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ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE 2014

BUSAN, KOREA

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>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Hello, we're going to start the conference. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. I invite you to be for the first Plenary Session of the ITU 19th Plenipotentiary Conference.

Ladies and gentlemen, in accordance to the general rules of conferences, Assemblies and meetings of the Union, general rule number 51, the Government of the Republic of Korea has appointed to the open the conference as Chairman, Mr. Yanghee Choi, Minister of Science, ICT and Future Planning.

[ Applause ]

>> YANGHEE CHOI: Thank you, Secretary‑General Dr. Touré, Honorable Ministers and distinguished Delegates, ladies and gentlemen. I would like to extend to you a warm welcome here to the first Plenary Meeting. I wish you a very successful conference. Now I will declare the 19th Plenipotentiary Conference open.

[ Applause ]

I will begin by inviting Delegates to approve the agenda which is set out in ADM/4.

So you may approve the proposal by acclamation.

[ Applause ]

So thank you, the proposal is now approved. Okay, now we can move on to the Agenda Item 2, which is the election of the Chairman of the conference. I would like to call upon our Secretary‑General to present a proposal for the election of the Chairman of the conference.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to the meeting of the Heads of Delegation that was held this morning, I would like to propose Mr. Wonki Min, Assistant Minister to the Republic of Korea the Minister of Science, ICT and Future Planning to be elected as Chairman of the 19th Plenipotentiary Conference.

[ Applause ]

>> YANGHEE CHOI: By your acclamation, Mr. Min is now elected as the Chairman of the PP‑14. I would like to congratulate Mr. Min.

[ Applause ]

>> CHAIRMAN: Excellencies, distinguished Delegates, ladies and gentlemen, it is a great honor to be elected as chairman of the ITU's 19th Plenipotentiary Conference.

First and foremost, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the trust you have placed in me to serve as chairman of PP‑14.

I also would like to thank my Government for entrusting me with the responsibility to carry out the duties of this important conference.

The ITU's mission to connect the world has been strengthened by every Plenipotentiary Conference.

Our 19th Plenipotentiary Conference has the honor to continue this tradition while also celebrating the ITU's achievements over the past 150 years.

Indeed, the ITU's accomplishments in radio spectrum, ICT standards, and ICT for development have helped bring telecommunications and ICTs to every corner of the world, and have enabled us to enjoy a level of connectivity and access to information never before witnessed.

The capacity of networks, depth of information, and speed of communication provided by ICTs are creating unprecedented opportunities and challenges for the global community.

Greater access to ICTs is connecting more people to e‑government, e‑commerce and e‑health services, while new technologies such as Cloud Computing, Big Data and the Internet of Things continue to extend the boundaries of innovation.

However, as noted at WTDC‑14, the digital divide has yet to be bridged and continues to reveal significant accessibility disparities between developed and developing countries, rural and urban areas, and groups of peoples.

These challenges need to be addressed through global initiatives that create equal and sustainable development throughout the world.

As we have seen over the past decade, ICTs are critical to strengthening sustainable economic and social growth, fostering innovation and achieving an inclusive Information Society.

This is why PP‑14 is so important.

With the ITU's 150th Anniversary on the near horizon, we come together at PP‑14 with the opportunity to advocate for the inclusion of ICTs in the Sustainable Development Goals as ICTs are critical enablers of the development agenda beyond 2015.

To this end, in this Conference we will carry out numerous tasks and make many important decisions; not least of which is the election of the ITU's leadership.

The issues and proposals to be addressed at this Conference will lay out the ITU's agenda for the next 4 years.

The volume and importance of these topics require that we work together in full cooperation, and with a commitment to the ITU's longstanding tradition of consensus‑building.

Having had the honor to participate in many of the regional preparatory meetings, and to see in person such cooperation and consensus, I firmly believe that we will come together to produce productive PP‑14 outcomes.

Now, I will say a few words regarding the management of the Conference

In support of our effort to use our time most effectively I will issue a document which you may refer to, but allow me to highlight a few points now.

I encourage all delegates to:

Complete Policy Statements in 3 minutes, as noted in Secretariat Circular Letter 200, while making every effort not to go beyond 5 minutes.

Keep general interventions to the topic under discussion; and

Deliver election congratulations on a regional basis.

Your support in this regard is highly appreciated and will contribute to the effective management of the Conference.

Distinguished Ministers and Delegates,

We are now set to begin a 3‑week journey that will pave the way for the future of the ITU.

I am confident that with your cooperation and commitment to consensus, together we will deliver a successful PP‑14.

In closing, I wish you all a successful conference, and a most rewarding time in Busan, Korea.

Thank you.

[ Applause ]

Thank you very much. Now we'll turn to the next Agenda Item, which is Agenda Item 5, elections of the Vice‑Chairmen of the conference. I'll kindly ask the Secretary‑General to present his proposal. Secretary‑General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before presenting to you the Chairs and Vice‑Chairs, I just want to reiterate the Secretariat's readiness to world review to make this conference a success. When you just came on the podium, myself, all the five elected officials, and the staff of the Union will be at your disposal to make sure that you conduct the work of this conference in a successful manner. And I congratulate you again for your appointment.

Mr. Chairman, I want to present proposals of the meeting of the Heads of Delegations concerning the Vice‑Chairmen of the conference. I want to read the names of the countries of the Delegates as follows ‑‑

Region A, Ambassador Daniel Sepulveda, United States of America.

Region B, Marcin Krasuski, Poland. Region C, His Excellency Mr. Nicolay Nikiforov, Russian Federation.

Region D, Mr. Kundishora, Zimbabwe. Region E, Mr. Jha, India. Arab States, Mr. Nasser Bin Hammad, United Arab Emirates. I present this to you as approval for Vice‑Chairs of this conference.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary‑General. According to the established practice I will now ask the Plenary to elect these Delegates by acclamation as the Vice‑Chairmen of the conference.

[ Applause ]

Thank you, and congratulations to the elected Delegates. I have full confidence that you will serve admirably as Vice‑Chairs and will help us deliver a productive conference. Now we turn to the Agenda Item Number 6, which is the address by the Secretary‑General.

Secretary‑General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Sir.

Excellencies,

Delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,.

I am very pleased to be here with you for the opening Plenary Sessions of the 19th Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU. I've been waiting all year for this event which gives us exceptional opportunities to hear the opinions of all of the members of the Union over the next three weeks. We will have a lot of work and here I would like to quote Noel Coward who said, it's much more fun to work than to have fun.

So this has been my slogan over the past eight years as my term as Secretary‑General and indeed there has been a lot of work but I've always been ‑‑ I've always had a lot of fun in carrying it out. Ladies and gentlemen, today I would like to highlight some of the important points since the last PP in Guadalajara in 2010. At that conference, you reelected me as Secretary‑General. You also elected Mr. Houlin Zhao as Deputy Secretary‑General. He's been an important partner over these past eight years and the Director of the TSB, Mr. Malcolm Johnson, you elected for the first time the Director of the BDT, Mr. François Rancy and Mr. Brahima Sanou.

I'd like to tell you how much I've appreciated their close cooperation over the past four years and I'm delighted that our Federative structure has worked so well in creating a unified ITU. Today, cellular penetration is almost achieved 100%, and we've seen a number of people using the Internet reach nearly 3 billion.

In terms of our own work, we've seen a number of landmark events over the past four years. That have been undertaken at the request of the membership and we've also been successful in strengthening our relationship with the UN and our New York liaison office has done an excellent job here. I had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. Ban ki‑Moon in our headquarters in Geneva and working closely with him and other UN agencies over the past four years. The ITU has participated in a number of UN summits and conferences including the fourth United Nations conference on the least developed countries, LDC‑IV, which took place in Istanbul in 2011, and which called for 100% access to the Internet by 2020. It also recognized the importance of ICT networks as a basic infrastructure alongside water and transportation and energy.

Our next big challenge now is to ensure that ICTs find the right place in the post‑2015 agenda.

Distinguished Delegates, since we have limited time, I can't describe in detail everything we've done over the past four years but let me highlight some of the exceptional events and milestones that have taken place.

In every four‑year period the Sector has held a very important conference or Assembly, WRC‑12. This cycle started with the hugely productive and successful world Radiocommunication conference WRC‑12 which was held in Geneva at the beginning of 2012. WRC‑12 was a tremendous success for the Union, for the Radiocommunication Sector and for the ICT Sector overall. The conference was able to meet the expectations of the membership and its outcomes were far reaching and were able to meet the expectations of all Delegates and all Delegations. The WRC has achieved important results in areas like broadband, digital dividend, earth observation applications, improvement of safety at sea and in the air, and the enhancement of the satellite regulatory regime.

The WRC‑12 was followed by the World Telecommunication standard simply it was held in Dubai at the end of 2012. It is an important event for the standardization Sector and for the ITU. WTSA‑12 defined the study period for the ITU‑T. By highlighting e‑Health, software defined networking and e‑Waste.

