

PLENARY MEETING

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**AFRICAN COMMON PROPOSALS FOR THE
WORK OF THE CONFERENCE**

PROPOSAL 1

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Comoros (Union of the), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of)

**Clarification of the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General and
the role of elected officials**

Introduction

The outcomes of the Council Working Group on the “Functioning of the Coordination Committee and tasks of the Secretary-General” are relevant. It should however be noted that some provisions should be included in the draft resolution of this working group so that:

- Clear and precise guidelines regarding the duties of the Deputy Secretary-General be first approved by the Council
- The Secretary-General be accountable for the overall management of the Union to avoid any contradiction
- The Council be associated, through some officials, with some meetings of the Coordination Committee if necessary.

Analysis

There is a need to clarify the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General and the role of elected officials.

Proposal

It is proposed to amend the draft resolution produced by the Council working group in order to improve the functioning of the Coordination Committee and specify tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General.

• PP-06 documents are available at <http://www.itu.int/plenipotentiary/index.html> .•

AFCP/34/1
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION [AFCP-1] (Antalya, 2006)

**Functioning of the Coordination Committee and tasks
of the Deputy Secretary-General**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

considering

- a) that the Plenipotentiary Conference of 2002 adopted Resolution 108 on the Improvement of the Functioning of the Coordination Committee, including the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General and the roles of the other elected officials;
- b) that Resolution 108 called upon the Council to establish a working group open to participation by Member States charged with:
 - i) examining the functioning of the Coordination Committee, including the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General and the roles of the other elected officials;
 - ii) submitting to the Council a report containing, in particular, the draft texts that could be necessary in the event of modification of the Constitution or the Convention and which could be used by Member States in preparing their proposals in that regard to the next plenipotentiary conference;
- c) that the tasks and functions of the Deputy Secretary-General are not expressly enumerated in the basic instruments of the Union;
- d) the need to strengthen and improve the functioning and efficiency of the Coordination Committee,

noting

that the Council in 2003 established a working group to consider this matter, which met physically on one occasion and also worked by electronic means,

further noting

- a) that the coordination of the activities within the Union could be more efficient if the roles of the elected staff were clarified;
- b) that the Secretary-General is responsible for the overall management of the resources of the Union and is therefore accountable to the Council;
- c) that the Secretary-General should delegate partially the management of the resources of the Union to other elected staff;
- d) that only the Deputy Secretary-General shall be accountable for the management of the said resources to the Council but through the Secretary-General,

recalling

- a) the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the Convention in this regard;
- b) Decision 7 of the 2002 Plenipotentiary Conference, which instructed the Secretary-General to make minutes of Coordination Committee meetings available on the Council website, excluding confidential staff matters,

having examined

the report of the working group, which was submitted to the Council at its ordinary session in 2005,

recognizing

- a) the need to make optimal use of the position of the Deputy Secretary-General in the management of the Union
- b) the importance of more transparency and increased efficiency in the work of the Coordination Committee,

resolves

to improve the efficiency of the Coordination Committee

- i) the Coordination Committee, consistent with its mandate, must give additional focus to the implementation of the strategic mission and purposes of the Union, as set forth in the basic instruments and in the Strategic Plan, must place particular emphasis on enhancing its financial and administrative functions, should enhance the regular exchange of information among elected officials on their respective activities and should, within the constraints of the budget of the Union, seek new efficiencies in all aspects of the Union;
- ii) the senior managers of the Union (namely Deputies to the Directors of the Bureaux, the Chief of the Finance Department and the Chief of the Personnel Department) should be closely associated, when appropriate, with the work of the Coordination Committee;
- iii) the Council (namely the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman) should be closely associated, when appropriate, with the work of the Coordination Committee,

concerning the role of the Deputy Secretary-General

the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General, consistent with the basic instruments, must be defined to create a clear operational and management role,

instructs the Secretary-General

- 1 to take all necessary measures to implement this resolution;
- 2 to prepare and submit to the Council for approval, specific directives concerning the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General;
- 3 to issue clear and specific directives concerning the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General;
- 4 to make the minutes of the Coordination Committee meetings available to all Member States on the website, excluding confidential staff matters,

further instructs the Secretary-General

to report regularly to the Council on the measures taken to implement this resolution.

PROPOSAL 2

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Comoros (Union of the), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of)

Guidelines on the determination of the role and tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General

Introduction

The role of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General are stated in Article 11 of the Constitution and Article 5 of the Convention. Article 11 reads: "The Deputy Secretary-General shall be responsible to the Secretary-General; he shall assist the Secretary-General in the performance of his duties and undertake such specific tasks as may be entrusted to him by the Secretary-General. He shall perform the duties of the Secretary-General in the absence of the latter".

Considering these provisions, it can be noticed that no precise task is allocated to the Deputy Secretary-General. The entirety of his work is up to the Secretary-General. In order to allow the Deputy Secretary-General to be more involved in the activities of ITU and play a more active role towards members, it is important to officially define and determine for him some tasks while keeping some flexibility to allow the Secretary-General to adapt the situation in accordance with the circumstances. However, the work shall be carried out under the responsibility of the Secretary-General.

