

>> UGANDA: Thank you, Chair. I would also like to commend Mexico for the good job done. Chair, I'm seeking clarification on how to proceed because according to this document, access is supposed to be implemented beginning in the year 2015. Then later on in the document it says Council Working Group will transmit its report to Council for consideration and provisional approval and its implementation. It is not clear when we start implementing the access. Is it January 2015? Or sometime later after Council Working Group has transmitted its report to Council for approval? I want clarification on this point. I thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Nigeria, please.

>> NIGERIA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since this is our first time of taking the floor I want to say good morning to all colleagues. And also join other colleagues in thanking the Chairman of this Informal Group, Mexico, for an excellent job done. Mr. Chairman, this particular document is a compromise document which we wish to acknowledge here. However, despite the fact that it is a compromise document, we do have some difficulties with the "instructs" 2 and "instructs" 3.

Mr. Chairman, procedurally this particular "instructs", these two "instructs" are not properly constructed. Taking, for instance, you have hierarchy of responsibility whereby you have an Honorable Minister who gets information from a permanent Secretary, and the permanent Secretary gets information from a Director.

Now, when the Minister is sending an instruction, it must follow that path and that direction. But here we see that Council Working Group reports directly to the Council and the Plenipot itself should not bring itself very low to instruct the Council Working Group that is reporting to another body. Also we feel it is more appropriate for the Plenipot to go instruct Council and Council will then give directives to the Working Group that is reporting to it.

And so this particular two "instructs", Mr. Chairman, we find it difficult because implementing it is going to be difficult.

And so we believe that if this "instructs" could be remodified it will go a long way in solving the problem, the difficulties we are encountering. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Zimbabwe.

>> ZIMBABWE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to thank the Chairman from Mexico for assisting us to arrive at the compromise text that we have before us. We have, however, think that leaving the questions asked by the Distinguished Delegate from Iran unanswered will actually leave us with text that cannot be implemented. I think we need to look into that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. So I have arrived at the end of my speakers list. We have heard first questions raised. We have also heard the fact that this document represents a compromise which was difficult to achieve. And what I fear very much is that if we reopen the debate here, then deliberations will drag on once again for a long time. It will be difficult for us to arrive at a compromise again. So I really hesitate. I should speak more strongly than "hesitate", but in opening this debate again. I don't really want to open the debate on this Document DT/61 again.

Maybe it is not a perfect document. But like all compromises, most compromises don't arrive at perfection because all parties need to be satisfied. So to preserve this spirit, even though I understand that not everything is perfect and not everything has been resolved, I would propose that we just maintain this document as it is; that we do not reopen the debate. We have other documents to consider. So in a spirit of cooperation I propose that we maintain this document, DT/61, as it has been submitted by Mexico.

No objections? Mali, Mali, do you really wish to have the floor? Do you really wish us to reopen the debate on this? Mali, should I give you the floor?

>> MALI: Thank you very much, Chair. Mali begs your understanding. We don't wish to reopen the debate. We just want to be convinced because we believe that the PP should mandate the Working Group without having to go through the Council. We are firmly convinced of this. Thank you, sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: To the Delegate from Mali, I do understand your question. But if we open the debate on this subject we will reopen the discussion. I propose that we leave the text as it is. I propose that we be able to adopt it.

No objections? Adopted. Thank you very much.

Allow me to say one more thing because there was a question asked and I would like to be able to respond to that.

We have this document which is a recommendation from Com 5 to the Plenary. Now, the idea here is that the Plenary in its report would have a decision which would contain the text upon which we have just agreed. So in the report of the Plenary and the text from the Plenary, we would already have this recommendation of the points that we've just adopted. So I hope that that responds to the procedural question on how we are going to have this text.

This is a decision which will be in the report, in the PV of the Plenary.

Yes, sir, you have the floor.

Iran, you have the floor.

>> ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN: Thank you, Chairman. For the last point, we agree with you. It would have been better if we should have a decision on the Resolution, but there is no time. The Resolution requires preambles and noting, considering, resolves. Perhaps that could be easily mentioned in the Plenary that this is the sort of decision. So I don't think that we have time to go there.

