



African Telecommunications Union
Union Africaine des Télécommunications

**African Preparatory Meeting for the
ITU Plenipotentiary Conference**
(PP-06, Antalya, Turkey, 6-24 November 2006)

**Grand Regency Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya
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DRAFT REPORT

1. Introduction

At the kind invitation of the Kenyan Government, the African Telecommunications Union (ATU) organized the African Preparatory Meeting for PP-06 in Nairobi, Kenya, from 19 to 21 June 2006. The main objective of the meeting was to evolve African Common Proposals for the work of the PP-06, scheduled to take place in Antalya, Turkey, from 6 to 24 November 2006. The meeting was attended by 70 delegates from 23 African countries, Saudi Arabia, ECOWAS, CEPT, ITU and the RCC. The final list of participants is attached as annex 1.

2. Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony was marked by statements delivered by the following persons:

- 2.1 The Secretary General of ATU, Mr. Akossi Akossi thanked the participants for their presence and expressed his confidence that the outcome of their work will reflect fair representation of Africa's views with regard to the work of the PP-06. He also thanked the Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK) and the government of Kenya for their continued support to ATU.
- 2.2 The Director of the ITU Regional Office for Africa, Mr. Brahim Sanou, recalled the coordination role of ATU in the evolvment of African Common Proposals for the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-06) that was held in Doha, Qatar, from 7 to 15 March 2006 and underlined the fruitful collaboration and cooperation between ITU and ATU that has led to the promotion of institutional and operational partnership between the two organizations.

- 2.3 Speaking on behalf of the Honorable Dr. Tarek Kamel, Minister of Communications and Information Technologies of Egypt and Chairman of the Ministerial Conference on Communications and Information Technologies of the African Union, Dr. Ahmad Abdelbassit, welcomed the delegates to the meeting and expressed his gratitude to the Kenyan Government and ATU for hosting the meeting. He stressed the importance of close coordination and collaboration between all concerned parties to properly carry out the implementation of actions required for the use of ICTs to foster the socio-economic development and human capacity development of the African continent. Dr. Abdelbassit also underlined some of the key issues that are on the agenda of PP-06.
- 2.4 Representing the Honorable Minister for Communications of Kenya, Chairman of the Conference of Plenipotentiary of ATU, Eng. John Waweru, Director General of the Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK), welcomed delegates to Kenya and wished them a pleasant stay. He stressed the need for Africa to speak with one voice at international forums and thanked countries that have in the past taken the lead in championing Africa proposals and initiatives. He urged delegates to work together through the guidance of ATU and ensure that Africa's voice is heard throughout the world where crucial ICT issues are being deliberated. He finally concluded by declaring the meeting officially open.

3. Election of the Bureau

The Bureau set up for the meeting was the current Bureau of the Conference of Plenipotentiary of ATU, i.e.:

- Chairman: Kenya
- 1st Vice-chairman: Cameroon
- 2nd Vice-chairman: Côte d'Ivoire
- 3rd Vice-chairman: Egypt
- Rapporteur : Zimbabwe replacing Lesotho that was not in attendance.

Following the adoption of this Bureau by the meeting, Mr. John Omo, Commission Secretary of CCK was designated by Kenya to preside over the deliberations.

4. Approval of the Agenda and the Work Programme of the Meeting

The agenda and the work programme of the meeting were adopted with no amendment. They are attached as Annex 2 and 3.

5. Presentation of the PP-06 Agenda and Structure

The agenda and the structure of PP-06 were presented by Mr. Brahim Sanou, Director, ITU Regional Office for Africa.

5.1. On the agenda of PP-06, Mr. Sanou outlined the following key issues that the meeting might want to consider when evolving African proposals:

- The ITU strategic plan.
- The modification of the name of the ITU as a result of the changed mandate of ITU in the process of the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS.
- The budgetary ceilings and the value of the contributory unit.
- The functions of the Deputy Secretary General.
- Elections: As of 2 May 2006, out of 31 countries worldwide, 14 African countries have lost their rights of vote.

5.2. The draft structure of the PP-06 will be as follows:

- Committee 1 – Steering Committee
- Committee 2 – Credentials Committee
- Committee 3 – Budget Control Committee
- Committee 4 – Editorial Committee
- Committee 5 – Policy, Reform and Legal Matters
- Committee 6 – Administration and Management
- Working Group of the Plenary on the Strategic Plan and General Matters

Mr. Sanou underlined that Committee 5, Committee 6 and the Working Group of the Plenary on the Strategic Plan and General Matters are the most critical for Africa and urged African delegates to attend those three.