In order to guarantee a certain amount of flexibility in the assignment of duties to the Deputy Secretary-General, their definition in the organization's Constitution and Convention must be avoided, as these are restrictive documents that are reviewed every four years. For this purpose, the duties shall be adopted by Council, following proposals made by the Secretary-General.

Analysis

There is a need to:

- allow the Deputy Secretary-General to play a more active role and give an operational dimension to his position;
- to make the best use of capabilities of the Deputy Secretary-General and give some flexibility to his tasks;
- avoid the concentration of work at the level of the Secretary-General;
- allow ITU members to be able to assess the tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General.

Proposal

It is proposed to attach the following guidelines to the draft resolution on "Functioning of the Coordination Committee and tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General".

AFCP/34/2
ADD

ANNEX TO DRAFT RESOLUTION [AFCP-1] (Antalya, 2006)

**Guidelines on the determination of the role and
tasks of the Deputy Secretary-General**

The Deputy Secretary-General shall:

- Supervise the preparation of the activity reports of the General Secretariat
- Coordinate annually the preparation of the four-year rolling operational plan of the General Secretariat
- Oversee some divisions such as the Human Resource Division, the General Services Division and the Conference Division
- Service some meetings or conferences of the Union
- Supervise study projects related to recommendations of conferences
- Undertake any other tasks as instructed by the Secretary-General.

PROPOSAL 3

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Egypt (Arab Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Retention of regional TELECOMs and rotation of world TELECOMS

Introduction

Resolution 11 (Marrakesh, 2002), among other things, mandates ITU in collaboration with Member States to organize regional and world TELECOMs exhibitions and forums on a regular basis.

Analysis

It should be noted that:

- The regional and world TELECOMs exhibitions and the associated forums have played a significant role in facilitating the transfer of technology and sharing of knowledge among Member States, Sector Members and the wider telecommunication community.
- The regional TELECOMs exhibitions allow in particular the host communities to benefit from the event.

Proposal

It is proposed to amend Resolution 11 (Marrakesh, 2002) in order:

- To retain the existing arrangements for holding of the regional and world TELECOMs exhibitions and the associated forums.
- To rotate the world TELECOMs exhibitions in every region
- To put in place mechanisms for ensuring transparency and efficiency in the organization of the TELECOM events.
- To avoid having the world TELECOMS event in the same year with regional TELECOMS event.

AFCP/34/3
MOD

RESOLUTION 11 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)

**World and regional telecommunication
exhibitions and forums**

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

considering

- a)* that telecommunication exhibitions and associated forums (TELECOMS) are of considerable assistance in keeping the membership of the Union and the wider telecommunication community informed of the latest advances in all fields of telecommunications and the possibilities of applying them for the benefit of all Member States and Sector Members, particularly the developing countries;
- b)* that world and regional TELECOMS fulfil the mandate to keep Member States and Sector Members informed of, and offer a universal opportunity for the display of, state-of-the-art technology concerning all aspects of telecommunications and related fields of activity;
- c)* that regional TELECOMS bring the potential benefits of telecommunications closer to the people of all continents by emphasizing the specific problems of each region and indicating possible solutions to them;
- d)* that such regional exhibitions and forums organized on a regular basis by ITU, with no commercial interest, staged at the invitation of Member States, are an excellent means of catering for the needs of both developed and developing countries and facilitate the transfer of technology and of essential information to developing countries;
- e)* the commitments made by Switzerland towards ITU;
- f)* the commitments made by the countries which have signed the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies,

noting

- a)* that a board has been established to assist the Secretary-General in the management of TELECOM activities;
- b)* that many developing countries have moved significantly forward in the development of their telecommunication sector;
- c)* that some of these countries now have the capability and are willing to host and stage regional TELECOMS;
- d)* that ITU has been successfully organizing world and regional TELECOMS for many years;

- e) that the principles governing ITU's activities in this field have proved to be extraordinarily useful for the membership of the Union and the wider telecommunication community;
- f) that the operational flexibility which the TELECOM management needs in order to meet all the challenges in its field of activity and compete in its semi-commercial environment has proved to be useful,

resolves

- 1 that the Union should, in collaboration with its Member States, continue to organize world and regional telecommunication exhibitions and forums on a regular basis;
- 2 that the Union should give due consideration to balancing the need for generating surplus income from telecommunication exhibitions and forums with the capability and willingness of countries, and developing countries in particular, to host and stage regional TELECOMS;
- 3 that the Secretary-General is fully accountable for TELECOM activities (including planning, organization and finance), as a part of the permanent activities of the Union;
- 4 that decisions of the Secretary-General on the venues of world and regional TELECOMS shall be made on the basis of an open and transparent decision-making process based on objective criteria (specification of terms and conditions and call for candidatures);
- 5 that the world TELECOMS shall be rotated in every region, while ensuring to the extent possible that a world TELECOM and a regional TELECOM do not take place in the same year;
- 6 that a mechanism shall be put in place to ensure transparency and efficiency in the organization of regional and world TELECOMS;
- 7 that TELECOM activities are subject to the ITU Staff Regulations and Staff Rules, publication practices and Financial Regulations, including internal control and internal audit;
- 8 that the audit of TELECOM accounts shall be carried out by the external auditor of the Union;
- 9 that a significant part of any surplus income over expenditure derived from TELECOM activities should be used as extrabudgetary income for the Telecommunication Development Bureau, for specific telecommunication development projects, primarily in the least developed countries,