But Chairman, for the little bit of precision it would not be difficult. The point that I raise is that with the first paragraph, I mean the only the document of the Assembly but not the documents of the Study Groups. Why not it cannot be mentioned? Then the point of whether it is harmful, et cetera, it will add in consultations with the administration's concerns or the author's concerns. It could be easily fixed, Chair. On the last point we instruct the Council to ensure that the Council Working Group take this action. Quite easily it can be taken, Chairman. Please note that, that we should not leave the document so in unclear because the consensus. No problem about consensus, but let us do that. Very easily could be fixed, Chairman. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: I thank the Delegate of Iran. I don't want to reopen the debate on this. I do understand very well your comments, but if we begin to adjust this text, we just won't be able to conclude in time.

So please do not insist on this point at this juncture. It has been mentioned that we are talking about the document from Assemblies, not those of Study Groups, as you've said, and as you said in your first intervention.

For the rest, I do not wish to touch this text in any way. I'm afraid that we will reopen the debate. It is the fruit of compromise. Let's leave it as it is.

Mali, you wish to have the floor again. Mali, please.

>> MALI: Chair, forgive me, but if I'm to put myself in the position of the proposal, would the proposal that you've made reflect all of the concerns which have been voiced during this session? The concerns that have been voiced, will they be reflected in the document which will come from the Plenary? That's what I would like to know, sir. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: I thank the Delegate of Mali. The document that you have before you is a compromise. Therefore, it takes into account the concerns of Delegates. But of course, there are certain points that cannot be taken into concern, cannot be taken into account because it is a compromise.

So this compromise will satisfy some people, not other people. Again, a compromise cannot contain all of the views voiced because it is a compromise. That is the nature of a compromise. This is what we have before us.

I'm sure that we have had other compromises in this conference on other subjects.

Now I would like to move to the next item in the hopes that everyone can appreciate that it is difficult to reopen the debate on something that has achieved a compromise and on which the compromise was quite difficult to achieve.

Again I propose that we move on to Agenda Item 8. Which is a Draft New Resolution on procedures for elections, DT/66. DT/66.

I now give the floor to the coordinator and thanking the coordinator on the previous Agenda Item, on access to documents.

Now we are on DT/66.

I should give the floor to Mr. Jefferson Nacif who was the coordinator on this document. Brazil, you have the floor, please.

>> BRAZIL: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and good morning to all colleagues. First I would like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me the chance and time to further discuss this important issue for ITU during this week and weekend.

I had many consultations through which I tried to accommodate different views on this document that is presented as DT/66.

I could incorporate some of the comments, but not all of them. Actually, due to lack of time and I was chairing another group that devoted all of my time to that.

Well, we are very much in favor of doing this here in the Plenary. Those suggestions can be easily agreed, I'm sure. I'm certain we will improve the text.

Mr. Chairman, I am very satisfied for finding among colleagues the same sentiments that improvements on election procedures must be implemented as fast as we can. As you can see in the Document 66, the "resolves" are basically the same. Stating that we should have two presentations of the candidates in which they can present their programs, visions, on priorities and biographies, in two open and interactive meetings. Those meetings will include the submission of questions from participants of the sessions. One meeting to take place immediately prior to the opening meeting of the Council session, usually held in May or June. And the other meeting to take place immediately prior to the Council session that precedes each Plenipotentiary Conference.

This is very important for us to keep both sessions to give opportunities to all possible candidates, even if they come later to the Council session of May or June.

This interactive sessions, meetings will be open to all ITU Member States. Here I'm trying to accommodate those that, actually was in favor of membership but then there is a huge concern about that. And many people asked me to keep it open to all ITU Member States. But actually, this we can further improve.

Those meetings would be physically and would be provided through remote participation facilities. The presentations before Council would be of course posted on the ITU website so that all available, so that all membership can have access to them.

The document we instruct the Secretary-General to further give its input and improve the methods. There is also a command to the Council to improve the methodologies associated with the full implementation of this Resolution and resolves that it should be effective, shall be effective in time for the next elections.

We also encourage Member States to actively participate in these interactive meetings and to work early on their candidate's campaign so that everyone can participate in due time.

Mr. Chairman, I know that there are some improvements to be made here in this Plenary, in this session. I think they can be very, very easily incorporated into the text. Thank you very much, Chairman, for your cooperation.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Brazil, for that introduction. Kenya, you have the floor.

>> KENYA: Thank you very much, Chair. I certainly want to thank Mr. Nacif, too, for where we have gone this far. Chair, I asked for the floor when we were adopting the Agenda. Fortunately, that was not seen, and it is just fortunate because we would have probably discussed a substantive issue during an agenda.