5.3. Draft time management plan:

- General declarations: there will be slots allocated in the first week only for governments to make general declarations that should not exceed 5 minutes.
- Date of elections: Elections might start on the 4th day instead of the 9th day as per the current provision of the convention that was set up for a 5-week Conference, whereas the duration of PP-06 has been reduced to 3 weeks. There is a formal proposal of Europe to have elections in the 1st week. However, in order to have this provision enforced for PP-06, the decision must be taken on the 1st day of the Conference with a majority of 3/4.

5.4. Key dates of the PP-06:

- 6 March 2006: submission of proposals for amendments in the Constitution and the Convention of ITU.
- 6 July 2006: submission of proposals for the work of the PP-06.
- 9 October 2006 at 23H59: deadline for the candidatures for all elective posts and the Council.
- 27 October 2006: sending of credentials by e-mail.
- From 3 November 2006: remittance of credentials during the PP-06.

It was however noted that the dates related to the submission of proposals both for amendments of the Constitution and the Convention and for the work of the PP-06 are recommended deadlines but are flexible.

6. Consideration of the outcomes of the 2006 session of the Council

This item was presented by Mr. John Omo, the representative of Kenya. He pointed out some issues that are of importance to Africa.

- 6.1 WSIS: Council debated on how the Union should adapt to its new environment and adapt its structure and fundamental texts in this regard. It was also recommended that the WSIS outcomes be taken into account in the ITU strategic plan and that resources be allocated to the ITU-D to enable BDT to implement the actions ITU is responsible for in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes.
- 6.2 WTDC-06: It was recommended that the financial plan take into consideration the Doha action plan. As a consequence, funds were allocated to the study groups as they were deemed an important activity for many members, though they had not been previously mentioned in the financial plan.
- 6.3 Internet: there is ongoing work on the issue and the General Secretariat has made some proposals to be forwarded to UNCITRAL. Proposals are on anti-spam legislation and enforcement of codes of conduct for ISPs. There were concerns that the proposals had not been fully discussed, but Members States were assured that they would have opportunity to make contributions to the issue before the model legislation is finalized.
- 6.4 Contributory units: The value fixed for the contributory unit is key in the preparation of the financial plan. The proposal on the table will likely be to maintain the contributory unit at CHF 318,000. It was explained that a decision not to increase this amount would result in the non implementation of some important activities of the Doha Action Plan, such as the regional initiatives.

7. Consideration of Proposals from other regions and countries

7.1. European Common Proposals

The meeting considered the following European Common Proposals that were presented by Mr. Knut Smaalund, Chairman of CEPT working group on preparations for the PP-06.

- Candidatures/Elected officials
 - o The objectives of the CEPT were to determine positions of interest and priority for Europe, invite candidatures for those positions and select preferred candidates by a voting process within CEPT. CEPT also endeavored to address coordination of Council and RRB candidatures.

- The CEPT process yielded the endorsement of the candidature of Mr. Matthias Kurth of Germany for Secretary-General and the endorsement of the candidature of Mr. Valery Timofeev of the Russian Federation for Director of BR. There are other candidates from Europe, but these are not resulting from the CEPT process.
- Already agreed European Common Proposals
 - Organization of elections during the first week of the PP-06 due to the reduction of the duration of the Conference from 5 to 3 weeks.
 - Implementation of the WSIS outcomes: An implication of the financial implication should be overviewed and ITU should share the burden with other shareholders such as UNESCO, ICANN, WIPO, WTO, the private sector and the civil society.
 - Clarification of the Secretary General's role in the Union management and discontinuation of the Coordination Committee.
 - Participation of observers and sector members observers in the Council meetings in their own capacity and not representing their sector. Support for the Interamerican proposal on this issue.
 - Suppression of regional telecom exhibitions in favour of an annual world telecom exhibition that would be hosted alternately by the different regions.
 - Abrogation of the International Telecommunications Regulation (ITR), transfer of some of its provisions to the Constitution, the Convention and ITU-T and postponement of the hosting of a World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT).
 - Better estimates of the financial implications of conference decisions.
 - Announcement of contributory unit much earlier than normal to enable an early draft financial plan.
 - Suppression of Resolutions 85, 87, 117 and 120 as they are considered obsolete or overtaken by events.
 - Minor updates to Resolution 86.