instructs the Secretary-General

- 1 to ensure the appropriate management of all TELECOM activities in line with the regulations of the Union and in particular with this resolution;
- 2 to consider measures that will enable and assist Member States which are capable and willing, particularly developing countries, to host and stage regional TELECOMS;
- 3 in respect of these measures, to take into account the following:
 - flexibility in implementing ITU requirements for regional telecommunication exhibitions and forums, i.e. space requirements, pricing regimes for exhibition, forum and office space;
 - establishing a rotation system in deciding the venue of regional TELECOMS which will give due consideration to countries which have not had the opportunity to host such an event but are willing and capable of doing so;
- 4 to take advice from the TELECOM Board, the mandate and the principles governing the composition of which are approved by the Council on the proposal of the Secretary-General;

5 to ensure the transparency of TELECOM activities and report on them in a separate annual report to the Council, including on:

- all TELECOM business activities;
- all activities of the TELECOM Board;
- the reasons for the selection of venues for future world and regional TELECOM exhibitions and forums;
- future events and their financial implications, the future strategy and risks to be considered;
- action taken with respect to the use of surplus income;

6 to ensure the internal control and internal and external audits of the accounts for the different TELECOM activities,

instructs the Council

1 to review the annual report on TELECOM activities as described under *instructs the Secretary-General 5* and give guidance on future trends for those activities;

2 to review and approve the TELECOM accounts, after having examined the report of the external auditor of the Union;

3 to review and approve the use of TELECOM surplus funds and to decide annually on the amount to be transferred to the Special Fund for Technical Cooperation;

4 to review and approve proposals of the Secretary-General on the principles for a transparent decision-making process on the venues of world and regional TELECOMS, including the criteria which serve as a basis of that process; such criteria shall include cost elements as well as, in the case of regional events, the rotation system and, in the case of world events, the additional costs which may result from holding the event outside the city of the seat of the Union;

5 to review and approve proposals of the Secretary-General on the mandate and on the principles governing the composition of the TELECOM Board.

PROPOSAL 4

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Comoros (Union of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Retention of the current federal structure of five elected officials

Introduction

The current federal structure of five (5) elected officials of the Union is sound and fair.

Analysis

- The structure gives a fair opportunity for geographical regional representation
- The structure does not concentrate power in one office of the union.

Proposal

It is proposed to retain the current federal structure of five (5) elected officials of the Union.

ARTICLE 9 (CS)

Principles Concerning Elections and Related Matters

AFCP/34/4

NOC 62

PP-94

PP-98

PP-02

- b)* the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux shall be elected among the candidates proposed by Member States as their nationals and shall all be nationals of different Member States, and at their election due consideration should be given to equitable geographical distribution amongst the regions of the world; due consideration should also be given to the principles embodied in No. 154 of this Constitution;

PROPOSAL 5

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Comoros (Union of the), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Correction of inaccuracies in the Convention

Introduction

Some provisions of the Convention contain inaccuracies.

Analysis

There is a need to:

- Correct erroneous references
- Remove certain incorrect references as well as outdated or inappropriate provisions
- Modify provisions or articles in order to reflect decisions that affect the Convention.

Proposals

ARTICLE 4 (CV)

The Council

**AFCP/34/5
SUP 58
PP-98**

Reasons: Provisions 260 and 261 referred to have been deleted from the Convention (cf. Article 23 of the Convention).

**AFCP/34/6
(MOD) 80
PP-94**

14) be responsible for effecting the coordination with all international organizations referred to in Articles 49 and 50 of the Constitution and to this end, conclude, on behalf of the Union, provisional agreements with the international organizations referred to in Article 50 of the Constitution and in Nos. 269B, 269C and 269D of the Convention, and with the United Nations in application of the Agreement between the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union; these provisional agreements shall be submitted to the Plenipotentiary Conference in accordance with the relevant provision of Article 8 of the Constitution;

Reasons: Provisions 260 and 261 referred to have already been deleted from the Convention (cf. Article 23 of the Convention).

ARTICLE 5 (CV)

General Secretariat

AFCP/34/7
MOD 96

- m)* prepare recommendations for the first meeting of the Heads of delegations referred to in No. 342 of this Convention, taking into account the results of any regional consultation;

Reasons: Delete the footnote of the Secretary-General of ITU.

ARTICLE 6 (CV)

Coordination Committee

AFCP/34/8
MOD 111
PP-02

- 4 A report shall be made of the proceedings of the Coordination Committee and will be made available to Member States of the Council.

Reasons: The words “on request” were deleted in reference to Decision 7 (Marrakesh, 2002) which mandated the Secretary-General to post proceedings of meetings of the Coordination Committee on the website, except where the contents are confidential in nature.

