

Agenda item: PL 2.6

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Report by the Secretary-General

PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2014 PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE

Summary

The ITU Council, at its 2011 session, decided on the venue and exact dates for the holding of the next Plenipotentiary Conference and adopted Decision 560.

The purpose of this document is to update the Council on the status of preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14).

Action required

The Council is invited **to note** the preparations to date and **to examine** the draft conference structure for the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference.

References

[CV2](#); [Res 77 \(Rev. Guadalajara, 2010\)](#), [Res 58 \(Rev. Guadalajara\)](#),
[Council Decision 560](#), [C12/24](#), [C13/4\(Rev.1\)](#)

1. Introduction

1.1 This document provides an update on the status of preparations for the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference.

1.2 In its *resolves* 1.4, Resolution 77 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) provides that the next plenipotentiary conference (PP) is to be held in Korea (Republic of).

1.3 Pursuant to No. 2 of the Convention, in the event that the precise place and exact dates of a PP have not been set by the preceding PP, they shall be fixed by the Council with the concurrence of the majority of the Member States.

1.4 At its 2011 session, Council approved by Decision 560 the formal invitation of the Government of the Republic of Korea to hold PP-14 in Busan (Republic of Korea) from Monday, 20 October to Friday, 7 November 2014.

2. Host Country Agreement and site visit

2.1 Negotiations between the Republic of Korea and ITU were successfully concluded, and on 21 October 2013 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, the Host Country Agreement (HCA) was signed by ITU Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun I. Touré and Korea's Minister of Science, ICT and Future Planning, H.E. Mr Choi Mun-Kee. More details may be found in ITU's press release here: http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press_releases/2013/CM15.aspx. The HCA has been published as a Council information document ([C14/INF/1](#)).

2.2 The ITU secretariat conducted a site visit from 9 to 13 December 2013 to meet with Host Country counterparts, examine the conference centre, infrastructure and hotels, prepare the security plan and the communication plan as well as commence the organization of logistics.

3. Invitations and call for proposals

3.1 Invitations to the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference were sent to all ITU Member States on 21 October 2013 on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Korea ([Circular letter 164](#)).

3.2 Invitations to the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference were sent on 21 October 2013 by the Secretary to General to observer organizations ([DM-13/1020](#)) and to ITU Sector Members ([DM-13/1021](#)).

3.3 [Circular letter 165](#) was sent to all ITU Member States from the Secretary-General on 21 October 2013, referring in particular to the proposals for the work of the Conference, documentation, and elections (call for candidatures). Proposals from Member States to amend the Constitution and Convention were requested by 20 February 2014 in accordance with no. 224 of the Constitution and No. 519 of the Convention. Other proposals for the work of the conference were requested no later than 20 June 2014 (No. 40 of the General Rules of Conferences, assemblies and meetings of the Union), and in line with Resolution 165 (Guadalajara, 2010), a firm deadline for the submission of all contributions was established on 7 October 2014. All Member States wishing to submit candidatures for the elections were requested to do so by 23.59 hours (Geneva time) on 22 September 2014, in accordance with No. 170 of the GR.

3.4 [Circular letter 181](#) was sent to Member States on 10 February 2014, introducing Member States to the Conference Proposals Interface (CPI), an electronic tool which has been developed to facilitate preparation and submission of proposals.

3.5 [Circular letter 185](#) referring to the procedure of submission of credentials was sent to Member States on 4 March 2014.

4. Proposed structure

4.1 In addition to the four standing committees (Steering, Budget Control, Credentials, and Editorial Committees) and in line with past practice, it is proposed to set up two substantive committees (Policy and Legal Matters (Committee 5)), Administration and Management (Committee 6)), and one working group of the Plenary (WGPL).

4.2 Committee 5 on Policy and Legal Matters would: consider reports and proposals related to policy matters of the Union, including the reports submitted by the Council on the activities of the Union; recommend appropriate decisions with respect to the activities of the General Secretariat and the three Sectors; examine proposals for amending the Constitution, Convention, General Rules and Optional Protocol; taking into account relevant reports and recommendations from

Committee 6 and the Working Group of the Plenary, recommend all appropriate actions to the Plenary; consider any other questions of a legal nature raised during the Conference; and transmit to Committee 6 matters having financial implications.

4.3 Committee 6 on Administration and Management would: consider the draft Strategic Plan and other reports and proposals relating to the Strategic Plan; examine relevant reports and proposals on the general management of the Union, in particular those relating to financial and human resources and relevant parts of the reports submitted by other Committees and Working Groups; prepare draft financial policies and a draft financial plan for 2016-2019; recommend to the Plenary all appropriate decisions related to the management of the Union's activities; transmit to Committee 5 matters requiring amendments to the Constitution, Convention and General Rules.

4.4 The Working Group of the Plenary would: consider reports and proposals and recommend appropriate actions with regard to issues related to public policies, including Internet, and other general matters; and transmit to Committee 5 matters requiring amendments to the Constitution, Convention and General Rules, and to Committee 6 matters having financial implications.

5. Busan Preparatory Group

5.1 A preparatory group, the Busan Preparatory Group (BPG), was established to coordinate preparations internally. This group is composed of representatives from the General Secretariat and the Bureaux, including the Regional Directors, and meets on a monthly basis.

6. Support to regional preparations

6.1 In line with Resolution 58 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010), and with the view to strengthen relations between ITU and regional telecommunication organizations, the Secretariat has participated in the regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference to provide inputs and information on the preparation for the Plenipotentiary Conference.