The members called for the establishment of a Committee that would be responsible for ensuring that the ITU‑T structure will constantly evolve to meet the needs of the ICT landscape especially giving constant cooperation with vertical markets. This initiative will help innovations in the areas like smart water management, intelligent transport systems, smart grids, mobile money and e‑Learning. The Assembly also acknowledged the success of ITU‑T's bridging the standardization gap programme. This programme has allowed us to considerably strengthen participation of developing countries in the ITU‑T's work and to give new impetus to the Sector's standardization work. WTSA‑12 was followed by WTDC-14. This was the 6th World Telecommunication conference. It was held in Dubai earlier this year under the Banner of broadband for sustainable development, which underlines ITU's commitment to leverage broadband as a catalyzer to meet the goals of sustainable development. WTDC‑14 was attended by a record‑breaking number of Delegates, and the conference focused on development priorities.

The decisions taken by WTDC‑14 will pave the way toward the ITU‑D's work, giving them a road map and a common vision and a clear plan of action. In the WTDC‑14 outcome document, the ITU declared its commitment to accelerating the expansion and use of ICTs for economic growth. As we all know, access to reliable ICTs, including broadband, can facilitate economic, social and cultural development and achieve digital inclusion for all.

During the first three days of the conference, the high‑level segment gave several high level speakers to express their views on emerging trends and matters of strategic importance to the development of telecommunications and ICTs. The main outcomes of WTDC‑14 were the adoption of the Dubai Action Plan, the Dubai Declaration, the Development Sector's contribution to the ITU's Strategic Plan, and the adoption of numerous Resolutions. Ladies and gentlemen, among the other important events of the past four years, were WCIT-12, the WCIT‑12 is the World Forum on ICT Policy, and the Global Youth Summit, BYND‑2015.

WCIT‑12 took place in Dubai in December 2012. It was an important event for the ITU and its members. Let me remind you of some of the reasons for this conference.

ITRs paved the way for massive growth of International Telecommunications, WCIT‑12 was held to renegotiate the ITRs and it took the form of a new Treaty in the form of new set of ITRs. The WCIT‑12 Final Acts was signed by 89 members of the Union. The new Treaty clearly reflects a road map that is generally accepted which guarantees connectivity for all, and achieves sufficient communication to meet the expansion of vocal, video and data communications.

WCIT‑12 was the first conference of its kind at which the developing world took fully part.

Government, Civil Society and the private sector were all present in negotiations. It's not surprising to us that given the complexity of the issues involved that divergent opinions emerged. Unfortunately we were unable to always reconcile all of these divergences. Since then however the situation has improved. My colleagues and myself have worked very hard to try to broker a consensus. This is something we do very well. And I note with pleasure today that all of the players are here back together and the ITU membership has reaffirmed its value and its confidence and consensus and mutual respect. The WTPF‑13 ‑‑ nothing shows consensus better than the fact that the WTPF took place not long after another large conference in 2013 and it covers Internet related issues. The debates were very active with the value of contributions and the representative Governments, the private sector and Civil Society, members and non‑members of the ITU. I was very happy to see all of these stakeholders meeting and they worked so effectively as part of WTPF‑13. And even before during the preparatory process which opened ‑‑ opened to all, it took a year, and it was guided by a multistakeholder informal group which comprised experts. I was proud to see that the ITU played its role in contributing to debates.

These were inclusive and multistakeholder debates on the topics chosen and it shows the strength of bringing people together to have an interactive dialogue on some issues which are often thorny.

The WTPF, thanks to its multistakeholder approach has not merely allowed us to achieve a better understanding of Public Policy issues related, Public Policy matters related to the Internet, it also gave us a way to support the ICT Sector and its development. This covers various issues, IXPs, enabling environment for broadband connectivity, transition from IPv4 to IPv6, multistakeholderism and enhanced cooperation. Following the WTPF‑13 we took forward a strong and united message to the NETmundial conference which met in Brazil in cooperation with Mr. Wu, the under Secretary‑General and together with Secretary‑General Ban ki‑Moon we delivered a common message from the United Nations emphasizing that the Internet as a global public good should be open, fully inclusive, free, reliable, robust, secure, and trustworthy, and that stakeholders from all nations should have a say in its running and its development.

BYND 2015. In September last year, we held the Global Youth Summit in Costa Rica. The theme was BYND 2015. The aim of this Summit was to discover how young people are using technology and to help them to use it in new innovative and constructive ways. The Summit gave rise to the development of the BYND 2015 Declaration, which is a high‑level document to encourage and guide ITU members to establish their own ICT youth initiatives, while installing universal access to Information and Communication Technologies, the young people regardless of their social origin.

This Declaration which was introduced by President Laura Chinchilla of Costa Rica at the UN General Assembly last year covers the five most important issues in social technology, which according to young people are ‑‑

Strengthening skills and access to information, issues linked to global governance, environmental sustainability, and cybersecurity applications and health. I believe that here at PP‑14, we will see very encouraging results taking the shape of new Resolutions on youth, and of course I should mention Young ICT Policy Leaders programme which I will speak further on in a moment.

Delegates, the ITU Connect Summits, ITU Telecom and WSIS Forum over these past four years, we've also been able to complete the ITU Connect Summits for each region of the world, with the Connect Arab States Summit in March 2012, for the Americas in Panama July 2012, and in Bangkok for the Asia Pacific in November 2013. We saw major ITU Telecom events held in 2011, 2012, and 2013 and it was looked at, repositioned rather from a strategic point of view in line with the changing needs of the industry and in line with the wishes of the membership, which were clearly expressed at the Plenipotentiary in 2010.

The results on stained were very satisfactory, leveraging 40 years of experience to create a new business model. the 40th anniversary edition of ITU Telecom World was held in Geneva in 2011 in conjunction with the broadband leadership Summit and ITU Telecom world 2012 showed improvement in financial results as did ITU Telecom World 2013 held in Bangkok.

I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to invite all of you to ITU Telecom World 2014 which will be held in Doha in Qatar from the 7th to the 11th of December of this year. Please do come. There will be an opportunity for me to say goodbye to all of you. It will be my last meeting of the Summit of the ITU before I pass over the reins to the next ‑‑ my successor, so we have now turning to the WSIS Forum, the Post four years we continued to transform the WSIS Forum, the global Forum for discussion of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes on a wide range of issues affecting the Information Society. This was clear at the WSIS+10 high level event held in June. The extended version of the WSIS Forum adopted two main documents, two consensus based outcome documents prepared by the entire multistakeholder community through a year long preparatory process, which will be a preference framework for guidance for the Information Society beyond 2015. There's two documents, the WSIS+10 statement and the implementation of WSIS outcomes and the WSIS+10 vision for WSIS beyond 2015.

The Broadband Commission now. Now please let me move on to the work of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development and its work.

To look at the issues surrounding our high‑speed future and how broadband could help achieve the Millennium Development Goals, I propose the creation of the Broadband Commission which was launched in 2010 in cooperation with UNESCO. It was in response to Ban ki‑Moon, the Secretary‑General of the United Nations call to step up efforts and to take in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals across the United Nations.

The Commission is a strong partnership of innovators in the area of policies, Heads of United Nations agencies, and leading academics. Policy Pioneers and CEOs. It has undertaken invaluable advocacy work, including research and analysis into some of the most vital issues shaping the State of broadband including as regards access to this technology and also on the economic level.

Thanks in part to the effective work of the Commission we have seen that a number of countries who have established National broadband plans has increased from under 100 to 140 over the lifetime of the Commission. There has also been ‑‑ there is also growing recognition for the right to Internet access due to the many benefits it can offer.

Listening to membership. When looking back over the past four years, I would also like to mention we have listened very carefully to members' requests to make our own organisation more efficient and transparent internally. To this end we have continued to hold annual management retreats for the management team. We have also made ITU an increasingly paperless environment, as you will be able to see here in Busan, and we also opted for greater financial transparency and for better budgetary fiscal management. We've also used the six official languages more.

This morning, I had the honor of being able to speak to you in five of those languages, and as I said, the challenge for the next Secretary‑General will be to see whether he or she can add Chinese.

It is here at PP‑14 that you, the membership will define the priorities for the Union in the future and for the work that my successor will do in meeting or implementing your wishes.

You will be helped I hope in your task by the Young ICT Policy Leaders programme which I mentioned just now. This is a major innovation for PP‑14. It's an integral part of the agenda of the conference. This programme provides a platform for young policymakers in which they can network and meet global leaders from the ICT Sector, and nurture the knowledge and skills exchange on an international level.

Each one of the Member State administrations were invited to nominate two participants in this programme, supported by the City of Busan, which provided a number of paid fellowships to candidates from least developed countries and small island developing states.

And I am pleased to say here now that the Delegation of the United Arab Emirates has brought us the youngest delegate, who is 12, and I hope that will be able to meet them there and to see what extent the future of the world will be in good hands.

And once again, I would like to thank the Delegation of the United Arab Emirates for having responded to my appeal and for having chosen these brilliant young people in their Delegation.