ARTICLE 19 (CV)

Participation of Entities and Organizations Other than Administrations in the Union’s Activities

AFCP/34/9
(MOD) 235

- 5 Any request from any entity or organization listed in No. 231 above (other than those referred to in Nos. 269A and 269D of this Convention) to participate in the work of a Sector shall be sent to the Secretary-General and acted upon in accordance with procedures established by the Council.

Reasons: Provisions 260 and 261 referred to have already been deleted from the Convention (cf. Article 23 of the Convention).

AFCP/34/10
(MOD) 236

- 6 Any request from an organization referred to in Nos. 269C and 269E of

this Convention to participate in the work of a Sector shall be sent to the Secretary-General, and the organization concerned shall be included in the lists referred to in No. 237 below.

Reasons: Provisions 260 and 262 referred to have already been deleted from the Convention (cf. Article 23 of the Convention).

**AFCP/34/11
(MOD) 237
PP-98**

7 The Secretary-General shall compile and maintain lists of all entities and organizations referred to in Nos. 229 to 231 and Nos. 269B and 269E of this Convention that are authorized to participate in the work of each Sector and shall, at appropriate intervals, publish and distribute these lists to all Member States and Sector Members concerned and to the Director of the Bureau concerned. That Director shall advise such entities and organizations of the action taken on their requests, and shall inform the relevant Member States.

Reasons: Provisions 260 and 262 referred to have already been deleted from the Convention (cf. Article 23 of the Convention).

PROPOSAL 6

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Comoros (Union of the), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Egypt (Arab Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Amendment of the Constitution and the Convention to reflect the broadened mandate of ITU as a consequence of the WSIS

Introduction

As a consequence of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), some responsibilities were attributed to ITU in the implementation of the outcomes of the Summit.

Analysis

The responsibilities allocated to ITU in the implementation of the outcomes of the Summit give the Union new assignments that necessitate the broadening of its initial mandate as stated in the Constitution and the Convention.

Proposal

The decision of widening the mandate of ITU to reflect its new responsibilities in implementing the WSIS outcomes should be adopted in PP-06.

It is proposed to establish a working group of the Council that will be tasked to propose necessary amendments in the Constitution and the Convention in order to reflect the broadening of the mandate of the Union.

AFCP/34/12
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION [AFCP-2] (Antalya, 2006)

Working group of the Council for the Revision of the Constitution and the Convention for broadening the mandate of ITU

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

recognizing

the changing environment marked by the increasing convergence between telecommunications and information technology,

recalling

the outcomes of both phases of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS),

stresses

the need for the Union to undertake action in order to strengthen its mission for the benefit of its Member States, particularly the developing countries,

adopts

- a) the principle of revising the Constitution and the Convention in order to broaden the mandate of the ITU to encompass Information Technology;
- b) direction of those proposals from other regions and countries, which will call for the broadening of the mandate of ITU to encompass Information Technology, and emphasizes the benefit of the consolidation of efforts and the harmonization stances,

decides

to establish a working group of the Council to propose the necessary amendments.

PROPOSAL 7

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Comoros (Union of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Extension of the mandate of the New Council Oversight Group

Introduction

The group of specialists mentioned in Decision 7 (Marrakesh, 2002), submitted its report to the 2003 session of the Council for consideration. This report contains short-term recommendations that can be immediately recommended as well as medium-term and long-term recommendations. To that effect, the Council in its 2003 session, created a Council Oversight Group (COG) which was instructed to oversee the preparation, by the General Secretariat, in collaboration with the Coordination Committee, of a draft budget that would be considered during the additional session of the Council in 2003.

Council in its 2004 session thanked the COG and terminated its mandate and the mandate of the group of specialists and created a New Council Oversight Group (NCOG). The latter was instructed to ensure that the budget is result-based, the accounting method is reviewed and the counting system of time management is implemented in the indicated deadline.

The short-term recommendations of the group of specialists were implemented together with the medium-term and long-term recommendations.

Hence, in accordance with Resolutions 1216 and 1243, Council requested the New Council Oversight Group (NCOG) to “oversee the implementation of the projects listed in Resolution 1243, assisted by the Supporting Team” namely:

- travel management;
- procurement tools (service, special service agreement and BDT procurements);
- improvement of the linkage between strategic, financial and operational planning;
- personnel recruitment, appointment, transfer and promotion;
- improvement of certain other business processes as mentioned in Document C05/37;

Analysis

Though at a fairly advanced stage or completed in certain areas, the implementation of those projects cannot possibly be totally completed in time for the 2006 Plenipotentiary Conference, for such important projects as the strengthening of the coordination between strategic, financial and operational planning. This is compounded by the fact that the Council requires more time and information to assess the effectiveness of the projects already implemented.

Proposal

It is proposed to adopt the following draft resolution that aims at extending the mandate of the NCOG and reviewing its composition and its working methods.