But the reason I asked for the floor at that time was the point that this was being presented to the Committee as a DT while consensus had not emerged on a number of issues that had been raised. I thought what should have been presented to your Committee was a report, because certainly consensus has not emerged.

I on behalf of the African Region raised a number of issues, a number of issues. Those have not been taken into account. Indeed, Chair, the issues surrounding language, the issues surrounding timing during the conference, the issues surrounding resources are issues that this Union is grappling with. And we have not dealt with those issues. So the principle of raising this in your Committee as a DT is the first issue that we have because it cannot be no consensus, at least in those informal discussions that were going on, has been reached. So I would like to have some procedural clarification on that procedural issue because then we would be opening a debate in your Committee about something that we would have sufficiently dealt with in those informal discussions.

Chair, now on the substance of the DT itself or the report, I would say, that has been presented to you, we are not in favor in the first place of a Resolution of the Plenipotentiaries regarding this matter, but we did express that as a compromise we could live with a text that requests or a report that requests the Secretariat to improve on the elections portal so that it is more interactive. The candidates would be able to put in that portal not only their CVs, but their vision, their programs, and then they would be able to take and respond to questions in that portal.

From where we are coming, that need not require added solutions at this conference. Chair, my points are two-pronged. First, the report to you should be a report and not a DT. Two, that there are a number of issues that have not been responded to and especially the concerns that we raised. I think we would have some difficulty in substantive debate in your Committee without those issues being fleshed out in those informal discussions.

Thank you very much, Chair.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Ireland, please.

>> IRELAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and very good morning to all. I wish to thank Brazil for their efforts in coordinating the Informal Group at CPT we considered the text and can generally support the text proposal. However, we have the following remarks. On "resolves" 2 we would prefer to have the interactive sessions open to all the ITU membership to attend and participate. And in relation to "resolves" 1 we have a slight amendment relating to the demonstration of an understanding of the role and responsibilities of the posts, that despite attempting to convey the text of this amendment by ICT means, the ICT failed to cooperate and was only this morning that I spoke to the Distinguished Delegate of Brazil.

I believe that the revision is acceptable to Brazil and I will read it at normal speed first and then repeat at dictation speed, if that is okay with the meeting.

The proposed text for "resolves" 1 would be --

>> CHAIRMAN: May I ask the Delegate -- Ireland?

I beg your pardon, terribly sorry, let's not go on to the drafting stage at this point. I would like to take up the different requests for the floor first. I do understand that you have some amendments to make to the text. Well even come back to them in due course. Thank you for your understanding. Terribly sorry.

The Russian Federation and then Canada. Russian Federation.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: I thank you very much, Chair. With regard to this proposal, we would like to say on behalf of the Russian Federation and also the RCC countries, we do share the concerns expressed by our African colleagues. The proposal from Brazil in the current form, the current wording that we have before us could in our view lead to an imbalance between the representatives from Developing and Developed Countries. Because it would seem quite clearly that the resources possessed by both parties are not the same and that the candidates from Developing Countries might be faced with difficulties in arriving at success in this area.

We also believe that this proposal leads to an increase in expenditures, and will lead to considerable loss of time and also a burden on the candidates. So we as a compromise would prefer to see the creation of a Web portal where candidates could publish their intentions and where we could have an online discussion or a deliberation about those candidates. We, therefore, would save money and it would put all candidates on equal footing.

At the same time, we can support this proposal in general. We just think that we should perhaps work on it further based on the wishes that have been voiced. I thank you very much, sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: I thank the Delegate of the Russian Federation. It is 10:45. We must break at this point. I cannot take the other requests for the floor, but given what we have just heard on this Document DT/66, it would seem that more work is needed on the text, which is not yet ripe for the picking. It would seem that a number of countries and Regions wanted to make remarks still.

So I would suggest that those interested parties who still have something that they wish to share, particularly members from Africa who are facing difficulty with this text, I would invite you to contact Brazil. We will recommence at 4:00 p.m., 1600, this afternoon. So you have some time before our afternoon session to have consultations with Brazil and find a way to improve this text such that it can be accepted by one and all.

So I would propose that those interested Delegates have a look over this text again with Brazil to make amendment proposals.

So I will suspend our deliberations here. We have to allow the next meeting to take over. We will meet back here again at 1600, 4:00 p.m. Thank you very much.

(The meeting concluded.)

\*\*\*

This text is being provided in a rough draft format. Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) is provided in order to facilitate communication accessibility and may not be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings.

\*\*\*