

PLENARY MEETING

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MINUTES
OF THE
THIRD PLENARY MEETING

Tuesday, 21 October 2014, at 1440 hours

Chairman: Mr W. MIN (Republic of Korea)

Subjects discussed	Documents
1 General policy statements (continued)	–
2 Launch of ITU's 150 th anniversary celebrations	–

1 General policy statements (continued)¹

1.1 The following speakers made general policy statements:

- Mr Marius-Catalin MARINESCU, President, National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM) (Romania);
- Ms Monika KARAS, President, National Media and Infocommunications Authority (Hungary);
- Mr Mohamed Lemine EL MAMY, Minister, Ministry of Employment, Professional Training, New Technologies and Telecommunications (Mauritania);
- Mr Koulidiati JEAN, Minister, Ministry of Development, Digital Economy and Posts (Burkina Faso); at the end of his statement, the speaker announced that his country was making a symbolic contribution of USD 100 000 to ITU.

1.2 The **Chairman** thanked Burkina Faso for its generosity.

1.3 General policy statements (continued)

- Mr Mohammad AL GHANIM, Director General, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (United Arab Emirates); at the end of his statement, the speaker declared that the United Arab Emirates was proposing to host the 2018 plenipotentiary conference and sought delegates' support in that regard.

1.4 The proposal was **approved** by acclamation.

1.5 The **Chairman** said that the United Arab Emirates would thus be the host country of the 2018 plenipotentiary conference, and that this would be reflected in a revision of Resolution 77 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010). He thanked and congratulated the United Arab Emirates.

1.6 The **Secretary-General** thanked the United Arab Emirates for its offer to host PP-18. He greatly appreciated the constant support that the United Arab Emirates had provided to him personally throughout his tenure at ITU, and to ITU itself, by hosting virtually each type of major ITU conference over the past several years, including the GSR, and by helping to fund ITU's ICT Discovery museum.

1.7 General policy statements (continued):

- Ms Zohra DERDOURI, Minister, Ministry of Post, Information and Communication Technologies (Algeria);
- Mr Makame Mnyaa MARAWA, Minister of Communications, Science and Technology (Tanzania);
- Mr Amirzai SANGIN, Minister, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) (Afghanistan);
- Mr Bruno Nabagné KONE, Minister, Ministry of Post and Information and Communication Technologies (Côte d'Ivoire);

¹ The texts of general policy statements submitted to the secretariat may be consulted at:
<http://www.itu.int/en/plenipotentiary/2014/statements/Pages/default.aspx>

- Mr Panji KAUNDA, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transport, Works, Supply and Communications (Zambia);
- Mr Rakesh GARG, Vice Minister, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (India);
- Mr Myat HEIN, Union Minister, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Myanmar);
- Mr Mahmoud VAEZI, Minister, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- Mr Raúl Pérez-Reyes ESPEJO, Vice-Minister of Communications, Ministry of Transport and Communications (Peru);
- Mr José Carvalho da ROCHA, Minister, Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technologies (Angola);
- Mr Alejandro JIMENEZ, Executive Director, Institute of Telecommunication (INDOTEL) (Dominican Republic)
- Ms Karen PIERCE, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations and other international organisations, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) (United Kingdom);
- Mr Jorge JURADINI, Head, Telecommunication Agency (Mexico); at the end of his statement, the speaker announced his country's intention to increase its contribution to ITU from one to three contributory units.

1.8 The **Secretary-General** and the **Chairman** thanked Mexico for its generous commitment to ITU.

1.9 General policy statements (continued):

- Mr Georgios KOMODROMOS, Acting Director, Ministry of Communications and Works (Cyprus);
- Mr Feliksas DOBROVLSKIS, Director-General of RRT, Chairman of RRT Board, Communications Regulatory Authority (RRT) (Lithuania).

2 Launch of ITU's 150th anniversary celebrations

2.1 The **Chairman of the Council Working Group on ITU's 150th Anniversary** congratulated ITU and wished ITU all the best for the next 150 years, calling on the entire membership to keep up their support. He hoped that the Union would remain strong and continue to pursue its work in a spirit of solidarity.