AFCP/34/13
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION [AFCP-3] (Antalya, 2006)

Extension of the mandate of the New Council Oversight Group (NCOG)

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunications Union (Antalya, 2006),
considering

- a) that the Plenipotentiary Conference of 2002 adopted Decision 7 on the review of the Union's management;
- b) that Decision 7 mandated the Council to set up a group of specialists which constituted an expert from each administrative region:
 - i) to undertake as a matter of urgency the work described in the annex to Decision 7, in consultation with the Secretary-General, the Directors of the Bureaux and the Sectors advisory groups;
 - ii) to request the group of specialists to report to the 2003 session of the Council in order that Decision 7 may be fully implemented by that time and may be used in conjunction with the examination of the draft budget 2004-2005;
- c) that it is necessary to continue strengthening and improving the management of the Union;
- d) that the work of the Council cannot be completed between now and the end of the 2006 Plenipotentiary Conference,

noting

- a) that the Council, during its session in 2003 established a working group charged with the task of assessing the issue;
- b) that the Council during its session in 2004, set up a New Council Oversight Group (NCOG) and mandated it with the supervision of some of the recommendations of the Group of Experts;
- c) that the Council, during its session in 2005, reviewed the mandate, composition and working methods of this New Council Oversight Group, and authorized it, through Resolution 1243, to "oversee the implementation of the projects listed in that resolution";
- d) that the Council during its session in 2006 realized that it was not going to be possible to complete some of the projects targeted by Resolution 1243 in time for the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2006,

recalling

- a) the need to fully implement Decision 7 of the 2002 Plenipotentiary Conference;
- b) that the Council during its session in 2006 decided to extend the mandate of the NCOG and the mandate of the Supporting Team, as well as decided to review their membership and working methods, as detailed in Resolution 1243, until the 2006 Plenipotentiary Conference,

having examined

the report of the Council on the implementation of Decision 7,

instructs the Council

- 1 to renew the mandate of the NCOG in order to continue the full implementation of Decision 7;
- 2 to review the composition and working methods of the NCOG based on experiences drawn from its previous mandate;
- 3 to follow up the implementation of the current resolution during each of its future sessions and to present a report of its findings on the application of this resolution and its amendments that could possibly be incorporated into the Constitution and the Convention of ITU,

further instructs the Council

to consider the implementation, as soon as possible, of the improvements that are deemed necessary and do not necessitate amendments of the Constitution and the Convention.

PROPOSAL 8

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Egypt (Arab Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Organization of elections from the fourth day of the conference

Introduction

The current provisions state that elections will begin in the second week of the Plenipotentiary Conference. However, the 2006 ordinary session of the Council considered the reduction in the duration of the conference from four weeks to three weeks and therefore proposed that elections begin on the fourth day of the first week of the conference.

Analysis

Considering the reduced duration of the conference and the large number of candidates, elections should begin on the fourth day of the first week of the conference being Thursday, 9 November 2006, so as to conclude these and other matters on the PP-06 agenda within the approved period of three weeks.

Proposal

31 General rules on election procedures (GR)

AFCP/34/14

MOD 172

- 5) Elections shall begin on the fourth calendar day of the conference.

PROPOSAL 9

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Comoros (Union of the), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Support to the NEPAD and to the ATU

Introduction

In line with Marrakesh Resolution 124, ITU should continue providing assistance to the development of ICT in Africa, by reinforcing its close working relationships with ATU.

Analysis

ICT development in Africa still lags behind due to lack of sufficient capacity and resources. In view of this, it is necessary and critical if such assistance could be continued and enhanced.

Proposal

It is proposed to amend Resolution 124 to take into account the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and ongoing activities implemented in the framework of this resolution.

AFCP/34/15
MOD

RESOLUTION 124 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)

Support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

considering

that the provisions of the ITU Constitution, as contained in Chapter IV thereof on the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), particularly with regard, *inter alia*, to the functions of the Sector for building awareness of the impact of telecommunications on national economic and social development, its catalytic role in promoting the development, expansion and operation of telecommunication services and networks, especially in developing countries, and the need to maintain and enhance cooperation with regional and other telecommunication organizations,

considering further

Resolution 31 (Kyoto, 1994) of the Plenipotentiary Conference on telecommunication infrastructure and socio-economic and cultural development, which highlights:

- telecommunications as a prerequisite for development;
- the impact of telecommunications on agriculture, health, education, transport, human settlement, etc.;
- the continuing decline in development resources available to developing countries,

noting

a) that, in its Declaration and resolutions, the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Valletta, 1998) (WTDC-98) reaffirmed a commitment to enhancing expansion and development of telecommunication services in developing countries and harnessing capacity for the application of new and innovative services;

b) the adoption of the Valletta Action Plan, incorporating key chapters on global information infrastructure development and the special programme for least developed countries,

aware

that the Council, in its Resolution 1184 on the World Telecommunication Development Conference (Istanbul, 2002), urged that conference to place special emphasis on the problem of "bridging the digital divide",

taking note of

a) the recognition by the United Nations General Assembly in its Resolution 56/37 of the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session (Lusaka, July 2001) of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD);

b) the actions for NEPAD set out in annex hereto;

c) the declaration by the Economic and Social Council on the role of the United Nations system in supporting the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development,

taking cognizance of

- a) the operative paragraphs of Resolution 56/218 of the United Nations General Assembly on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa, relating to consideration of plans and modalities during 2002 for future engagement with NEPAD and calling on the United Nations system and the international community to support the New African Initiative and to ensure effective representation;
- b) the conclusions of the Geneva and Tunis WSIS phases and the work under way to implement the African Regional Action Plan for the Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE);
- c) the call made on 23 November 2004 by the Summit of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementing Committee (HSGIC) for an effective implementation of the NEPAD ICT programme;
- d) the request made by the Abuja Declaration of African ministers in charge of telecommunications and ICT on infrastructure development to provide appropriate financial resources to support NEPAD ICT activities,

recognizing

that, in spite of the impressive growth and expansion in infocommunication services recorded in the African region since WTDC-98, many areas of major concern still exist and considerable disparities persist in the region, and the digital divide continues to widen,

resolves to instruct the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

to pay particular attention to implementation of the provisions of the ITU-D Action Plan relating to support for NEPAD, earmarking resources so that this can be permanently monitored,

requests the Secretary-General

to release appropriate financial resources for activities to support NEPAD, in particular from the surplus on ITU world telecommunication exhibitions and forums (TELECOM).

ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 124 (Rev. Antalya, 2006)

Actions for NEPAD

1 Infrastructure

- i) Preparation of master plans for ICT infrastructure development
- ii) Facilitation of the introduction of digital technologies, especially for broadcasting
- iii) Support for all projects which promote ICT development and subregional and regional integration, for example, the East African Submarine Cable project (EASSy), the NEPAD e-school initiative, RASCOM, e-Post Africa, COMTEL, SRIL, INTELCOM II, the ARAPKE projects, etc.
- iv) Establishment and interconnection of national internet exchange points
- v) Evaluation of the impact and adoption of measures for strengthening functional capacities and the new missions of subregional maintenance Centres
- vi) Encourage the establishment of technological alliances in order to promote research and development at a regional level

2 Environment: development and implementation of

- i) an Africa-wide vision, strategy and action plan for ICT
- ii) a national vision and strategies for the development of ICT with maximum linkage to other national development strategies, notably the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)
- iii) elaboration of a national policy framework and strategy for universal access
- iv) provision of support for the harmonization of policy and regulatory frameworks at the subregional level

3 Capacity building, cooperation and partnerships

- i) Support to the African Telecommunications Union by providing administrative support and assistance in technical expertise
- ii) Support for the elaboration of the planning and management of the frequency spectrum at national, subregional and regional levels
- iii) Support the strengthening of ICT training institutions and the network of Centres of excellence in the region
- iv) Establishment of a cooperation mechanism amongst regional institutions that provide development assistance to African countries in the ICT sector
- v) Regional or multi-national approach to provision of support
- vi) Establishment of an ad hoc regional ICT think tank for Africa
- vii) Strengthening of subregional telecommunication regulatory associations
- viii) Strengthening of public-private partnership
- ix) Establishment of an African ICT database
- x) Strengthening the capacities of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) for better implementation of the ICT projects and initiatives

PROPOSAL 10

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Egypt (Arab Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Amendment of the definition of “Radiocommunications”

Introduction

Studies are being currently carried out within ITU-R study groups that consider technology operating above 3 000 GHz by the current definition of “Radiocommunication” in No. 1005 of the Annex to the Convention.

Moreover radiocommunication technologies have demonstrated the ability to use electromagnetic waves in space without artificial guide above 3 000 GHz, which make it necessary to remove this threshold value in order to allow competent world radiocommunication conferences to introduce, if needed, provisions in the Radiocommunication Regulation;

The Plenipotentiary Conference in Marrakesh adopted Resolution 118 that allowed the WRC to take such action if necessary however in contradiction to the Notes 1 and 2 in No. 1005 to the Convention.

Analysis

The definition of *Radiocommunication* in No. 1005 of the Annex to the Convention should be amended as to remove the threshold of 3 000 GHz.

Proposal

It is proposed to amend No. 1005 in the Annex to the Convention, pursuant to Resolution 118 (Marrakesh, 2002)

AFCP/34/16

MOD 1005

Radiocommunication: Telecommunication by means of radio waves propagating in space without artificial guide.

PROPOSAL 11

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Retention of the current status of observers to the Council

Introduction

The Plenipotentiary Conference held in Marrakesh in 2002 had adopted Resolution 109 on the review and incorporation of provisions regarding observers. In application of this resolution, the Council meeting held in 2003 established a working group to consider the matter.

Subsequent to a proposal put forward by this group, the ITU Council adopted in 2004 Decision 519 on recommendations and general provisions about observers. This decision recommends that members of sectors be granted observer status in Council meetings and sets out the criteria for the selection of representatives of the Members of the Sectors.

Analysis

During its 2006 meeting, the Council recommended the maintenance of this procedure for designating observers to represent Members of the Sectors in future sessions of the Council and the conditions for their participation. Indeed, such a recommendation had received massive support from Members of the Council.

The Council shall be charged with the responsibility of assessing the participation of observers in Council sessions and will report on this during the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2010.

Proposal

It is proposed to retain Article 4, paragraph 60B of the Convention.

ARTICLE 4 (CV)

The Council

AFCP/34/17
NOC 60B
PP-02

9 ter) Sector Members may be represented as observers at meetings of the Council, its committees and its working groups, subject to the conditions established by the Council, including conditions relating to the number of such observers and the procedures for appointing them.

PROPOSAL 12

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Comoros (Union of the), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Egypt (Arab Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations and organization of a World Conference on International Telecommunications

Introduction

The International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) have been, and continue to be, of crucial importance, particularly to developing countries, as they facilitate global interconnection and interoperability of telecommunication facilities and play a major role in promoting the harmonious development and efficient operation of technical facilities and the efficiency, usefulness and availability to the public of international telecommunication services.

Thus, the importance of maintaining the ITRs as an ITU instrument as stipulated under Article 4 of the Constitution should be stressed.

It is noted that some work had been done by the ITU pursuant to Resolution 79 (Minneapolis, 1998) and Resolution 121 (Marrakesh, 2002) and that a conclusion was reached by the Council working group on ITRs.

ITRs, in spite of the role they still play today, and after almost 18 years of their adoption, need to be further reviewed in order to adapt them in a way that further reflects the current changes in the telecommunications sector in most parts of the world, of which Africa is no exception, and that also responds to the requirements of developing countries who are in the course of liberalizing the telecommunications services.

Analysis

In considering the conclusion of the Council working group on ITRs, and in light of the new issues that were proposed in Annex 3 to the final report of the Council working group, which proposes new topics to the ITRs, the African countries are of the view that, out of the three scenarios suggested by the Council working group, the requirements of Resolution 121, particularly those under *believing b*), can only be satisfied by amending the ITRs and adding new provisions that responds to those requirements, and also meeting the concerns of developing countries.

Moreover, the foreseen change in the mandate of ITU, which will necessarily lead to major changes in the ITU Constitution and Convention, might require that the ITRs reflect those changes in a consistent way.

Proposal
AFCP/34/18

It is proposed that a World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) be convened to review the ITRs. Resources should be mobilized for the organization and preparation of this important event.

PROPOSAL 13

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Comoros (Union of the), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Egypt (Arab Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Institutionalization of the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR)

Introduction

Since its inception, the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) has proven to be the most informative forum for regulators. It has become very useful, especially for developing countries and represents an annual opportunity to exchange expertise with a view to harmonizing regulatory frameworks between countries and sharing the best practices on various regulatory issues.

Analysis

Given the current liberalization phase that a lot of developing countries are going through, and recognizing the essential role of regulators in the development of telecommunications/ICT in their countries and in implementing the enabling environment, such a model needs to be perpetuated in order to ensure its continuity, efficiency and transparency.

Proposal

It is proposed to adopt the following resolution that aims at institutionalizing the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) within the development sector as one of its official meetings.

AFCP/34/19
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION [AFCP-4] (Antalya, 2006)

Institutionalization of the Global Symposium for Regulators

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

considering

- a) that telecommunications reform has globally been implemented in many developing and least developed countries;
- b) that the reform is characterized by new laws and policies and the establishment of regulatory agencies to implement reform in a new dynamic international market environment;
- c) that the success of telecommunications reform will mostly depend on the establishment and implementation of effective regulatory framework;
- d) that the regulators are called upon to maintain effective balance of interest among all stakeholders by promoting fair competition and ensuring equal opportunity environment for all players,

recognizing

- a) that the number of telecommunications regulators has been increasing;
- b) the importance of information sharing amongst regulators, particularly long-standing regulators and newly established ones,

recalling

- a) Doha Action Plan (Doha, 2006) Programme 1: Regulatory reform, especially regulatory symposiums, forums, seminars and workshops;
- b) the recommendations of the 2004 Global Symposium for Regulators on the creation of global exchange programme for regulators;
- c) the result of the questionnaire on the Establishment of a Global Exchange Programme for Regulators undertaken by Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT),

noting

that the Telecommunication Development Bureau has continued Global Regulatory Exchange,

resolves

- 1 to institutionalize the Global Forum for Regulators (GSR) as an official meeting of the Development Sector;
- 2 to hold the GSR annually with the objective to promote information sharing among regulators on key regulatory issues and to help strengthen newly established regulators;
- 3 to rotate the GSR in different regions,

to instruct the Secretary-General

to establish the appropriate mechanism organization in order to cover the financial cost of the symposium.

PROPOSAL 14

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Financial contributions to the ITU budget

Introduction

The determination of the Contributory Unit is fundamental in the preparation of the Financial Plan. The table below presents the four scenarios of the draft Financial Plan on the basis that the ratio of the contributory unit to be paid by Sector Members is maintained at 1/5 of the contributory unit to be paid by Member States:

Amounts in thousands of Swiss francs

	Contributory unit (in CHF)	Planned income	Full programme	Targets for further reductions	In per cent
Scenario 1	329 000	652 005	700 662	48 657	6.9%
Scenario 2	325 700	646 614	700 662	54 048	7.7%
Scenario 3	322 400	641 222	700 662	59 440	8.5%
Scenario 4	318 000	634 033	700 662	66 629	9.5%

However, considering deliberations of the 2006 ordinary session of the Council, it should be noted that the final decision is likely to be to maintain the contributory unit at its current level of CHF 318 000.

Analysis

Early elections could have a negative impact on the contributory unit. Furthermore, a decision not to increase the current value of CHF 318 000 of the contributory unit would result in:

- The non-inclusion of the outcomes of the WSIS into the ITU strategic plan and the non-allocation of resources to activities ITU is responsible for in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes.
- The non-implementation of some important activities of the Doha Action Plan in domains such as the regional initiatives, emergency telecommunications, people with disabilities and youth initiatives.

It should also be underlined that the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and the Doha Action Plan will not only foster the bridging of the digital divide of developing countries by contributing to the reinforcement of their national networks, but will also provide new opportunities and markets for developed countries' industries.

Proposal
AFCP/34/20

It is proposed to undertake any appropriate actions in order to:

- Establish mechanisms allowing countries that have not paid their financial contributions to the ITU budget, to meet their financial obligations, taking into consideration the situation of these countries
- Continue making efforts in order to consolidate the participation of Sector Members from the private sector and examine enlarging participation to new stakeholders, with a view to diversification and enhancement of sources of financial contributions
- Encourage developing countries to increase their contributory part to the ITU budget
- Encourage developed countries to increase their financial contribution to the ITU budget.

PROPOSAL 15

Submitted by the following Member States:

Burkina Faso, Burundi (Republic of), Cameroon (Republic of), Comoros (Union of the), Congo (Republic of the), Côte d'Ivoire (Republic of), Gabonese Republic, Guinea (Republic of), Kenya (Republic of), Lesotho (Kingdom of), Malawi, Mali (Republic of), Niger (Republic of the), Senegal (Republic of), Sierra Leone

Evaluation and strengthening of the regional presence of ITU

Introduction

Information and communication technology (ICT) can be an essential component in the growth of developing countries, and the dissemination of ICT could be a key element of progress towards a global information society.

In Africa, regulatory reform of the ICT market, with a definition of institutional roles and the introduction of the private sector to the provision of telecommunication services, is behind the relatively dynamic performance of the sector. However, several factors continue to hamper performance, including:

- a legislative and regulatory framework that does not keep pace with the rapid technological changes in the sector;
- the lack of an adequate response, at the policy and institutional level, to issues such as universal access, the digital divide, information security, positive use of the internet, internet governance, etc.;
- the great need for national and institutional capacity to be strengthened.

Analysis

In the post-reform era, ITU has a crucial role to play in disseminating sound practices and strengthening capacity so as to give the countries of the region the means to face the various challenges described in the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

ITU regional and subregional representations and their involvement in the Africa region are limited, as is their ability to respond to the needs. The regional and subregional offices should be upgraded and endowed with the authority and expertise they need to meet the various needs of the Member States. Furthermore, synergies between the offices and the regional and subregional organizations should be exploited to make the regional and subregional programmes more effective.

Proposal

It is therefore proposed to undertake an evaluation of the regional and subregional presence of ITU in all regions in order to propose concrete measures to be taken to strengthen their capabilities, by giving them the relevant planning and financial authority for their various programmes and initiatives and fostering synergies with the regional and subregional organizations, so as to meet the urgent needs of the regions and subregions.

AFCP/34/21
ADD

DRAFT RESOLUTION [AFCP-5] (Antalya, 2006)

Evaluation and strengthening of regional presence of ITU

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Antalya, 2006),

recognizing

- a) the importance of the regional presence in enabling ITU to be as close as possible to its membership and to enhance the dissemination of information on its activities and strengthen its relationship with regional and subregional organizations;
- b) the urgent need to adapt the expertise and working methods of the regional presence towards partnerships in project implementation and activities, which would necessarily involve strengthening the relationship between ITU and national telecommunications organizations;
- c) that the regional and subregional offices enable ITU to respond more rapidly to the specific needs of the region;
- d) that regional and subregional offices provide technical assistance to countries with development needs;
- e) that to be effective, the regional offices must have the necessary level of authority and expertise to meet the diverse requirements of the Member States;
- f) that the regional and subregional presence needs to be strengthened in the interest of meeting the evolving requirements and priorities of each region,

considering

- a) that with a modest level of in-house expertise, the visibility of ITU and its involvement in the Africa region and subregions remain relatively low;
- b) that critical issues such as universal access, the digital divide, information security, the positive use of the internet, and technological convergence, which constitute a major global challenge, need to be given particular attention and call for special assistance, particularly where the countries of this region are concerned;
- c) the outcomes of the WSIS, Doha Declaration, especially the Regional initiatives,

resolves

- 1 to undertake an evaluation of the regional and subregional presence of ITU;
- 2 to take concrete measures to increase the visibility and the capabilities of the ITU regional and sub-regional offices by delegating to them the relevant planning and financial authority for their various programmes and initiatives;
- 3 to take appropriate action to allow the regional and subregional office, with this authority and expertise, to implement the various programmes in collaboration with regional and subregional organizations so as to avoid duplication and address critical concerns of the regions and subregions.