- DRAFT European Common Proposals in the approval process
 - o Encourage further ratification of the Tampere convention, update the texts and increase focus on standards for monitoring and early warning systems.
 - o Limit the terms of office for elected officials to a maximum of 2 terms of 4 years each.
 - o Establish a group to study the modalities of how Directors of the Bureaus could be appointed rather than elected with a view to make decisions at PP-10.
 - o Introduce more fair terms for sector members leaving ITU and adopt a new resolution addressing the management and follow up of defrayal by sector members and associate members.
 - o Broaden ITU's dossier in the area of network security, spam and cybercrime and act accordingly.

- Further issues identified for PP-06
 - o Annual budget: reschedule Plenipotentiary Conferences (early) and Councils (late) to reduce forecasting periods, strengthen forecasting methods (quarterly) and develop annual budgets that balance without drawing on the reserve account.
 - o Define the conditions of an eventual implication of the civil society in the work of the ITU.
 - o Abrogation of Resolution 27 on participation of ITU in UNDP since UN now generally calls for national execution.
 - o Oppose the Arab Common Proposal to remove the 3000 Ghz threshold in the definition of radiocommunication in the Constitution and Convention because frequencies above 3000GHz are better regulated on a national basis.
 - o Address various aspects of Internet and related issues.
 - o Address cross-references and conflicts between the Radiocommunication Regulation and the Convention and Constitution and also some Plenipotentiary Conference and Council decisions and resolutions.

- Modify Resolution 91 following assessment of the situation of cost recovery.
- Review the working methods and modalities of the RRB and propose possible changes.

7.2. Arab States Common Proposals

The meeting considered the following Arab States Common Proposals that were presented by Dr. Ahmad Abdelbassit of Egypt.

- Modification of the title of the Union and its fundamental texts to reflect the broadening of its scope, mandate and future role, in order to fulfill its responsibilities in the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS.
- Amendment of the definition of radiocommunication in the Convention in order to remove the 3000 Ghz threshold.

7.3. Common Proposals of the CIS Countries

The following 6 draft common proposals of the CIS countries were presented by Mr. Dmitry Cherkesov of the Regional Commonwealth in the field of communications (RCC):

- Extend to countries with economies in transition the activities and other issues designed for developing countries;
- Keep the ITR and strengthen their role;
- Keep the present management structure of ITU, the number of elected positions and support recommendations of the Working Group of Council on Resolution 108 on the continuation of the Coordination Committee activities;
- Eliminate some inconsistencies in ITU documents concerning observers' participation at ITU meetings;
- Use the 6 official and working languages in ITU activities;
- Adapt the Union to the challenges of developing the Information society by expanding the scope of ITU to "infocommunication" and set up a working group of the Council on adapting the Union for the implementation of WSIS outcomes.

In addition the RCC has decided to support the election of Kazakhstan, Russian Federation and Ukraine to the Council of ITU as well as the reelection of Mr. Valery Timofeev of the Russian Federation for the post of Director of the Bureau of Radiocommunication.

7.4. Inter American Proposals

The meeting considered the following Inter American Proposals, presented by Mrs. Namahoua Bamba-Touré of ATU, in the absence of a representative from the America region:

- Reduce from one year to six months the period after which the denunciation takes effect when a Sector Member denounces its participation in a Sector.
- Adopt the recommendations of the Working Group on Observers created in response to Resolution 109 (Marrakesh, 2002) "Review and consolidation of provisions regarding observers" that made proposals for:
 - Amendments in the Convention.
 - Amendments in the General Rules of Conferences, Assemblies and Meetings of the Union.
 - Adoption of the draft Resolution [IAP-1] (Antalya, 2006) "Participation of observers in ITU conferences, assemblies and meetings".

7.5. USA Proposals

The meeting considered the following USA Proposals, presented by Mrs. Namahoua Bamba-Touré of ATU, in the absence of a representative from that country:

- There is no need for a change in the definition of "telecommunications".
- There is no need to change Article 1 on the purpose of the Union in order to carry out the results of WSIS.
- The ITR continue to be relevant in today's world.