Another very promising innovation at PP‑14 will be the GEM-Tech Awards ceremony which ITU has organised in conjunction with UN women. This award aims to promote the principle of gender equality and the integration of this principle in the area of ICTs and to advance women's roles as decision makers in the ICT Sector, the first winners will receive their Awards here in Busan during the PP‑14. For this prize, we received over 360 nominations from 74 countries and 37 finalists were selected across seven categories. The names of the winners will be announced here in Busan next Wednesday, the 28th of October.

Moreover, six candidates have already been shortlisted in the global achievers category and they will also be announced here next Wednesday. I would also like to mention that the selection of winners of this award was the most difficult undertaking that we had to do, because all of these 360 nominations had ‑‑ were of inestimable value, each and every one of them, and I would like to thank all of those who contributed. We also be organising four lunchtime roundtables. Each will relate to the content of the Strategic Plan, covering the themes of growth, inclusion, sustainability and innovation following up.

Ms. Park, the President of Korea in her introductory speech also gave us her support on these topics which we chose in our Strategic Plan. The first of these roundtables called "which technologies will connect the next 1.5 billion users, will take place on Wednesday, 29th of October. The second entitled, achieving full digital inclusion for all: Feasible by 2020, will take place on Thursday, the 30th of October.

The third, entitled, ensuring the long‑term benefits of development: Managing growth in a sustainable way, will take place on Friday, the 31st of October. And the fourth roundtable, entitled, addressing the emerging innovation challenges in ICT‑enabled markets, will take place on Monday, the 3rd of November.

Finally, the fifth will be called setting up a strong follow‑up framework for ICTs.

Finally, to conclude, I would like to conclude by recalling the spirit of the founding fathers of this great Union of ours almost 150 years ago. I'm talking about a spirit of inclusiveness, consensus building, cooperation, and a mutual desire for progress.

The spirit of international cooperation and the equal treatment of all nations, and the spirit of respect, simply.

Finally, I would like to close with a quotation about time management which I hope may add a little levity to our debates. It's the words of Horace, who wrote this 2,000 years ago and I think it is still relevant now.

"Whatever advice you give, be brief."

And perhaps I should have listened to Horace earlier in delivering this message.

Finally, to be brief, I would once again like to thank our hosts for hosting this conference. I'd particularly like to thank our Chair, Mr. Min, who will guide us on the three weeks of debates we have before us here in Busan. As you see, it is not easy to be brief when taking stock of four whole years.

Today I've been able to give you a few examples of what has taken place over these years, and I would like to say to you that I've benefited from the hugely valuable support of my elected colleagues. And once again, I would like to pay tribute to them and thank them for their spirit of collaboration, cooperation over eight years. I have had the great honor and privilege of leading this institution. It was rather like an airplane. At one point it was like a boat which navigating across the sea, but now it is an aircraft at cruising speed, and that is thanks to the cooperation of all of our members who have really provided such valuable support. But this would not have been possible without the support and cooperation of the staff of the Union.

Some of them are here in this room but many have remained in Geneva and others in the Regional Offices and the New York liaison office and I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to thank them for their hugely valuable support, for the work being done here in the room, and for the excellent work that is being done behind the scenes with the same conviction, that we are doing work which is crucial for humanity, the work of the Union.

So I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart. I would like to invite all of you to continue to cooperate with and work closely with the next team you'll elect here at Busan in order to assure that this Union continues to play its leadership role in the area of Information and Communication Technologies. Thank you very much.

[ Applause ]

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary‑General. Actually, your statement has provided a very comprehensive view what ITU has done for the last four years, and in which direction ITU is heading toward. At the same time, considering the substance contained in your statement, I think your statement was quite brief. Now we move to the next Agenda Item which is Agenda Item Number 7, structure of the conference.

Now I would like to ask the Secretary‑General again to introduce his proposal to the Plenary. Secretary‑General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have the honor to present the following proposals that are set out in document DT/2, Committee 2, Credentials Committee, Committee 3, Budget Control Committee, Committee 4, Editorial Committee. Committee 5, Policy and Legal Matters, Com 6, Administration and Management, and the Working Group of the Plenary.

I propose this for your approval.

>> CHAIRMAN: Sorry. Thank you, Secretary‑General. In fact, we already approved this proposal at the Head of Delegation meeting so I think we can approve it again by acclamation.

[ Applause ]

Thank you very much. Now we will turn to the next Agenda Item which is Agenda Item 8, election of the Chairmen and Vice‑Chairmen of Committees. I once again invite the Secretary‑General to introduce his proposal. Secretary‑General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For Committee 2, Credentials Committee, Chairman, Mr. Timofey Kim, Kazakhstan. Vice‑Chairmen, Valmikki Singh, Guyana, Dmytro Protsenko, Ukraine, Ms. Duo Liu, China, Sameera Belal, Kuwait, Mr. Gary Mukelabai, Zambia.

Committee 3, Budget Control. Chairman, Mr. Paarock Vanpercy, Ghana, and Vice‑Chairman, Maksat Dzhylyshbaev, Kyrgyz Republic.

Committee 4, Chairman, Dr. Imad Hoballah, Lebanon. Vice‑Chairmen, Paul Najarian, USA, Ms. Blanca Gonzalez, Spain. Mr. Chris Fraine, United Kingdom. Professor Vladimir Minkin, Russian Federation. Mr. Baba Konaté, Mali. Mr. Xianxiu Si, China.

Committee 5, Policy and Legal Matters. Chairman, Mr. Frédéric Riehl, Switzerland. Vice‑Chairman, Andrei Kononov, Belarus. Dr. Isaac Sissoko, Senegal, Mr. Seyed Mostafa Safavi, Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr. Al Shanqeety, Saudi Arabia.

Committee 6, Administration and Management. Chairman, Ms. Caroline Greenway, Australia. Vice‑Chairs, Mr. Mario Canazza, Brazil. Ms. Laviza Iskhakova, Uzbekistan. Mr. Abraham Djekou, Côte d'Ivoire. Mr. Nasser Al Marzouqi, UAE.

Working Group of the Plenary, Chairman, Mr. Musab Abdulla, Bahrain. Vice‑Chairs, Mr. Paul Charlton, Canada. Mr. Hubert Schoettner, Germany. Mr. Rufat Tagizade, Azerbaijan. Mr. Francis Wangusi, Kenya. Mr. Masanori Kondo, Japan.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to present this list for you for approval of this conference.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary‑General. First of all, I would like to note that the Steering Committees Chairman and vice Chairman of the conference and the Chairmen and Vice‑Chairmen of the Committees and Working Group of the Plenary. Before opening the floor for comments I would like to remind you that these candidates were discussed and approved at the Heads of Delegation meeting. Now the floor is open for your comments.

Any comments?

[ Applause ]

While we are approving these nominations, we have two countries which has the floor. So first, Arab Emirates, and then Kuwait. Arab Emirates, you have the floor.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you Sir, I that the Kuwait Delegation will talk about the same issues so I will leave the floor to Kuwait.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you. And I'm sorry to pronounce the country's name wrong so United Arab Emirates. I should rectify my calling. I'll now give the floor to Kuwait. Kuwait, you have the floor.

>> KUWAIT: Many thanks you. First and foremost, I would like to congratulate you on your election as Chair of this very important conference. As for the candidatures for the Chairs and Vice‑Chairs of Committees, I would like to talk about Committee 2, Credentials. I may be wrong, there may have been a small error on Kuwait's candidature. You mentioned the name of Madam Sameera Belal, representative Kuwait, as Vice‑Chair of Committee 2, but we express apologies of Madam Belal that cannot be Vice‑Chair, and we propose another candidate, Mr. Tareq Al Saif, to be Vice‑Chair, so we've tried to clarify the situation. Thank you, Sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: Kuwait, thank you for your comments and your information. Now I'll give to the floor to the Secretary‑General. Secretary‑General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: During the Heads of Delegation meeting it was proposed due to the fact that Sameera would not be here at that time, would not be able to do it, it was proposed the name of Tareq Al Saif, is that correct? So replace it with Tareq Al Saif.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary‑General. So with the understanding that Vice‑Chairman of Committee 2 is not Miss Sameera Belal, but the real Vice‑Chairman from Kuwait is Mr. Tareq Al Saif. With that understanding, can we approve the nomination of the Chairs and Vice‑Chairs of the Committees?

[ Applause ]

Thank you. Thank you, and congratulations for the all elected officials, elected Chairs and Vice‑Chairs. I'm looking forward to working together with you as a member of Steering Committee.

Now we will turn to the next Agenda Item, which is number 9, composition of the conference Secretariat. I will ask the Secretary‑General to introduce his proposal. Secretary‑General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Secretary of the Conference is myself, SECRETARY-GENERAL. And the Executive Secretary is Ms. Doreen Bogdan‑Martin, who is sitting on my left here. And Administrative Secretary is Mr. Ahmed Elsherbini. The Legal Affairs, Mr. Guillot.

The Plenary Meeting and Com 1, Steering Committee, will still be Ms. Bogdan‑Martin. Committee 2, Mr. Volanis. Committee 3, Mr. Ba. Committee 4, Editorial, Mr. Dalhen. Committee 5, Policy and Legal Matters, Mr. Dore. Committee 6, Mr. Ba again, Administration and Management. And Working Group of the Plenary, Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas.

