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Chair of Subcommittee of PrepCom-2

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Sub-Committee, under the chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Ileana di Giovan (Argentina), met 14 times, in full session and as a drafting group, to discuss the draft texts of the Final Document(s) of the Tunis phase, based on the report of the Group of Friends of the Chair (WSIS-II/PC-2/3). Observers' statements were heard at the beginning of each morning session of the Sub-Committee for a period of around forty-five minutes.
2. On 18 February 2005, the Sub-Committee completed a first reading of Chapter Two of the Operational Part (financial mechanisms), based on the text submitted as Addendum 1, which was the result of further consultations following the completion of the Group of Friend's work, and following the African Regional Conference. On the basis of interventions and written contributions from delegations and stakeholders, the Chair produced, with the assistance of the WSIS-ES, a compilation of proposals (WSIS-II/PC-2/DT-1 (Parts 1 and 2)), and a new draft of the rolling text (Rev 1 to Addendum 1 of WSIS-II/PC-2/3), which were submitted to the Sub-Committee for a second reading on 22 February.
3. On 21 February, the Sub-Committee completed a first reading of Chapter One of the Operational Part (implementation mechanisms). A compilation of proposals is available (WSIS-II/PC-2/DT-2 Rev 1.). In addition, the Chair invited the ITU Secretary-General to submit proposals on a possible implementation mechanism (WSIS-II/PC-2/DT-3 Rev 1).
4. On 23 February, the Sub-Committee (under the chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Janis Karklins) completed a first reading of the Political Chapeau and Chapter Four (the way ahead) of the Operational Part. Compilation of proposals are available for chapter one (WSIS-II/PC-2/DT-4) and chapter four (WSIS-II/PC-2/DT-5).
5. Four Working Groups, open to all States and observers, were established to work on specific paragraphs of Chapter Two of the Operational Part.
 - El Salvador coordinated work on paragraph 18;
 - South Africa coordinated work on paragraph 23;
 - Barbados coordinated work on paragraphs 14 and 21;
 - Barbados also coordinated work on new sub-paragraph 26A1.
6. On 24 February, the chair of the Sub-Committee presented a new version of the rolling text, incorporating the results of the discussions. This document was further revised and the resulting text

is enclosed (Annex 1), following the conclusion of the Sub-Committee's work on 25 February. Although the whole document rests in square brackets, those portions of the text marked “*(Agreed)*” indicate areas where the Sub-Committee was able to reach consensus. It is presented to the Plenary for appropriate action. All other working documents noted above are available on the WSIS-ES website (www.itu.int/wsis).

7. During the final meeting of the Sub-Committee, it was agreed that further discussion of the issues of skilled labour and software would be deferred until PrepCom-3 for consideration in other parts of the final document(s) of the Tunis Phase.

Annex: Current text on Financial Mechanisms (chapter 2 of the Operational Part).