- The structure of the Union is sound and provides sufficient flexibility to respond to the needs of the Membership.
 - o The current number of five elected officials is appropriate.
 - o The current size of the Radio Regulation Board, as established in 1998 and reaffirmed in 2002, is sufficient to allow the RRB to perform its duties as defined in the Constitution and Convention, and to allow for equitable geographic distribution among the regions of the world.
- There is a need for further improvements to the efficacy, accountability and transparency of ITU, particularly when considering the functions of the Secretary/ Deputy Secretary-General:
 - o The Secretary-General should be repositioned as the legal representative of the Union.
 - o Functions and duties for the Deputy Secretary-General should be specified.
- There is a need to continue to implement measures to improve oversight and accountability by strengthening the ITU Council:
 - o The role of the Secretary-General should be clarified by stating clearly that he is answerable to Council for the overall management of the Union's resources.
 - o The Deputy Secretary-General's role should be clarified and it should be stated clearly his accountability to Council.
 - o It should be clearly stated that the Directors of BR, TSB and BDT are accountable to Council for the operation of those Bureaus.
 - o The Advisory Groups of the 3 sectors should be aligned by stating that they act through the Directors.

8. Consideration of proposals from African countries or groupings

The meeting considered the following proposals from Kenya that were presented by Mr. Muthusi Mutua.

- 8.1. Amend the Constitution and the Convention to reflect the expansion of the scope of the Union and the need to align the identity and the mandate of the Union to the progression in the sector.
- 8.2. Call on the PP-06 to consider the proposal to support ATU and NEPAD given their role in spreading the ICT development in Africa which lags behind in the uptake of ICT due to lack of capacity and resources required.

9. Evolvement of African Common Proposals

9.1. Process for evolving African Common Proposals

Following discussions on the various proposals, the meeting decided to adopt the following process for the evolvement of African Common Proposals:

1. Identify possible themes of African Common Proposals.
2. For each identified area, appoint a coordinator that would develop the draft African Common Proposals, in collaboration with other members in the following format:
 - a. Background (if any)
 - b. Proposal
 - c. Justification
 - d. Text of the proposed draft resolution or amendment of a provision of the Constitution or Convention.
3. Send the draft African Common Proposals to countries to seek comments and/or evolve additional draft African Common Proposals.
4. Forward the revised draft African Common Proposals to the ATU Conference of Plenipotentiary for their formal endorsement successively by:
 - The Special Session of the Administrative Council: Tripoli, Libya, 9-11 July 2006.

- The Conference Preparatory Committee: Tripoli, Libya, 12-15 July 2006.
 - The ATU Conference of Plenipotentiary: Tripoli, Libya, 16-17 July 2006.
5. Send to ITU the African Common Proposals with the names of all countries that have endorsed them.

9.2. Themes and coordinators of African Common Proposals

1.	Institutionalization of the Global Symposium for Regulators.	Egypt
2.	Extension of the mandate of the Working Group of Council on the management control (NGOC).	Mali
3.	Elimination of some inconsistencies in ITU fundamental texts: proposal of amendments or deletion of obsolete provisions.	Mali
4.	Retention of the ITR since it is still relevant to some developing countries and continuation of ongoing work on this issue.	Egypt
5.	Amendment of the definition of 'radiocommunication' to remove the threshold of 3,000 GHz.	Egypt
6.	Reform of the ITU and revision of its title and mandate in relation to its future role in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes.	Egypt
7.	Implications of the determination and time of announcement of the contributory unit on the financial plan of the Union and proposal of partnerships with stakeholders that would boost the financial basis of the Union.	Tunisia
8.	Amendment of Resolution 124 of Marrakech with a view to enhance support for ATU and the NEPAD.	Kenya
9.	Review of the structure of the Union with a view to clarify the roles of the Secretary General, the Deputy Secretary General and the Directors of the Bureaus.	Senegal

10.	Adoption of the recommendations of the Council on the change of dates of elections due to the reduction of the duration of the Conference from 5 to 3 weeks and the large number of candidatures.	Nigeria
11.	Retention of the current arrangements of regional telecom exhibitions and world telecom exhibitions.	Uganda
12.	Retention of the federal structure of the current management of the ITU.	Uganda
13.	Clarification of the status of observers and sector members in ITU meetings.	Senegal
14.	Audit of the regional presence in order to strengthen it.	Mali

