Daily report

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Council 2019 – Day 8

19 June 2019, in Geneva, Switzerland

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Published 21 June 2019

Too long; didn't read? A short summary

Significant developments

- Dates of ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2022 confirmed by Council as 26 September – 14 October 2022. Location previously agreed: Bucharest, Romania.
- Discussions on the ITU headquarters rebuilding project are ongoing.

Informal consultations

1. **BACK AGAIN: Informal Group on CWG-Internet open consultation topics**
   Plenary Chair asked group to try once more. It tried. Reached same conclusion: no consensus possible.

   Meeting 4: 12.45-2.10 pm, 18 June

2. **Informal consultations on Union's headquarters premises project**
   To discuss how to move forward with concerns expressed by some Council members about past cost increases, and potential future cost increases for the headquarters rebuilding project.

3. **NEW: Dates of upcoming Council Working Group meetings**
   Regional coordinators and Council Working Group Chairs to meet to agree to proposed dates for upcoming CWG meetings.

   Meeting: 5:30 pm, 19 June

For more information about how ITU Council works, as well as brief summaries of issues related to digital policy that will be discussed at ITU Council 2019, 10-20 June 2019, see Nissaba's pre-meeting report on this year's Council session:

http://nissaba.net/pre-meeting-reports/itu-council-2019

For official ITU information on ITU Council 2019, see:

https://www.itu.int/en/council/2019/Pages/default.aspx

Decisions made on Day 8

Plenary[1]

Endorsed:

- The *Package of documents concerning ITU Internet activities under Resolutions 101, 102, 133 and 180* to be transmitted to the UN Secretary-General. The package consists of:

    - Report by the Secretary-General: ITU Internet Activities: Resolutions 101, 102, 133, and 180 (C19/33)
    - One written contribution submitted by an ITU Council Member State on the report
    - Official ITU Council Summary Record of the related verbal discussions held during Council

        https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0010/en
        https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0033/en

Approved:

- The instructions to the Secretary General contained in *Conclusions from the GCA Informal Group*, to submit to ITU Council 2020:

    - A report explaining how the ITU currently utilizes the GCA framework
    - Develop appropriate guidelines, with the involvement of Member States, for utilising the GCA, to be considered and approved by the Council

    https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0008/en

    The Informal Group was formed as a response to the Council's consideration of *Report by the Secretary-General: Transmission of the Report from the Former Chairman of GCA High Level Experts Group*.
    https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0058/en

- *Draft decision: Sixth World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology Policy Forum,* which specifies a three-day event in Geneva, to be held preferably back-to-back with WSIS Forum 2021. The overall theme for WTPF is "Policies for mobilizing new and emerging telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development".
    https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0015/en

- Updated Council Resolution 1379, *Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITRs)*. The EG-ITRs is to prepare a final report to the ITU Council 2022, which will then submit the report, with Council's comments, to 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference.
    https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0011/en

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[1] Note: this summary is based on the on-the-floor discussions in ITU Council 2019, where the discussions can be very complex and the proposed form of action by Council restated in many ways as the Chair responds to the direction of discussions. The canonical set of Council actions will be issued by the ITU Secretariat

- Proposed revision *of Resolution 1336 - Council Working Group on international Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet).* The updated Council Resolution 1336. The updated resolution reached consensus in the Informal Group on Streamlining Council Resolutions 1336 and 1344.
  https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0016/en

  The Informal Group was created in response to discussions on *Proposals for the revision and merging of Resolution 1336 and Resolution 1344.*
  https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0071/en

Standing Committee for Administration and Management (ADM)

Noted:

- *Summary report on the work of the Member States Advisory Group on the Union's Headquarters premises project*
  https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0033/en

  ADM had been unable to reach consensus on whether to approve going forward with a second phase of the rebuilding loan with the host country, Switzerland .The ADM did not reach consensus on a proposed way forward: to hold an extraordinary meeting later this year to review additional documents related to the headquarters rebuilding project. If the proposed extraordinary meeting were to happen, and Council was satisfied with the additional information provided at the meeting, Council could then proceed to approve going forward with a second phase of the rebuilding loan.

Considered:

- *Draft Report by the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Administration and Management* (ADM)
  https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-190610-TD-GEN-0012/en

  The report contained a summary of the ADM Committee's deliberations over its 10 sessions during Council 2019. Over the 10 meetings, the ADM:

  - Considered 72 documents
  - Adopted 4 Council Resolutions
  - 7 Council Decisions

  Square brackets (indicating lack of consensus) remain around the recommendation that the Council hold an extraordinary meeting later this year to review additional documents related to the headquarters rebuilding project.

  When the document is available in the six UN languages, it will become a "Contribution" document and be presented to Plenary for consideration.

Other developments on Day 8

- The Informal Group for Identifying Topics for **Open Consultation for the Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues** (CWG-Internet) reported to Plenary that it had been unable to reach consensus on a topic for future open consultations. The Council Chair requested the group reconvene one more time to attempt to find consensus. The informal group meet during the lunch break, but was again unable to reach consensus. As a result, the September meeting of the CWG-Internet will not have an open consultation process preceding it. The September meeting of the CWG-Internet will then discuss topics for the CWG-Internet's meeting in January 2020.

- Discussions on the **ITU headquarters rebuilding project** continued to dominate the discussions of the ADM on its last day of meetings. The final decision on the way forward will be made by Plenary on 20 June.