I am inviting you just to take note of these. I also want to let you know on an innovation that I've tried at the last Plenipotentiary Conference in 2010 in assigning each of some special jobs to the elected officials present here, so that they continue to feed to me some of those themes. I have therefore assigned ‑‑ it's not in the normal Constitution of the Convention but just for your information, Com 2, the credentials, I have Mr. François Rancy who will be also responsible. Com 3, budget, Mr. Zhao.

The Com 5, Malcolm Johnson. Com 6, I will have Houlin and François again and Working Group of Plenary, Brahima Sanou and Malcolm Johnson will be covering the different issues on those. We tried that at the last Plenipotentiary Conference for the first time. I thought I should make better use of the elected officials present to not only unleash the work of the Secretariat but for them to be able to feed for the Member States on any issues regarding anything that comes up from the Union and it has worked very well and I've taken the liberty to consult with them and also assign them this. Together with the Secretariat with the staff sitting on the right side here of the room, we will be at your disposal to facilitate the work of this conference. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary‑General. I would ask the Plenary to take note of the composition of the Conference sec stair yacht together with the information he provided additionally about the role of the elected officials. Thank you.

Now we move to the Agenda Item Number 10, which is allocation of documents to Committees and Working Group of the PL which is document DT/3. Now I will give the floor again to the Secretary‑General to introduce this document. Secretary‑General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: I have the honor to present DT/3 which presents the proposals received from Member States as well as various reports prepared by the Council and the Secretary‑General pursuant to the provisions of Constitution and Convention, the Resolutions of previous Plenipotentiary Conferences, and the decisions of the Council.

I would like to also explain that new documents and proposals will be referred by the Chairman to the Conference to the ‑‑ of the Conference to the appropriate Committee, Working Groups of the Plenary, or to the Plenary as the case may be in accordance with the General Rules, number 82.

I also wish to take this opportunity to mention that the Secretariat received almost 700 pages of new contributions on the last two days prior to the deadline. I'm sure everyone can imagine how this impact the Secretariat and the work of the Conference. There are budgetary implications as I had to authorize overtime to translate this large amount of work. Had it come a little earlier, we would have been able to manage it without overtime.

It also impacts the preparation of our documents control group as well as Committee Secretaries and of course the preparation of your own administrations and Delegations. The Secretariat is doing its best to ensure timely processing and translation. In the future, we would encourage Delegations to please be timelier in submitting documents and to improve the quality of the documents submitted. A great Conference proposal interface has been also created for you. Please make use of this facility and work of the Secretariat.

I would like now to present DT/3 Mr. Chairman for approval by the Conference.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary‑General. Before I open the floor for comments on DT/3 I would like to bring your attention to the fact that we are going to approve DT/3 with the understanding that it will be revised as necessary by the Secretariat.

Now the floor is open for your consideration. United Arab Emirates, DT/3.

>> UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Thank you, Sir. My apologies when I took the floor the first time I forgot to congratulate you on your election as Chair of this Conference and may I do that now, Sir. On second 2 of DT/3, I'm referring to the document presented by the Arab States, document 79/A/4. The document covers Resolution 173 and the Arab group asked not to modify 173. So sir, I would like to mention the Arab group requests that Resolution 173 not be modified. I don't think our document will be discussed. We want this document to be removed from the list of documents to be considered that are on the agenda of the Plenary, since this Resolution we believe should not be modified, Sir.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, United Arab Emirates. As requested by United Arab Emirates we will delete this 79A4 from the DT/3‑E. So it will be deleted from the Agenda Item.

With that understanding, could we approve this document DT/3? I cannot see any comments, so DT/3 document is approved.

Now we move to the next Agenda Item which is Agenda Item Number 11, date of submission of the report of the Credentials Committee. I would invite the Secretary‑General again to present this proposal. Secretary‑General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to remind Delegates pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Convention and the procedures adopted at previous Plenipotentiary Conferences the Plenary must decide on the date for submission of the report of the Credentials Committee. The tentative timetable for PP‑14 proposes that the Credentials Committee meet on the second day of the conference meaning Tuesday, 21 October, in the afternoon. I will propose that the date of submission of the report of the Credentials Committee will be on Wednesday, 29 October. And Delegates will be invited to deposit their Credentials in office number 45 if they have not done so.

I present this, Mr. Chairman, for your approval.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you again, Secretary‑General. The floor is open for comments. I see none, so it's so approved.

Now we move to the next Agenda Item, which is Agenda Item 12, access to PP‑14 documents. I would invite the Secretary‑General for the introduction of this Agenda Item. Secretary‑General, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Before I continue, I think in one of the translations it has been said that office number is 45. It's office 45 for the Credentials Committee. So we are inviting all Delegates that have not deposited their Credentials to bring them in office number 45, 45, if they have not done so.

Now let me go to the access to PP‑14 documents. As you know, we have debated this issue of access to ITU documents during the May meeting of the Council session. The counsel encouraged the Secretariat to further study the issue and decided that the overall access to document policy would be a matter for PP‑14 to decide. As you are aware since 2012, ITU documents which are not available to the public have systematically been posted on certain websites. With this in mind, noting the exception that was made at WCIT to open all input documents, as well as the outcome of the Conference to the public, and noting that this proposal was endorsed by the Heads of Delegation meeting this morning, I would like to recommend that PP open up all input documents, contributions, reports, and so on, and the output document of the Conference to the public.

This would in no way, and I stress in no way, pre‑judge PP‑14's decision on overall document access policy. I would invite you, Mr. Chairman, to present this for approval. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary‑General. Now the floor is open for the consideration on the proposal which was just made by the Secretary‑General regarding the access to PP‑14 documents. Any comments?

No, so I take it as a kind of consensus to approve this proposal.

[ Applause ]

Thank you very much.

Now we move to the next Agenda Item, which is Agenda Item 13, working hours of the meetings of the Conference. Mr. Secretary‑General, could you propose?

>> SECRETARY-GENERAL: Thank you very much. I really thank the Conference for approving this opening of the documents. Indeed, it will go a long way in ensuring a very smooth Conference.

I would like to propose that we maintain our usual schedule of 9:30 to 12:30 and 14:30 to 17:30 every day except on Fridays, when the morning session is 9:00 to 12:00, and 14:30 to 17:30 in the afternoon.

I would like also to address the issue of the timing of elections. As discussed in the Heads of Delegation meeting and in order to enable two rounds of elections per day should it be necessary, I propose to start the Plenary meetings on Thursday, the 23rd, Friday, the 24th, and Monday, the 27th, starting from 8:30. So it will be one hour ahead of normal time, giving us one more hour working time on those days so that will enable the functions to take place as they are planned, but also to enable us to have two rounds of elections, keeping in mind that obligatory six hours between two rounds of elections mandatory.

Therefore, I would like to propose this for your approval. Of course, the meeting that the Steering Committee will its first meeting tonight approve General Rules for working of the Conference as well as a revised time management so Mr. Chairman I precinct these proposals for your approval and the approval of the Conference. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary‑General. Any comments on the Secretary‑General's proposal on working hours of the meetings of the Conference?

[ Applause ]

Thank you again. I think you all recognize this is time for coffee break. We have done a lot of work this morning and this afternoon we still have two agenda items in our agenda but I think this is the right time for having a coffee break so I would like to proposal 20 minutes coffee break. This coffee break has been kindly offered by Government of Rwanda, and we will have this coffee break ‑‑ okay, okay, okay.

The Secretary wants the floor but anyway, I will let you know about the place for this coffee break and then I'll give the floor to the Secretary of the Plenary. So we will have this coffee break hall B1 just next to the pigeon holes. Once again this coffee break is kindly offered by the Government of Rwanda. Thank you very much. Now I'll give the floor the floor to the Secretary of the Plenary, Secretary of the Plenary, you have the floor.

>> SECRETARY OF THE PLENARY: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen, a few quick announcements. The use of Web captioning facilities and captioning has been maximized as far as possible. All Committee meetings taking place in Room A and B will be captioned, as well as video webcast. There is an app that has been developed by the host country for this meeting, and it is available on the iOS and the Android platforms. I would just like to mention that the meeting schedule that you can find on that app can be found under the Section "about PP‑14." Some of you were asking about this yesterday.

The tab on the app that says, "meeting schedule," is when you've selected something under the "about PP‑14" Section so if you do wish to find the meetings using that app please look at the button about PP‑14. Also, Mr. Chairman, in line with ITU's commitment to reduce its carbon footprint, we will be working as far as possible in a paperless manner. For those Delegations that have requested paper, we will be providing a maximum of two sets per Delegation.

All of the documents of course can be found on the website. They are also on the app, and also on the website we have an application called "sync," and we encourage you to download that application to facilitate your access to those documents.

What else did I want to say? The documents will be distributed again near the pigeon holes where the Chairman just informed us we will be having our coffee break, kindly hosted by the Delegation of Rwanda. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Doreen, for those helpful information. Now we'll take a 20‑minute coffee break and we'll meet again at 4:25, 4:25 sharp. Thank you.

[ Applause ]

>> Ladies and gentlemen, the first Plenary will begin shortly. We ask you to please take your seats now.

Again, ladies and gentlemen, the first Plenary will begin again shortly. We ask you to please take your seats now. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: I would encourage the Delegations to complete their Policy Statements in 3 minutes and not go beyond 5 minutes. A time clock will be used to help Delegates to keep time when making Policy Statements. The clock will begin counting down from 5 minutes and begin blinking in red after 3 minutes. Once time has passed we will begin counting in the negative. Finally, the list of speakers be noted in the Plenary minutes and all Policy Statements will be posted on the ITU website in full length so if you have a kind of longer version of your statement, you can make it shorter here but we'll put full version of your statement in the website. With that, I would like to invite the Republic of Korea to deliver its Policy Statement, followed by Japan. I would like to invite Minister Yanghee Choi, Minister of Science, ICT and Future Planning. Excellency, you have the floor.

Can you give the microphone to Korea?

>> YANGHEE CHOI: Okay, thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Secretary‑General, Honorable Ministers, and distinguished guests. I am very honored to join you at the 19th ITU Plenipotentiary Conference on behalf of the Korean Government. Korea is more than happy to host this Conference and I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all the Delegation members from each country for coming all the way to Busan. Also, I'd like to express my gratitude to Secretary‑General SECRETARY-GENERAL and officials of the ITU for your support in putting this event together. Celebrating the 15th anniversary of the establishment next year the ITU has faithfully served its purpose to promote cooperation and exchange between Member States to improve the access of underserved communities worldwide ICTs and to develop and extend the benefits of modern telecommunications.

Since becoming a member of the ITU in 1952, the Republic of Korea has actively participated in various meetings and projects led by ITU, expanding its partnership with other Member States. Now 62 years after joining the ITU, all these efforts are crowned with our hosting of the 19th Plenipotentiary Conference here in Busan, Korea, which will be a landmark event in the Korea ITU history.

Honorable Ministers and distinguished guests, as you all know, development and spread of Information and Communication Technologies have created the digital economy and led to significant economic and social changes in production, consumption and employment in our cultural lives. Furthermore, new technologies and services continue to be developed opening a brighter future for the ICT industry in the days to come. However, despite these achievements, advanced ICTs also pose some risks such as the existing digital divide and threats to privacy and we must not underestimate those challenges.

With this in mind, Governments around the world need to work together to realize the benefits of ICTs while minimizing their negative impacts. Not only that, we must strive to connect the benefits of ICTs to the entire world, and every corner of society in order to raise the quality of life for people around the world.

Against this back drop, the Korean Government set out the vision hyperconnected creative Korea based on our firm belief that a hyperconnected era will be ushered in, connecting all people, things, and devices. We strongly believe that benefits from ICT must be shared by all human beings and we are working hard to make this possible. The Korean Government will keep making its utmost efforts to improve the ICT capabilities of developing countries through cooperation with ITU, under the vision of connecting the world by 2020.

In this context, I believe the Korean candidate for Director of the Technology Standardization Bureau, can play a great role in the process since he dedicated 27 years of his life to the ITU Standardization Sector. Last but not least I hope this event brings many fruitful results and comes up with wise policies to support advancement of ICTs worldwide so that humankind can enjoy the benefits of future Information and Communication Technologies. Thank you.

[ Applause ]

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Minister, and thank you for keeping your statement in 5 minutes. That's the good standard for next speakers.

Now I will invite Japan followed by Russian Federation. I would invite His Excellency, Kosaburo Nishime. Japan, you have the floor.

>> JAPAN: On behalf of the Government of Japan, I'd like to express my gratitudes for the efforts of ITU Secretary‑General SECRETARY-GENERAL and the ITU Secretariat for the preparations as well as the Government of the Republic of Korea who helped to make this Conference possible.

I would also like to express my sincere congratulations to Mr. Min on his election as the Chair of this Conference. More than 5 billion people are expected to access the Internet in 2025. We could describe the situation as connected global space imagined for the first time in human history. Our mission is to use this global space for the prosperity of humankind and this Conference has a great responsibility to people across the world through its discussions. We have faced global challenges such as global warming, large‑scale natural disasters, infectious diseases and energy problems. Only ICT which connects the wisdom of human kind can solve those challenges in cross cutting manner. This means we have to establish a smart global connect network which all people can access freely and easily from everywhere, get and share information and knowledge and create value. This network can only be achieved by respected parties such as Government, industries, academia, civil societies, et cetera, playing their roles. This will be a huge challenge for humankind. I'd like us to all pool our knowledge going forward. For example, in light of the great East Japan earthquake in 2011, Japan again recognized the importance of measures against disasters. Once again, we appreciate your support in the wake of the earthquake.

We can contribute to establishing a disaster‑resilient network infrastructure for each country and a global scale disaster‑prevention network through sharing our experiences and know‑how of the earthquake with countries all over the world.

The ITU has been playing an important role to realize an Information Society in management of radio spectrum, establishment of Global Standards, and development of telecommunication infrastructure and services. We believe that it's vital for the ITU to continue making these steady efforts.

In order to support the ITU in fulfilling its mandate and its further development, we would like to commit ourselves to the extension of our financial support at 30 units as one of the largest contributors.

We would also like to contribute to the ITU through active participation in ITU activities, and in this regard, we seek your support for our candidacy for the Council seat. In addition, we have a highly knowledgeable and experienced candidate, Dr. Yasuhiko Ito for the RRB member candidacy again and would like to ask for your kind support for him, as well.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere wishes for the success of this Conference. Thank you very much for your attention.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Minister for your Policy Statement. In particular, thank you for your confirmation on the financial contribution to the ITU. As Japan has been one of the very influential contributors to ITU and we expect more from Japan in the future too. And you also met the 5 minute deadline. I think Korea and Japan set the Eastern standard. I hope it will become a global standard.

We will invite Mr. His Excellency Mr. Nicolai Nikiforov, Minister of Telecommunications of the Russian Federation. Minister, you have the floor.

>> RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, the PP‑14 is taking place to the run‑up of the 150th anniversary of the ITU. The most important task of the ITU is to connect people of the world. Thanks to the help of the UI and based on international law and standards developed within the ITU we've all been able to achieve results in the development of ICTs and telecommunications. The world is changing, and the Union should develop, meet new challenges in the area of ICTs. We have to mobilize the international community's efforts to prevent the use of ICTs which run counter to the UN Charter, the ITU Convention, Constitution and regulations.

We need international regulations in this area. The Russian Federation thinks that these standards should be developed under the edges of UN institutions. They should be based on the basis of non‑intervention of states in states issues, on the sovereignty rights of states to manage the National segments of the Internet based on international law, and on fundamental Human Rights and freedoms. Today the Internet is every part of our lives, professional and private that opens up new avenues but makes us more vulnerable. I'm referring not only to intervention in the private lives of individuals and the stabilization of entire regions, but interruption of National segments of the Internet without any reference to international law.

This is a threat to all members of the ITU. Let us regard Edward Snowden's information that said they would be cut off from the Internet. On the UN platform, we should ensure that states recover sovereignty for the Internet. We clearly understand that without business, without competition these new technologies will not be able to be developed but National data should be protected and states are really a guarantee for the rights of their citizens for their private lives and for the protection of their personal data.

At the Opening Ceremony of this meeting, we all connected to the Internet. Was this business? No, it wasn't business. Maybe it was a multistakeholder decision. No, this was a state ‑‑ this was thanks to the State. This was because of the State we're in. Why did they cut off the Internet? For security. One cannot deny the role of the state's role in managing the Internet.

Let us get down to brass tacks. In Russia, the President of Russia guaranteed the Internet's availability in each part of the country. We have the largest optical network in the world, and 97% of our citizens have it.

The Head of Delegation in this room for the Russian Federation is ensuring access to the Internet. We have to be sure that establishing the network that the network established will be stable and safe. We see some vulnerabilities in the Domain Name. The current issue might be the corruption of data in the registries, which might disrupt addressing and routing. This is a considerable threat to the network.

Now, governance, changes in governance have to be transparent and gradual. We think it's necessary to discuss these issues at international conferences. The international community and the ITU by conducting the WSIS 10 once again highlighted its ability to come up with consensus decisions on some of the most complicated decisions and bring together all stakeholders.

We think that we should send the outcomes of this meeting to the General Assembly for approval. It's also necessary to analyze the Tunis stage implementation. We have always sent our ‑‑ we have always sent our candidature to the ITU Council and this year we have the honor of sending Victor Strelets as candidate to the ITU D. We this for your support.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you for keeping the time limit. We'll hear from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Let me invite His Excellency, Muhammad Jameel bin Ahmed Mulla, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia, you have the floor.

>> SAUDI ARABIA: Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, Ministers, Heads of Delegation, Secretary‑General, Mr. SECRETARY-GENERAL, guests, may the peace of God be upon you. Firstly, Chair, I would like to congratulate you upon your election to the head of this very important Conference and I'd like to wish you every success in your work. I'd more over like to confirm the Delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia would like to support you in every way throughout this Conference.

Chair, in the 15th century, the discovery of printing changed the world, because it allowed communication of knowledge between people. This communication became easier, and today, this communication has changed thanks to ICTs. In fact, it is not simply a simple change, but a refounding of a society. We are in a world where nothing stops.

ICTs are extremely important. They have an unlimited influence in a modern world, and on the industry of the future, and indeed, the meeting between those ‑‑ between leaders of those responsible in this Sector which was held this year played a very important role there. I together with my colleagues from the Saudi Delegation am very happy to participate once again in this Conference and I would like to express our gratitude and thanks to the Government of Korea for the generosity of its welcome, which shows the importance accorded by Korea to this event and to this modern industry which leads us to a better world.

And I would like to congratulate our colleagues the Chair of the Conference, the Chairs of the Committees, the subcommittees, on the confidence which has been placed in them by the Conference, and we hope that with this, we'll be able to make progress in the world of ICTs. We should be able to take the shortest route beau the most fruitful one so that we can ensure stability, prosperity and the work of our people.

Ladies and gentlemen, the ICT Sector is leading the modern world towards various different areas, different domains. Indeed, ICTs have become the principal basis of the progress of our societies and economic, social and cultural development, and for bringing people together, and prosperity. And based on these principles, the Government of Saudi Arabia recognized the importance of the Sector and has accorded it attention, great attention.

Some time ago adopting a programme which allowed to increase National competitiveness and efficiency through the liberalization of service markets opening the doors to competition. And for providing advanced high‑quality ICT services to all parts of the Kingdom. And thereby ensuring a general circulation and affordable prices for all.

Therefore, the Kingdom has backed these changes of recent years. It has also adopted policies and regulations. We have expanded the markets of services and communications. We've introduced new services, advanced services, which allow all, whether individuals, members of the private sector, or Government to benefit. The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has insisted ‑‑ emphasized the opening of Internet services to all citizens, residents in our country, and also those in remote regions to ensure that they can develop, and we've not limited ourselves to opening up markets to competition but it's also financed large‑scale projects in order to ensure high quality as regards voice and Internet services as affordable prices.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is a very brief summary of what Saudi Arabia has been doing in the area of ICTs, but we are proud of this development, but we'd like to make some important comments at this important Conference as regards the issue of ICTs. The ITU must remain the point of reference for all issues relating to ICTs. There is a need for it to organise on a global level all of the regulations, taking into account the developments and innovations in the ICT Sector. There's a need to help countries, members of the Union in particular, least developed countries, to ensure that they can establish these developments and new innovations in the area of ICTs and legislation, too.

There is a need for the ITU to review the outputs of WSIS through Resolution 368, 30268. This is a very important document which prepares the Union for the next stage of the WSIS, World Summit on the Information Society.

Saudi Arabia, which joined the ITU in 1949 and joined the Council in ‑‑ 1949 rather around joined the Council in 1969, has always participated in these activities and we've participated in all the sectors, the meetings, and so on, of the organisation. We have been the ‑‑ we have been Sector Directors and we've played very important roles, Chairs and Vice‑Chairs, of Committees and groups. We're also one of the great financial supporters of the organisation. We are the fifth biggest donor to this organisation.

Ladies and gentlemen, the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Union is an important stage in the history of this organisation. It was one of the specialized agencies of the United Nations. Saudi Arabia is going to continue to support ITU. That is why we decided to support the fund for holding the 150th anniversary celebrations.

We decided to continue with our efforts so as to ensure that ‑‑ so as to ensure success and we have decided to do this through its membership in the Council. We hope the distinguished ITU states would support its reelection. I would hope that we will achieve good results. We'd like to once again re‑confirm Saudi Arabia's commitment to cooperate with all partners and to support all efforts for the well being of people of the world. May the peace of God be upon you. Thank you.

[ Applause ]

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Minister, for your Policy Statement. I would like to remind the Delegations one more time that your Policy Statement will be put on the ITU website, so it will be highly appreciated if you can keep the time limit in 5 minutes.

Having said that, I would like to invite Vietnam, followed by Qatar.

I would like to invite the Deputy Minister of Information and Communication of Vietnam. Vietnam. You have the floor.

>> VIETNAM: Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Secretary‑General of the ITU, distinguished Delegates, ladies and gentlemen, thank you for offering Vietnam the opportunity to make a statement at the Plenipotentiary Conference. On behalf of Vietnam, Government I would like to extend our warmest greeting to you all. Mr. Chairman, let me join my previous speaker to congratulate you for being elected Chairman of this important Conference of the Union. I am confident that under your Chairmanship this Conference will be a great success.

I would also like to express our gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Korea for the hospitality extended to the Delegates of the Plenipotentiary Conference. We all know that the main mission of the ITU is to enable and foster the standard development of the network and facilities and to facilitate universal access to that people everywhere can participate in and benefit from. Therefore Vietnam is expected that this Conference would discuss and approve a suitable Strategic Plan for the coming period, having a good vision in promoting the development of telecommunication, contributing to economic development, protecting the environment, responding to natural disasters, increasingly access to information for people, particularly for people with disabilities.

Recognizing the important role of the information communication technology to serve as important driving force for the assisting in the development. Vietnam Government has set up National broadband strategy to ensure universal sustainable and affordable access to the ICT broadband service for all Vietnamese as follows ‑‑

One, ensure clear and transparent fair policy and regulatory environment to promote competition in the market and increase incentive for investment in Telecom broadband infrastructure and to protect users to access broadband services with high quality and affordable price.

Two, create favorable conditions for public‑private partnership and multistakeholder mechanism to bridge the digital gap between the rural and urban area between poor and rich people.

By using Universal Service Fund to support Telecom operators in rolling out the network in remote mountainous areas of the country in fast ways.

Three, promote applying advanced technology especially wireless broadband access solution to provide fast and secure connection to everyone including children, women and physically challenged by reaffirming the high frequency band and fulfilling TV digitalization.

Four, strengthen international cooperation by further liberalizing our ICT market and the international efforts against the trends on the Internet.

Ladies and gentlemen, over the years, Vietnam has tried to make a contribution to the work of the Union by providing experiences nominating numerous people to the ITU work and making proposals to ITU meetings. Recognizing the important role of the radio regulation developing ICT infrastructure Vietnam would like to contribute more to the work of the Union and hope to receive support from the ITU Member States for our candidate. Closing myself, I wish good health and great success for governance. Thank you for your kind attention.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Deputy Minister, for your Policy Statement. Now we will hear from Qatar, followed by Azerbaijan. I would invite Minister of Information and Communications Technology, Qatar, you have the floor.

>> QATAR: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful, ladies and gentlemen, this is really an honor for me to take the floor in behalf of Qatar at this Conference. I'd like to thank the Government of Korea which has hosted this Conference. I would like to thank the Koreans for their warm hospitality. Today we have met to establish the main thrust of ICT development to allow all citizens of the world to benefit from ICTs so that all countries can develop to their highest potential and to ensure the highest possible level of National development. Qatar has long contributed to these efforts. Qatar was the 23rd country of the 184 countries we have ‑‑ Qatar adopted the fourth generation of technology, and we have a penetration of 85% for broadband, and we also have 84% of households connected in Qatar. I'd also like to say the use of ICTs in Qatar is close to the international average.

This will help to consolidate the knowledge society in Qatar and we will certainly have to work on the ambitious objectives derived from connecting the world in 2020, and we're counting our strategies and partnerships in order to achieve these objectives. In 2016, we believe that 95% of families in Qatar will be able to have access to broadband and high speed services, with a speed of 100 mega bits.

Qatar has undertaken various efforts in order to improve the situation vis‑a‑vis ICTs in Qatar in 2016, the IPv6 protocol will be circulated, introduced across the Qatar territory. Qatar has ‑‑ provides more than 95% of its Government services electronically to the citizens of Qatar and we'd also like to emphasize the need to ensure universal access to provide access to all citizens of the world, no matter their age, gender, the country they come from, or their source of income.

Qatar has decided to establish training cycles aimed particularly at immigrants, women, and people with disabilities. Qatar has also strengthened its infrastructure. We have developed a National strategy for cybersecurity. It will be launched in 2015 in order to protect vital National interests and as a consequence Qatar is going to establish a National legal and regulatory framework and protecting all users of the cyberspace, while protecting the user confidentiality.

We are stressing also the protection of children online. In 2015 we'll implement the education programme on cybersecurity in schools in Qatar. This is part of the school curriculum currently applied. We are aware that the young people in Qatar will direct the future of the country. Therefore, we have launched a new programme aimed at training young people in Qatar in various sectors, such as cloud computing or coding, and in the use of other techniques.

Qatar is always aware of the participation of the Telecommunications Sector in development. Therefore, we also encourage innovation and creativity and we would like to create an enabling environment for innovation in Qatar to ensure that we main a leader in this area.

So finally I'd like to talk to you about the Telecoms 2015 Expo. This will be held in Qatar for the first time in Qatar next year. We will cover future technologies. We will show you the most ‑‑ how the latest developments in ICTs change people's lives. I would like to mention that various innovations and various new technologies will be presented during Telecom 2015, such as smart buildings, smart games, and so on.

Qatar adopted strategies and has welcomed all these strategies. We know that Telecom is one of the best platforms to present all of these innovations to the world, and to show all citizens how technology can make ICTs closer to the environment and I'd like to recall that this will be the last ‑‑ I beg your pardon, this 2014 Telecoms event will be the last opportunity to say goodbye to Mr. Touré. We'll miss you Mr. Touré and it will be hard to imagine an ITU without you. Thank you.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your statement and thank you for hosting Telecom event. It's also a pleasure to see a growing number of women participants in this ITU Plenipotentiary Conference and especially in the very high level like yourself. And once again, thank you for hosting Telecom event. That will be the farewell party for Dr. Touré.

[ Applause ]

Now we will hear from Azerbaijan followed by Jordan. I would like to invite His Excellency Minister Ali Abbasov, Minister of Communications and high technologies of Azerbaijan. Azerbaijan you have the floor.

>> AZERBAIJAN: Mr. Secretary‑General, distinguished Delegates I'd like to start with expressing my congratulations and appreciations to the ITU, the Government of Korea and the authorities of the city of Busan for hosting this Conference and for such a great organisation. Now we are here, the key event to decide on the international role of ITU, and to understand its overall capacity to shape the further development of ICTs for the next period.

Azerbaijan joins ITU just almost two decades ago and we continue to have the pleasure and privilege to assist the Union with its major commitment of connecting the world and the global Post 2015 development agenda. For the last four years, Azerbaijan essentially helped the ITU general Secretariat with striving to drive the broadband deployment across the world and is strongly involved in the activity of the UN Broadband Commission for Digital Development. The Government of Azerbaijan has initiated a platform for improving the connectivity in Eurasia, and the ITU is one of the partners of the project. This platform has been supported by three Resolutions adopted by UN General Assembly, and the last one was on establishing Eurasian, in cooperation with ITU.

Regional activity of Azerbaijan in ICT is continued in cooperation with the UNDEP on establishing the ICT's trust fund, since Azerbaijan as an emerging donor country contributes to the development of ICTs with technical assistance in cooperation with ITU, as well.

These days Azerbaijan is represented in TDAG and the ITU‑T Study Group 2, and a candidate is nominated for the new composition of the RRB. As Azerbaijan is also nominated from the C region for their Council membership. We look forward to involving more resources and to adding more values to the further growth of the Union. For the last decade we have witnessed a tremendous work done by the Secretariat and the Bureaux. I'd like to emphasize here a great performance of my friend, Dr. Touré, during his tenure both as a Secretary‑General and a BDT Director. Taking this opportunity, I'd like to thank him for his dedication he showed during all this time, and wish him all successes with further commitment. Thank you.

[ Applause ]

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Minister, for your brief and concise remarks. Thank you very much. Now we will hear from Jordan, followed by Poland. I would invite the Minister of Information and Communication Technology of Jordan. Jordan, you have the floor.

>> JORDAN: Thank you, Sir. It's a pleasure for me to congratulate you on behalf of my Government, and wish you every success at this Conference. Sir, Secretary‑General, ladies and gentlemen, Excellencies, Ministers, Heads of Delegation, it's truly a privilege and an honor for me to take the floor at this Plenipotentiary Conference which is taking place today in Korea.

First, I would like to thank in my name and in the name of the members of the Jordanian Delegation, thank Korea for hosting this Conference, and I would like to express the pleasure that I'm having in meeting with colleagues and friends here at this meeting of experts and specialists of the ICT Sector. Ladies and gentlemen, this Conference has numerous objectives, one of which is to come up with a clear vision and strategy for the ICT Sectors between now and 2020.

This means that all Member States of the ITU have to harmonize their National policies in order to contribute to the realization of this general ITU vision, and to contribute to the main objectives of its strategy.

In Jordan, we have revamped our ICT Sector since 1974 with a new framework of our reforms, launched regulatory and legislative work to ensure that appropriate framework is available for this important Sector. The Government has also a general strategy for this Sector and it was adopted in 2003 and highlights the realization of the ICT Sector and other document adopted in 2007 tried to improve competition in the ICT Sectors.

Among the challenges that we are facing in Jordan, let me highlight that the Government has decided to reform its general policy and adapt it to all of the changes under way within the ICT Sector, so Jordan has adopted in 2012 a new general Policy Statement, and it is based on ‑‑ it revolves around certain objectives inter alia, promote development of the ICT sectors by improving participation in the Sector and its participation in socioeconomic sectors of the economy to improve our GDP and productivity, and to increase jobs.

Another objective of the policy is to provide ICT services, high‑quality services, at reasonable prices throughout the Kingdom of Jordan. The Government of Jordan thinks that we have to take into account the following considerations to achieve this objective: Free, open and efficient competition. Two, we have to ensure access to broadband, and we should also update our policies in the area to follow up on the ever‑changing landscape of the ICT Sector.

We have to take into account changes in the private and public sector related to ICTs. Within this framework we decided to get all stakeholders involved. We've also decided to find appropriate solutions to all of the challenges we're facing in the Sector. The Government of Jordan based on these principles is coordinating with all stakeholders and partners with a view towards putting in place the right strategy for 2013 through 2017. A new strategy will cover several objectives which aim to promote the ICT sectors, and to ensure the economic development of the country.

Our new National strategy will highlight everything which has to do with improving ICT services. This includes contents in Arab languages and also be able to provide other technological service, improve the use of ICTs by Government and by the private sector. It goes without saying, ladies and gentlemen, that the discussions here at this Conference will have an important impact in establishing guidelines for the ICT in the future, and we truly hope that everyone will participate in this Conference, all of our partners from various sectors, and we truly hope that this Conference will be a success, and that we will be able to paint a full picture of the future of the ICTs and of the ITU's role in the ICT development over the next four years.

In conclusion, Sir, I would like to thank you and wish every participant of the Conference a successful meeting, and hope that we will be able to achieve the objectives of the ITU and establish an appropriate policy for the next four years. Thank you.

[ Applause ]

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Minister, for your Policy Statement. Now we will hear from Poland, followed by Kazakhstan.

I would invite Undersecretary of State, Minister of Administration and Digitization of Poland. Poland, you have the floor.

>> POLAND: Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, distinguished participants, it is a great pleasure and privilege to be here with you. On behalf of the Republic of Poland, I would like to express my gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Korea and the Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning for hosting this event. Let me also express my genuine appreciation to the current ITU management.

Dr. Touré has mentioned on several occasions that what one leaves behind matters most. You have done a terrific job, and you deserve a great round of applause.

[ Applause ]

Ladies and gentlemen, we are all truly privileged to be working in a Sector which offers almost unlimited potential. ICT is a driver for growth, efficiency and productivity increase. We are all well aware of that, aren't we? I guess we may have necessary representatives in this room. If so, they should surely confirm that this is not rocket science.

One does not need to be a Nobel Prize winner to understand the role of ICT, but it takes the wisdom and the right people to turn the words into action. Let me show you our Polish example. Over the last four years with Poland as an ITU member, my Government has developed numerous projects aimed at shaping the Polish economy and society to meet the demands on the digital smart world.

Today, Poland is the biggest construction site of broadband networks in Europe, all indicators have been sky rocketing. One may ask how we have done it. The answer is simple: The best people at the most important decision‑making decisions.

One of the leaders of those changes in Poland, a true driver of growth, is Magdalena Gaj. Thanks to her dedication and hard work, we have managed to get things done in a smart way. As a result today, 37 million people benefit from digital TV and its value‑added services. In 2014, almost 88% of households had access to the Internet, and the share is growing each year.

More than 10 million households enjoy broadband access and by 2020, this number will have doubled. In addition, more than 56 million mobile cards are active, with penetration at the level of over 148%, making mobile broadband through 3G or 4G technologies accessible and affordable to all. The total length of infrastructure built in 2013 was over 7,000 kilometers, and the length of the developed network was over 25% higher than planned.

In 2014, we plan to construct nearly 7.5,000 kilometers more of infrastructure. On top of that in the last four years, most cities have installed free wi‑fi in all the public places and invest in the development of smart applications. On the one hand, we are transforming analog cities into smart cities. On the other hand, we keep empowering citizens through ICTs.

Also, we look after those who need help in becoming connected citizens therefore we have launched a project called the Lighthouse Keepers which in 2012 thanks to the WSIS project became a showcase. Day‑to‑day over 3,000 volunteers help to build e‑Skills of the Polish people. The oldest one is 80 years old, and the youngest is 16.

I am confident that with that kind of support, the smart world will happen in Poland. Taking all that into account, it is my great pleasure to announce that the Republic of Poland is a candidate for the election to the ITU Council from region C.

In addition to that, the Polish candidate who is already well known to most of you, Mr. Magdalena Gaj, runs for the Post of Deputy Secretary‑General of the ITU. Magdalena, a lawyer, former Secretary responsible for telecommunication and now head of Regulatory Authority is instrumental in bringing ITU into the new era and in bringing a breath of fresh air into the organisation.

Enjoying total support from the Polish Government, Magdalena has had significant impact on my country, so I am convinced she will do the same for the entire world, with our support. I really do hope that we can counted on your trust, and with your help, we can transform our world into the smart world.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

[ Applause ]

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you Undersecretary for your remark. Before giving the floor to Kazakhstan which will be the second to the last country on me list, I would ask the interpreters to allow us to stay in the room for 10 more minutes. Would that be possible.

>> Interpreter: Certainly, Mr. Chairman, 10 more minutes will be fine.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Now, I would invite Vice‑Minister of Investments and Development of Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan, you have the floor.

>> KAZAKHSTAN: Dear Mr. Chairman, dear ladies and gentlemen, let me express my sincere gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Korea for excellent preparation of the PP‑14. We are grateful to the organisers for their attention and goodwill rendered to the Delegates. The information communication technology is a major factor of economic competitiveness and increasing quality of life in society. Therefore, according to conception of ITU connect 2020, also in Kazakhstan we have our Government programme, information Kazakhstan 2020. I would like to briefly far rate how these have been fulfilled in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Many communication operators have appeared in the market since liberalization of the telecommunication industry, advanced more than communication technologies including 4G have also been implemented. As a result, today 70% of the population has connected to the Internet. The launch of several satellites allow to deliver communication and broadcasting services not only within our territory, but also to nearby countries on the basis of new digital standards of TV. In parallel we have been also working under information infrastructure. The State databases for individuals and legal entities, the system of intergovernmental data flow and information systems of Government authority have been created. As a result of this work today you can reduce the company in Kazakhstan of e‑Government portal. All licenses issued today only in electronic format. In total, more than 570 services are provided. Taking into account that the density of mobile communication subscribers has reached the next three years they are going to transfer the most popular public services to mobile form. All this has allowed Kazakhstan to be ranked 28 in the UN index for I Government development. In light of we support ITU and honorable Mr. SECRETARY-GENERAL. In light of these achievements, two weeks ago we hosted the global e‑Government Forum in Astana where IT experts from 79 countries gathered to discuss the development of priority issues such as smart society, open Government, data security, Information Society and big data.

At the end of the Forum, we clearly see the readiness of countries for cooperation and partnership in the Information Society. I am also glad that Mr. Houlin Zhao participated in this Forum and today we work fruitfully in this event of ITU.

Let me express our participation in all events of the ITU and to your success to all candidates presents towards the nomination of posts in the ITU in this hall today.

I would like to note that the administration for communication of the Republic of Kazakhstan on its behalf nominates Mr. Rizat Nurshabekev for the position of the member of the Radio Regulations Board. Taking this opportunity I would like to ask for your support for our candidate, Mr. Nurshabekev. Finally I would like to thank again the organisers of the PP‑14. Thank you for your attention.

[ Applause ]

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much Vice‑Minister for your Policy Statement and for keeping the time. Now I would invite our last speaker for today's Policy Statement, Lebanon. I would invite the Minister of Telecommunications. Lebanon, you have the floor.

>> LEBANON: Thank you, Sir. Secretary‑General, Mr. SECRETARY-GENERAL, Honorable Delegates. First, I would like to express my gratitude to the Government of Korea and to the International Telecommunications Union for preparations for this Conference. First and foremost, I would like to congratulate the ITU on its successes in strengthening ICTs and knowledge exchange.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Secretary‑General for all of his efforts inter alia for his language abilities which we saw this morning. I would like to thank him for his efforts to ensure the success of all these proceedings. In Lebanon, we've been a member of the ITU since 1924, and we have been concentrating all of our efforts, human and technology, to the ITU's objectives. The ITU pays particular importance to telecommunications and ICT to knowledge and networks in the service of humanity. This to strengthen cooperation and international security. Ladies and gentlemen, ICT services and their relationship with other sectors are important for economic development, not only economic development but also social development. They enable the development of cities and urban areas and we would like to highlight this point. They also give us the possibility of increasing jobs, increasing revenues of households, and they also are a vehicle for other services, like education, cultural development.

The ICTs also ensure respect for liberties. We are all well aware that ICTs are key, they are just as important to us as air, interaction within the city. We're all well aware of these things.

We know that the ITU has insisted on the search for appropriate solutions to ICT challenges, like the use of social networks, and is striving to improve knowledge exchange via all sorts of applications. I'm thinking about networks that protect children from sexual abuse. I'm referring of ITU's work on social networking.

The ITU gives us the possibility of learning through ICTs, of allowing citizens to exercise their civil liberties within the framework of respective sovereignty of states and National Security.

We hope ‑‑ we think that these issues are very important and we should discuss them on the basis of some criteria. We should take into account the metadata, the mega data and the level of data exchanged and we have to be sure that this data is confidential, that personal data is protected, that National Security is protected, and that there's a balance between the State in this area. We also have to ensure that there is a ‑‑ that there is financing to expand the network so that everyone has access to knowledge, so that everyone can understand their Human Rights. The Minister of the economy in my country, Lebanon, despite the difficult situation that we're going through, there are 200,000 Syrians who are refugees in our country.

Despite the situation, we would like to reassure you that we are providing all resources possible to provide connectivity, and thanks to the help of the League of Arab States and others, we are providing our citizens with everything necessary for e‑Governance, and we have a long‑term vision on ICTs. We think that this approach will facilitate long‑term sustainable development. We are undertaking the necessary policies to ensure this. And I would like on this note to wishful success to all of the members of this Conference.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Minister, for your Policy Statement. That ends our Policy Statements. Before moving to the last Agenda Item, I would like to extend appreciation to all Member States who have made Policy Statements today. All of those Policy Statements are quite inspirational and we have learned a lot of things from those Policy Statements. Thank you very much.

[ Applause ]

Now we will move on to our last Agenda Item, which is any other business. So now I would like to ask the Delegations who wish to take the floor. Any Delegations wants to take the floor?

I see none, so now before closing our first Plenary, I will ask the Secretary of the Plenary if she has any additional announcements to make? Secretary of the Plenary, you have the floor?

>> SECRETARY OF THE PLENARY: Thank you, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to inform Delegates that we will be organising a number of exciting side events during this Plenipotentiary Conference, the first of which will take place tomorrow morning at 7:30. We will be holding a women's breakfast. Buses will leave the hotels from 7:00 a.m., so the breakfast is at 7:30, and it's here in BEXCO hall 3B.

Also tomorrow at the end of Plenary, we will be launching the ITU's 150th anniversary celebrations. Next week on the 28th of October, we will have the GEM‑Tech Awards that the Secretary‑General referred to in his address. We will also have a high level dialogue with the awardees over the lunch break and we will end the day with a gala dinner to celebrate the GEM‑Tech Awards. On Wednesday next week we'll kick off a series of five roundtables under the theme of: Connect 2020, and all of those events can be found on the website.

I also wanted to mention that we have introduced a new innovation in this Plenipotentiary, and that is the Young ICT Policy Leaders track. We're delighted to have over 50 Young ICT Policy Leaders. The Secretary‑General referred to the youngest Policy Leader, 12 years old, from UAE. We look forward to hearing from him, and we're very pleased to have started that ICT young policy leaders track.

Also, the Secretary‑General mentioned in his opening address this morning that he would be convening next week a special session on Ebola to look at ways that the membership can help in the fight against Ebola, so information on the date and time for that meeting will be relayed to you in due course.

We will also be holding next week or the week after a special briefing on the UN post‑2015 Sustainable Development Goals for all of you that might be interested to follow what's happening on that agenda.

Also, Mr. Chairman, I wanted to inform Delegates that are on the Steering Committee, we will be holding the first meeting of the Steering Committee immediately at the close of this session. And that will take place in Room C. And I also wanted to mention to everyone that there are gifts for all of you, gifts that are provided by ‑‑ kindly by our host, from Korea, from Busan City, as well, and they can be picked up at the document distribution desk.

And I also wanted to mention, Chairman, that on Thursday, Friday, and Monday, as we have advanced the elections to begin the Plenary Session at 8:30, the buses will depart from your hotels on those days at 7:00 a.m. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Secretary of the Plenary. Before closing, I would like to give the floor to Korea for announcing the social event. Korea, you have the floor.

>> KOREA: First of all, I'd like to express my sincere welcome to all of you again. On behalf of the Republic of Korea, let me briefly introduce today's welcome dinner hosted by Korean Government Busan city. It will be held at Busan Cinema Center from 6:00 p.m. to 8:20 p.m. tonight, and for your convenience, shuttle bus is available just before this building, and it's also the return, after the welcome dinner, also a shuttle bus available from 20 to 20 p.m. 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. I wish you have a great time and find fulfilling the start of PP‑14. Thank you very much.

[ Applause ]

>> CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Korea. The venue is Busan Cinema Center. This is a very famous place and you might have a chance to meet movie stars there, so don't miss this opportunity.

Before closing this session, I would like to say thanks again to the interpreters for their indulgence to stay with me, and I just want to congratulate all of you for this great beginning of this Plenipotentiary Conference.

And we will meet tomorrow morning, 9:30 here. The meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much.

[ Applause ]

[ End of Plenary Session ]

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