10. Recommendations for preparation of African countries for the PP-06

- 10.1 Due to the likeliness of the holding of elections on Thursday 9th November 2006, the 4th day of the Conference, it is imperative that African delegations sort out the issue of credentials as early as possible and latest on Wednesday 8th November 2006, the 3rd day of the Conference, to avoid being prevented from casting their ballot.
- 10.2 The ATU Conference of Plenipotentiary to be held in Tripoli, Libya from 16 to 17 July, should:
- Take note that a number of African countries have lost their rights to vote at the ITU, a fact likely to weaken the strength of the African votes.
 - Urge those countries that have lost their rights to vote to fulfill their obligations to ITU.
- 10.3 African countries should be aware that early elections could have an impact on the contributory unit, hence on the financial plan, and should therefore be prepared to study the financial plan and take the necessary actions to ensure that important activities of the ITU such as the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the regional initiatives of the Doha Action plan are fully implemented. Therefore it is proposed to:

- Call upon African countries to increase their number of contributory units, to show their willingness to participate in finding solutions in the financial problems of the Union. So far, the biggest African contributors are paying at the utmost 2 contributory units.
- Call upon the big contributors that had reduced their financial support to the Union to come back to their previous level of contribution.
- Call upon the African private sector to increase their participation in the Union.

11. Organization of the African Group during PP-06

The meeting decided that a coordination mechanism of the African Group should be established as follows:

- o Establish a steering committee constituted of a Chairman, Vice-chairmen and the ATU Secretariat to service its meetings.
- o Appoint spokespersons/coordinators and their deputies for various typical issues in each committee.
- o Appoint 2 to 3 coordinators to represent Africa in the inter-regional coordination meetings and advocate the African Common Proposals.
- o Hold coordination meetings:
 - Every Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and as and when the need arises for the whole African Group.
 - Daily for the Steering Committee of the African Group.
- o Request the ATU Secretariat to take any necessary action in order to provide translation facilities for all the African Group meetings and the meetings of the Steering Committee of the African Group.
- o Implement the following programme for the evolvement of African Common Proposals:
 - Collate the draft African Common Proposals before the ATU Conference of Plenipotentiary to be held in Tripoli, Libya, from 16 to 17 July 2006,

- Forward the draft African Common Proposal to the ATU Conference of Plenipotentiary for endorsement and
- Send the African Common Proposals to ITU, with the names of all the countries supporting them.

12. Proposals for African representatives in the PP-06 structure

Mrs. Namahoua Bamba-Touré of ATU explained that the meeting is expected to:

- Identify some positions for which Africa could objectively apply.
- Make recommendations to the PP-06 organizers on the appointment of African representatives to the coveted positions.
- Negotiate and coordinate with other regions to secure a fair representation of the African continent in the structure of PP-06.

After discussions and consultations, the meeting decided that:

- Out of the 25 available positions, a fair representation of Africa in the structure of the PP-06 would be constituted of at least:
 - 1 position of Vice-chairman of the PP-06.
 - 1 position of Chairman of a Committee or Working Group.
 - 2 positions of Vice-chairman of a Committee or Working Group.
 - 2 positions of Rapporteur of a Committee or Working Group.
- Some criteria should be taken into account when nominating the African representatives. Among others:
 - Equitable representation of the five African sub-regions and rotation of their representation in ITU global meetings.
 - Personal qualities of the individuals to be nominated such as availability during the three weeks of duration of the Conference, competency, familiarity with issues to be discussed and with undergoing work in Council, notoriety, negotiation skills, management skills, etc.
 - Distribute the identified positions between the five sub-regions and avail enough time to the sub-regions to make proposals.

- No name proposals should be made before the ATU Conference of Plenipotentiary and consultations will be undertaken in the interim on the most suitable candidates that would represent Africa in the PP-06 structure.

13. Consideration of elections related issues

Mrs. Namahoua Bamba of ATU stated that the objectives of this issue are to come up with recommendations that would ensure:

- That the Region D seats of the ITU Council are equitably distributed between the five African sub-regions.
- That Africa's support goes in priority to African countries, taking into account their status as far as payment of ATU and ITU contributions are concerned, and also based on their level of involvement in the activities of both organizations.
- That African countries elected to the ITU Council be accountable to Africa and efficiently represent the continent by actively participating in Council

Its was also explained that the matter had been extensively discussed by ATU Conference of Plenipotentiary in 2002 and 2003 and a Resolution had been adopted in this regard, though never implemented.