2.2 A 4-minute video entitled "ITU turns 150 in 2015" was screened.

2.3 Addressing the meeting against a projected background of the ITU's 150th anniversary logo, the **Secretary-General** said that on 17 May 2015, ITU would celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first International Telegraph Convention and the creation of the International Telegraph Union, the forerunner of ITU. The work of ITU was recognized worldwide, not least for example by an Emmy award for the H.264 coding standard used by more than 80 per cent of all web videos. He invited the Union's membership to celebrate the anniversary each in their own way, to complement the key celebratory event in Geneva under the theme "Telecommunications and ICTs

– Drivers of Innovation”. He especially thanked the following partners for their support to the celebration: Gold partners – Azerbaijan’s Ministry of Communications and High Technologies, Saudi Arabia’s Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, and the United Arab Emirates’ Telecommunications Regulatory Authority; Silver partners – Ghana’s Ministry of Communications, and Zimbabwe’s Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority; and Bronze partners – the Central African Republic’s Telecommunications Regulatory Agency, CJSC National Radio Technical Bureau, Inmarsat Global Limited, Rohde & Schwarz GmbH & Co. KG, OJSC Rostelecom, and NTT Group.

2.4 The **Director of TSB** displayed the Emmy award received for the H.264 audio broadcast standard developed by ITU-T. He noted that ITU-T had in 2014 adopted an improved standard (H.265) that was 50 per cent more efficient than the previous standard.

2.5 The **Chairman** invited the Gold and Silver partners in turn to speak from the lectern.

2.6 **Mr Elmira Velizadeh**, Deputy Minister, representing Azerbaijan’s Ministry of Communications and High Technologies (Gold partner), said that as an oil producing country Azerbaijan had for two centuries relied on telecommunications, from the early days of the telegraph, through a telephone line installed in Baku in 1881 by the Nobel company, to modern technologies nowadays. Having joined the Union in 1992, Azerbaijan hoped to continue cooperating with ITU for 150 years in support of the Union’s tremendous role in internationalism, telecommunication and unity.

2.7 **Mr Mohamed Jamil Ahmed Mulla**, Minister, representing Saudi Arabia’s Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Gold partner), recognized that ITU played a leading role in the ICT sector, a key sector for achieving economic growth and social progress, encouraging cultural activities and bringing people together. Saudi Arabia had joined the Union in 1949, become a Council Member State in 1965, and would continue to provide support to enable the Union to reach its objectives. He thanked Mr Touré for his excellent work as Secretary-General and wished ITU a happy anniversary.

2.8 **Mr Mohamed Nasser Al Ghanim**, Director General of the United Arab Emirates’ Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (Gold partner), said that, living in an era of breakthroughs in information and communication technologies, his country was involved in all of the Union’s activities and would enthusiastically celebrate ITU’s 150th anniversary. He introduced Mr Adeb Al Blooshi, a very young innovator from the United Arab Emirates.

2.9 **Mr Adeb Al Blooshi** said that it was a pleasure and a privilege to be present at PP-14. He recognized that it was thanks to the work of ITU that young people could benefit from mobile phones, television and the Internet. Young people were not only technology users and innovators, but also the channel through which their parents could learn about the digital world. For that reason, it was important to reach out to the many young people who currently lacked access to modern technologies. He thanked his country, his parents and ITU for their support.

2.10 The **Chairman** said that, as an inspiring 11 year old, Mr Adeb Al Blooshi had set a record as the youngest person to address the conference.

2.11 **Mr Edward Kofi Omane Boamah**, Minister, representing Ghana’s Ministry of Communications (Silver partner) said that by 2013 the ICT and telecommunication sector in Ghana accounted for 24 per cent of gross domestic product, and the aim was to further scale up the sector. He welcomed ITU’s pursuit of cooperation, connectivity and consensus in the past and at

present, and expressed continuing support for those ideals, which would form a firm basis on which to build the unknown future.

2.12 **Mr Win Busayi Juyana Mlambo**, Deputy Minister, representing Zimbabwe's Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (Silver partner), said that the founders of the International Telegraph Union, the forerunner of ITU, would be astounded at the phenomenal impact of information and communication technologies on humanity. The Union had promoted those technologies, bringing them into people's daily lives. He recognized the unique nature of ITU as a public-private organization, with a membership encompassing 193 countries and some 700 private institutions. ITU worked to make telecommunications accessible, available and adaptable globally, but more still needed to be done to help developing countries keep pace with technological innovation. He saluted the work of the Secretary-General and his team.

2.13 The **Deputy Secretary-General** presented ITU 150th anniversary certificates to the Gold, Silver and Bronze partners.

2.14 The **Chairman** congratulated all recipients of certificates.

The meeting rose at 1755 hours.

The Secretary-General:

H. TOURÉ

The Chairman:

W. MIN