After extensive discussions, the meeting acknowledged that:

- There is a need for equitable distribution in the five African sub-regions of ITU Region D Council seats.
- The implementation of the Resolution taken by the ATU Conference of Plenipotentiary encounters some difficulties related to issues such as national sovereignty, relevance of the criteria used and commitment.
- There is a need to undertake some additional research and consultation on the matter.
- There is a need to establish modalities to ensure that African countries that are elected at the ITU Council can take on board issues brought forward by other countries and report back on the activities of the Council.

In view of the above, the meeting decided:

- To establish an online working group that will carry out additional research and consultation on the matter and give a first report to the 2007 ordinary session of the ATU Administrative Council. The working Group is chaired by Senegal and its members are Egypt, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, Uganda, Tunisia, Cameroon, Botswana, and Tanzania.
- To request ATU to attend ITU Council meetings as observer, with the objective to coordinate the African Group consultations, collate and forward to the African Group of the Council issues from African countries that are not ITU Council Members and continuously update African countries on issues being discussed by the ITU Council.

14. Any Other Business

Statements were made by some delegates:

- Ghana: The Honorable Dr. Benjamin Aggrey Ntim, Deputy Minister of Communications conveyed his appreciation to the Kenya Government for the hospitality and pledged Ghana's wholehearted support to ATU in its efforts to evolve African Common Positions for PP-06 in order to secure maximum advantage for Africa. He also stated that Africa should muster the necessary support for its candidates at the elections to ensure that Africa captures the top slots. In this regard, the Honorable Minister announcement the candidature of Ghana for the ITU Council and also the candidature of Major (rtd) Raymond J. K. Tandoh for the position of Deputy Secretary General of the ITU. With regard to the issues before the PP-06, the Minister requested the meeting to consider among the issues, the following developed as Commonwealth Common Objectives, that Ghana adheres to:
 - o The future role of ITU in the light of the outcomes of WSIS.
 - o Implementing an effective result-based management system.
 - o Strengthening BDT to organize and coordinate technical cooperation and assistance activities in the light of WSIS results.
 - o Strengthening cooperation and collaboration within the ITU in the organization of seminars, workshops, etc. to avoid duplication and optimize the use of resources.

- Empowering the Plenipotentiary Conference to abrogate ITRs.
 - Rotate World Telecom exhibitions around the 5 regions and abolish regional telecom exhibitions.
 - Encouragement of voluntary rotation of Council seats.
 - Retention of the ITU name.
- Cameroon: Following the circulation to the meeting of an ITU document on countries that had lost their rights of vote, the delegate of Cameroon assured the meeting that his government was taking any necessary action in order to clear their arrears of contributions to ITU and recover their rights of vote.
 - Nigeria: Following the circulation to the meeting of an ITU document on countries that had lost their rights of vote, the delegate of Nigeria informed the meeting that they had cleared their arrears of contributions to ITU and had therefore since recovered their rights of vote.

15. Adoption of the report

The French version of the report not being ready, the report was not considered. The meeting agreed that the report would be adopted online.

16. Closing ceremony

The Chairman outlined the steps that would be taken to finalize the report and expedite the submission of AfCPs to ITU before the deadline.

Participants noted that the meeting had been very fruitful and had provided an appropriate occasion to exchange views not only among African representatives but also those from regional organizations.

They expressed great appreciation to the Chairman for ably steering the meeting and the Kenyan authorities as well as ATU General Secretariat for the excellent arrangements.

In his closing remarks the Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution to the success of the meeting and wished them a safe return home.

ACRONYMS

ATU	African Telecommunications Union
BDT	ITU Bureau of Telecommunication Development
BR	Bureau of Radiocommunication of ITU
CEPT	Conference of European Administrations of Posts and Telecommunications
CCK	Communications Commission of Kenya
ECOWAS	Economic Community of Western African States
ICANN	Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ITRs	International Telecommunications Regulations
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
ITU-D	Development Sector of ITU
ITU-R	Radiocommunication Sector of ITU
ITU-T	Standardization Sector of ITU
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
PP-06	ITU Plenipotentiary Conference to be held in Antalya, Turkey, from 6 to 24 November 2006
RCC	Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications
RRB	Radiocommunication Regulation Board
UN	United Nations
UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission for International Trade Law
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural organization
WCIT	World Conference on International Telecommunication
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WRC	World Radiocommunication Conference
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
WTDC	World Telecommunication Development Conference
WTO	World Trade Organization
WTSA	World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly