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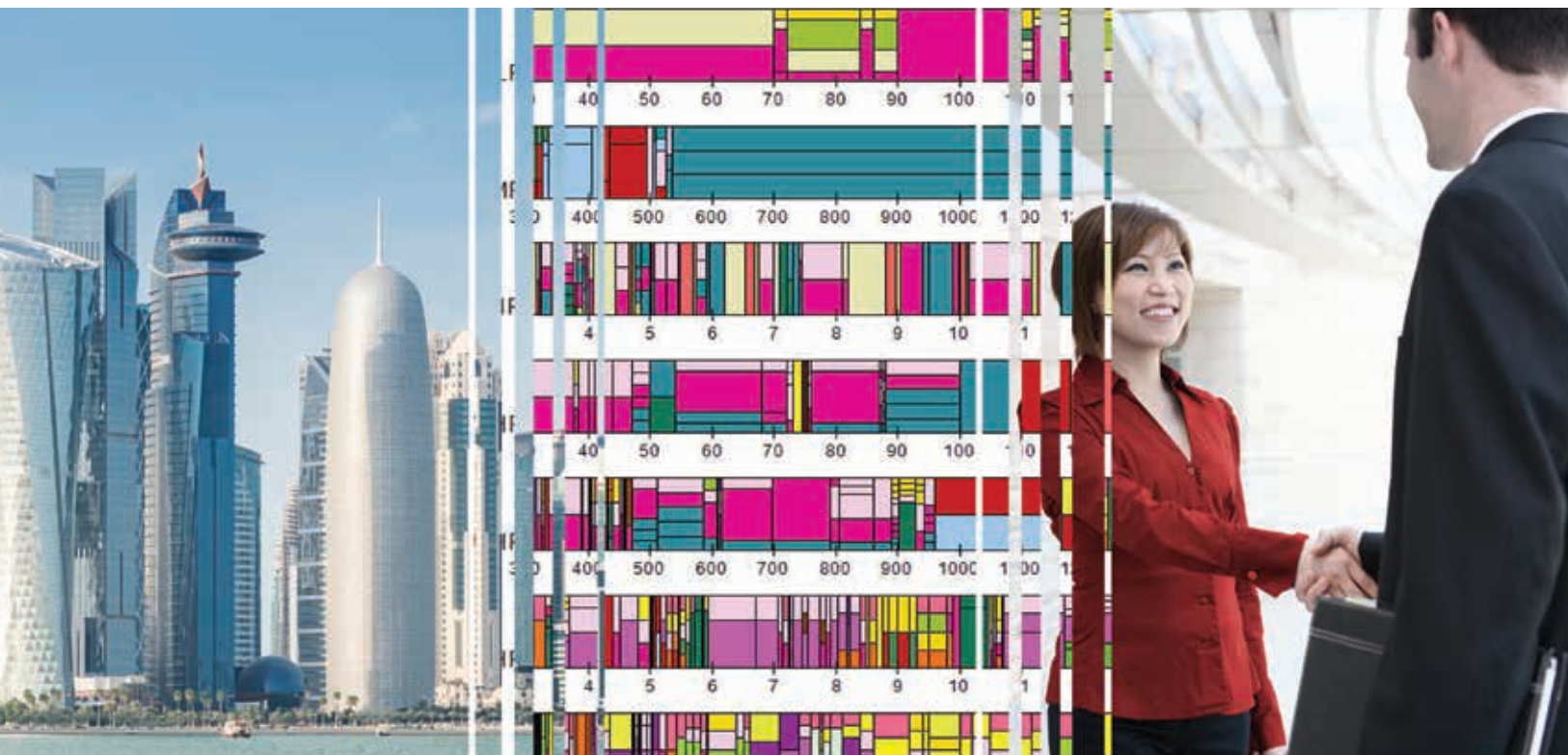
Building digital bridges in Busan

**President Park sets the tone for PP-14
New ITU leadership team**

Connect 2020 Agenda



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► Reaching the unreached

Houlin Zhao
ITU Deputy Secretary-General



I would like to thank all Member States for placing their confidence in me as the next Secretary-General. They have put their trust in continuity for this great Union of ours, as we start the next 150 years of ITU's history. Together with the new management team, and the support of the membership, I am confident that we can build on the outstanding work done under the visionary leadership of Dr Hamadoun Touré, and take the Union to new levels of excellence.

The results achieved by the Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan, Republic of Korea, reflect the strong commitment of our members to finding global consensus.

On 3 December 2014, we celebrated International Day of Persons with Disabilities under the theme *Sustainable Development: The Promise of Technology*. For ITU, technology, especially information and communication technologies (ICT), plays a key role in the inclusion of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.

The Plenipotentiary Conference, through Resolution 175 (Rev. Busan, 2014) "Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs", mandates ITU to promote ICT accessibility and access to ICT for persons with disabilities. It also calls for ITU to become a more accessible organization for persons with disabilities.

This important outcome is complemented by the adoption, also at PP-14, of the Connect 2020 Agenda, which provides a global framework for the development of ICT, with four strategic goals to be reached by the ITU membership by 2020. One of the

targets in this agenda calls for the establishment of enabling policies ensuring accessible ICT for persons with disabilities in all ITU Member States by 2020.

After PP-14, ITU launched its flagship annual *Measuring the Information Society* Report at the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium in Tbilisi, Georgia (24–26 November 2014). According to this report, an estimated three billion people are now online and growth of ICT is accelerating worldwide.

Regarding mobile cellular, the report estimates that by the end of 2014 there will be seven billion mobile subscriptions, roughly corresponding to the total global population. But it warns against concluding that everyone is connected; instead, many users have multiple subscriptions, with global growth figures sometimes translating into little real improvement in the level of connectivity of those at the very bottom of the pyramid. An estimated 450 million people worldwide live in places which are still out of reach of mobile cellular service. So we still have a lot of work to do. But do we really know the population that remains unconnected? I call upon our Member States to help us identify the unconnected people so that we can work together to connect them. I encourage all our members, in particular, Member States and Sector Members, as well as our partners to put this request on their agenda. Meanwhile, we will learn from ITU Telecom World 2014 in Doha, Qatar (7–10 December) the new technologies on the horizon and how they will contribute to shaping our future.

As 2014 draws to a close, I wish you all a happy start to 2015 — and indeed a future — driven by vision, action and harmony. ■



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Plenipotentiary Conference 2014

Building digital bridges in Busan

EDITORIAL

- 1 Reaching the unreachable**
Houlin Zhao, ITU Deputy Secretary-General

BUILDING DIGITAL BRIDGES IN BUSAN

- 5 President Park sets the tone for PP-14**

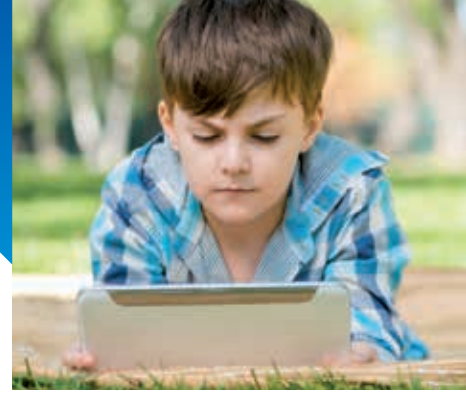
.....

ELECTION RESULTS

Meet ITU's top executives for 2015–2018

- 11 Houlin Zhao**
ITU Secretary-General Elect
- 13 Malcolm Johnson**
ITU Deputy Secretary-General Elect
- 15 François Rancy**
Re-elected Director of the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau
- 17 Brahima Sanou**
Re-elected Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau
- 19 Chaesub Lee**
Director Elect, ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

21 Radio Regulations Board and ITU Council

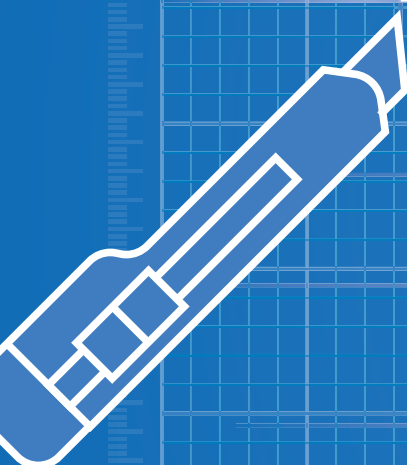
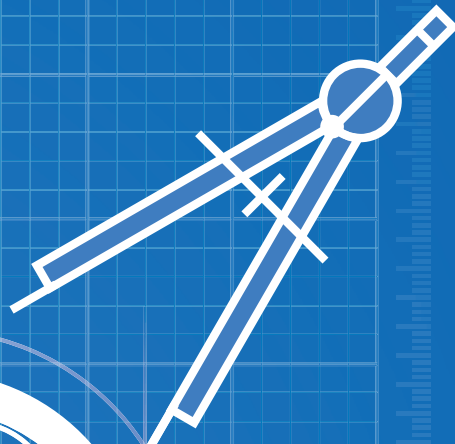




MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF PP-14

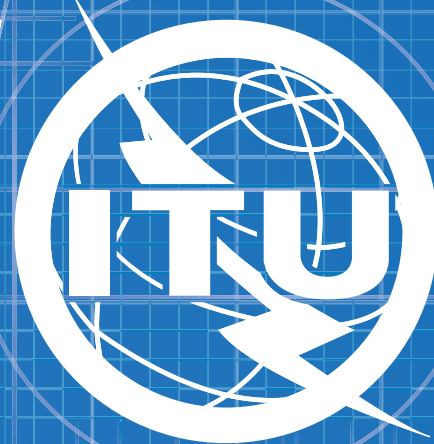
- 23 Highlights of conference conclusions
- 33 Global flight tracking for civil aviation to be placed on the agenda of WRC-15
- 34 Stemming the tide of Ebola
- 37 Empowering youth through telecommunication and ICT
- 39 The Smart Africa Manifesto gets a boost in Busan
- 40 Connect 2020 Agenda
Growth, inclusiveness, sustainability, and innovation and partnership
- 43 Connect 2020 goals and targets
.....
- 44 **President of Rwanda envisions a sustainable, inclusive and secure future**
- 45 **Winners of the GEM-TECH Awards 2014**
Gender equality and mainstreaming
.....

MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

- 49 Official Visits
.....
- 58 **One ITU — Making the world a better place**
Message from Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, ITU Secretary-General



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► *Building digital bridges in Busan*

President Park sets the tone for PP-14

President Park Guen-hye of the Republic of Korea attended the opening of ITU's 19th Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14), marking the importance of the three-week conference (20 October–7 November 2014). A video clip, a commemorative stamp to mark PP-14, and a special performance of traditional Korean dance by the National Dance Company were also part of the impressive opening programme at the

BEXCO exhibition and conference centre located in the coastal city of Busan.

President Park said that telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICT) had catalysed the rapid development of the Internet and mobile communications. This had "brought about great changes and made it possible to share knowledge in all areas of human lives including politics, the economy, society and culture", she said,

adding that "with the Internet of Things, interconnectedness and big data analytics are precipitating the convergence of technology and industries." In this changing environment, President Park observed, "we thus have reached an inflection point in the hyper-connected digital revolution — a revolution defined by 'increased connection, smarter connection, and faster connection'. This hyper-connected digital revolution will lead to new converged



From left to right: Yanghee Choi, Minister of Science, ICT and Future Planning, Republic of Korea; Park Geun-hye, President of the Republic of Korea; Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, ITU Secretary-General; and Houlin Zhao, ITU Deputy Secretary-General

industries and services such as smart vehicles, smart health care, and smart cities. It will transform the way we live and contribute to the development of our economies and societies.”

Such developments bring new challenges, she noted, underlining that “The rapid growth and diffusion of telecommunications and ICT and the creation of diverse ecosystems will make it necessary to mediate the different interests of multiple parties in order to develop technological standards and international rules that govern order in cyberspace.”

President Park called on governments to “forge stronger partnerships with the private sector and build a more open and

flexible framework for decision-making.” She also stressed the need to “strengthen global preparedness against cyberthreats and ensure — from the initial system design stage — that newly converged industries and services are secure and reliable.” President Park sought the commitment of the international community to narrow the global ICT gap “so that telecommunications and ICT can serve to improve human rights and welfare for all humankind, irrespective of region, country, gender or class.”

Citing the rapid growth in ICT in her own country, President Park recalled that telephone penetration in the Republic of Korea had been just 7 per cent in 1980.

“It was a country at the peripheries of telecommunications technology. However, after only 30 years, we now rank first in the world on the ITU’s ICT Development Index as well as the UN’s e-Government Index,” she commented. Plans are under way in the Republic of Korea to build a nation-wide Giga Internet Network by 2017 in order to lead the hyper-connected digital revolution. The government is also focusing on technological development and infrastructure upgrade with the aim of being the first country to launch commercial fifth-generation (5G) mobile communication services in 2020. Sharing these plans, President Park explained that “The high-speed network is the basis for

pursuing our Creative Economy strategy, which aims to transform our economic paradigm from being a fast follower to a first mover. The hyper-connected digital revolution is in essence the convergence of and innovation in industry, technology and culture through ICT. The driver of such convergence and innovation is the imagination and creativity of individual people. The Creative Economy is an economy where the imagination and creativity of individuals are fully leveraged to drive convergence and innovation and to create new added value as well as jobs." To help countries in formulating national ICT policies, the President said, the Republic of Korea stood ready to share its experience of growth through ICT — and of building its broadband network, e-government and Creative Economy. "We already have ongoing collaborative projects with developing countries, including training programmes for ICT policy-makers. Additionally, we provide policy consulting and support to those planning to introduce e-government", she explained. Expressing her full support for the four goals of the Connect 2020 Agenda — growth, inclusiveness, sustainability, and innovation — President Park said that her country would participate actively in ITU initiatives, especially those aimed at addressing technology gaps that alienate women, people with disabilities, and other disadvantaged groups.

Safer, healthier and better lives

The Republic of Korea's Minister of Science, ICT and Future Planning, Yanghee Choi, emphasized that the future direction of ITU should contribute to the future prosperity of all humankind, and welcomed ITU's Connect 2020. Mr Choi reported that ICT ministers from 50 States had attended the ICT Ministerial Conference on 19 October and adopted the Busan Declaration. They had reaffirmed their commitment to work together to realize ITU's vision. Highlighting the gap in access to broadband and ICT, Minister Choi emphasized the need to collectively address the challenge of expanding infrastructure in developing countries, while creating an environment conducive to the secure and sound use of ICT. "It is vital for Member States to share views on current challenges and policy experience, thereby strengthening mutual understanding and joint efforts", he said, adding that the Republic of Korea's government would play its part by continuously sharing its policy experience and know-how with other Member States. Focusing on the ways and means for all societies to leverage ICT for safer, healthier and better lives, he said "Just as the human body's balance breaks down due to vitamin deficiency, ICT deficiency will break the balance between individuals and societies, and consequently undermine sustainable



"It is vital for Member States to share views on current challenges and policy experience, thereby strengthening mutual understanding and joint efforts..."

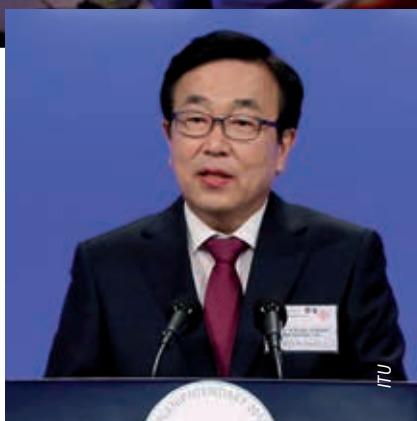
*Yanghee Choi,
Minister of Science, ICT and Future
Planning of the Republic of Korea*

growth and development. Thus, we must make a concerted effort so that no one is excluded from ICT development for any reason."



“Broadband networks have made information accessible, helping to bridge the digital divide, especially for women, youth and people living with disabilities.”

*Ban Ki-moon,
United Nations Secretary-General*



“Today, ICT have become an intricate part of our lives. We begin our days by checking the weather and calendar with the smartphone...”

*Byung-soo Suh,
Mayor of Busan Metropolitan City*

A level playing field for youth

The Mayor of Busan City, Byung-soo Suh, also stressed the need to address the digital gap. “Today, ICT have become an intricate part of our lives. We begin our days by checking the weather and calendar with the smartphone, find optimal routes using satellite-based GPS, and make payments with near-field communication technology... The world is changing into a society where people, things and data can connect with one another anytime and anywhere. And yet, we should remind ourselves that there are still people not benefiting from such advanced technologies.” According to the Mayor, the greatest emphasis should be placed on education. “We need to level

the playing field for youth, the future leaders of the world.”

Harnessing the power of technology

In a video message, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said that “Information and communication technologies are a global powerhouse. They make manufacturing more efficient and provide eco-friendly solutions to manage booming cities and transport systems. They empower health workers and bring care within reach of people in remote areas.” Mr Ban added that “Broadband networks have made information accessible, helping to bridge the digital divide, especially for women, youth and people

living with disabilities. Information and communication technologies are, in short, among the keys to achieving sustainable development. As we shape a new development agenda and strive for a new agreement on climate change, let us continue to work together to harness the power of technology to create an accessible and sustainable future for all."

Facts and figures

Dr Hamadoun I. Touré recalled that, since the beginning of 2007, when he took office as ITU Secretary-General, the number of mobile cellular subscriptions globally has more than doubled, from 2.7 billion to 6.9 billion. Progress in the developing world has been even more spectacular, growing from 1.6 billion subscriptions to 5.4 billion. Even in the 48 UN-designated Least Developed Countries, the mobile cellular penetration rate was approaching 60 per cent, a remarkable achievement bearing in mind that in 2000 mobile cellular penetration globally was just 12 per cent.

The number of Internet users has risen from 1.2 billion at the beginning of 2007 to an estimated 2.9 billion at the end of 2014. During the same period, the number of developing world Internet users has grown from 500 million to 1.9 billion. The most spectacular progress of all has been the growth in mobile broadband, and by the end of 2014 there will be around 2.3 billion active mobile broadband

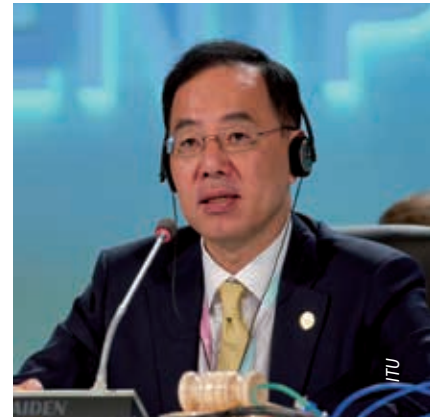
subscriptions — with more than half of them in the developing world.

"This is not just a story of connectivity for connectivity's sake, however. This is a story of real human progress. In ultra-connected environments like Busan, it's too easy to forget that, for most of the world's people, phones and smartphones and connected computers are not playthings, or even productivity tools, but a lifeline," Dr Touré said.

Consensus building

The Republic of Korea's Assistant Minister, Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning, Wonki Min, elected by acclamation to chair PP-14, said "ITU's mission to connect the world has been strengthened by every plenipotentiary conference". He expressed the desire to continue that tradition while also celebrating ITU's achievements over the past 150 years.

Mr Min noted that ITU's accomplishments in radio-spectrum management, standardization, and ICT for development had helped bring telecommunications and ICT to every corner of the world, enabling a new level of connectivity and access to information. The capacity of networks, depth of information, and speed of communication provided by ICT are creating "unprecedented opportunities and challenges for the global community", he said. Greater access to ICT is connecting more people to e-government, e-commerce and



"ITU's mission to connect the world has been strengthened by every plenipotentiary conference."

*Wonki Min,
Chairman of the ITU Plenipotentiary
Conference 2014*

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, he added, 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," he said. Observing

that “ICT are critical to strengthening sustainable economic and social growth, fostering innovation and achieving an inclusive information society,” Mr Min saw PP-14 as an “opportunity to advocate for the inclusion of ICT in the Sustainable Development Goals, as ICT are critical enablers of the development agenda beyond 2015.” To enable the conference to achieve its important tasks, he put his faith in “ITU’s long-standing tradition of consensus building.”

Conference structure

The conference comprised three substantive working committees:

- ▶ Committee 5 (Policy and Legal) chaired by Frédéric Riehl of Switzerland.
- ▶ Committee 6 (Administration and Management) chaired by Caroline Greenway of Australia.
- ▶ The Working Group of the Plenary chaired by Musab Abdullah of Bahrain.

The statutory committees of PP-14 comprised Committee 1 (Steering) chaired by Wonki Min (Republic of Korea); Committee 2 (Credentials) chaired by Timofey Kim (Kazakhstan); Committee 3 (Budget Control) chaired by Paarock Vanpercy (Ghana); and Committee 4 (Editorial) chaired by Imad Hoballah (Lebanon).

New spirit of cooperation

The conference moved on to elect top executives for ITU, the twelve members of the Radio Regulations Board (RRB), and the 48 Member States to serve on the ITU Council for the years 2015 to 2018. A full summary of election results for each round of voting is available at <http://www.itu.int/en/plenipotentiary/2014/Pages/results.aspx>. It also approved four-year Strategic and Financial plans, established the Connect 2020 Agenda and extended the Union’s mandate to new areas including youth.

This edition of ITU News highlights these and other outcomes and achievements of PP-14. The positive climate of collaboration that pervaded the conference was hailed by delegates as a bright new chapter in ITU’s solid 150-year history as the world’s impartial global steward of shared ICT resources. ■

▶ Houlin Zhao

ITU Secretary-General Elect

ITU's 19th Plenipotentiary Conference, in Busan, Republic of Korea (20 October–7 November 2014) elected Houlin Zhao of China as the next Secretary-General. In an election that took place on 23 October 2014, Mr Zhao received 152 votes from 156 ballot papers deposited. The required majority was 77. He was sole candidate for the post.

"I feel deeply moved that you have unanimously and enthusiastically elected me as the new Secretary-General of ITU..."

"I feel deeply moved that you have unanimously and enthusiastically elected me as the new Secretary-General of ITU, entrusting me the honour of leading our beloved organization for the next four years. I sincerely thank all of you for your confidence in me," said Mr Zhao speaking after his election.

Mr Zhao expressed his profound gratitude to the Government of China for putting forward his candidature. In particular, he thanked Vice-Minister Liu Lihua of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) and the Chinese delegation to PP-14, all Chinese friends who had worked hard to promote his candidature over the last two years, all delegates of ITU Member States, experts and friends of ITU Sector Members, and ITU staff "for their invaluable support and



encouragement". He also thanked his wife Aihua Jiang for having always supported his dedication to serving ITU.

Paying tribute to ITU Secretary-General, Dr Hamadoun I. Touré Mr Zhao said "He has done his utmost to lead ITU with many achievements. Over the last eight years, he and I have enjoyed working together in an excellent relationship. He is a great son of Africa and my life friend and brother. I wish him and his family all the best in the future." Turning to his other colleagues in the current management team, Mr Zhao said "It has been a very enriching experience to work with them," citing Malcolm Johnson, François Ranczy, and Brahima Sanou.

Looking ahead to ITU's 150th anniversary in 2015, Mr Zhao said "Over the last 150 years, ITU has demonstrated its ability to lead telecommunications and ICT development in the world." He noted that in the last two years support to ITU by its members had continued to grow, with very high expectations of its role from friends and partners worldwide. Mr Zhao added that he would be counting on all for a bright future for ITU in an information era of harmony. He called on the ITU membership to work together for

a common goal: Better telecommunications and information and communication technologies for a better life for all.

Congratulatory remarks

The Chinese delegation expressed "profound gratitude to all delegations and friends for their support and trust" and went on to pay tribute to Dr Touré. "In the past eight years Dr Touré has been making unremitting efforts to advance the global ICT sector. He also made significant achievements in realizing a connected world, improving the role of ICT as enabler of economic and social development, thus laying the foundation for the future work of the new management team."

Turning to Mr Zhao, the Chinese delegation said that with the support of all parties, the Secretary-General Elect would "lead the new management team of ITU in making concerted efforts to keep abreast of the times, better serve the membership and make positive contributions, enabling ITU to play a greater role in the global ICT sector." For its part, China would work with the Member States to support Mr Zhao and the work of ITU for the common goal of "promoting the development

of the global ICT sector and building a truly inclusive information society".

Dr Touré paid tribute to his successor saying that he was leaving ITU with great hopes for its future because the organization was in very good hands. "I will be handing over the flag of the Union to my very good friend, Houlin, on 31 December 2014". Commending the membership for having made the "right choice," Dr Touré added "Never before has a Secretary-General been so well prepared for the job than Mr Zhao. I promised a professional handover to my successor, but I can safely say that we have been doing this handover for the past eight years."

Delegations from all regions of the world were unanimous in expressing their full confidence and trust in Mr Zhao's leadership. From the Americas to Western Europe; and from Eastern Europe and Northern Asia to Africa and to Asia and Australasia; each delegation that took the floor expressed overwhelming support and immense satisfaction, stating that they looked forward to working with ITU's top management in the coming four years to take the Union to even greater heights. ■

▶ **Malcolm Johnson**

ITU Deputy Secretary-General Elect

Malcolm Johnson of the United Kingdom was elected ITU Deputy Secretary-General by the 19th Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan, Republic of Korea (20 October–7 November 2014). Mr Johnson won the election in the fourth round with 104 votes, with 168 countries present and voting. The required majority in that round was 85. Runner-up Shola Taylor of Nigeria received 64 votes.

“Having such a qualified and diverse field of candidates is testament to our commitment to the Union and bodes well for its future...”

Elections for the post of Deputy Secretary-General began on 23 October, with five candidates standing for the position. Apart from Malcolm Johnson and Shola Taylor were Magdalena Gaj of Poland, Bruce Gracie of Canada, and Fatimetou Mohamed-Saleck of Mauritania.

Speaking after his election, Mr Johnson thanked the United Kingdom government for its support to his candidature, especially Ambassador Karen Pierce and her delegation. He also thanked all the Member States that voted for him for placing their trust in him.



Congratulating his fellow candidates on their fair and professional campaigns throughout the excitement of the electoral process, Mr Johnson said "Having such a qualified and diverse field of candidates is testament to our commitment to the Union and bodes well for its future. I hope we can rely upon their continuing participation in ITU and I look forward to working with them over the next four years."

He thanked Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun I. Touré and his fellow elected officials for their support and cooperation over the past eight years during his tenure as Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau. "It has been a privilege to have been a member of Hamadoun's management team over these years", he said, describing as "excellent" his relations with Secretary-General Elect Houlin Zhao, as well as with François Rancy and Brahim Sanou.

Mr Johnson thanked all Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia, who have supported the work of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) over the past eight years and commended the "excellent ITU staff for their support and dedication to the Union."

The United Kingdom delegate, welcoming the support for Malcolm Johnson, pointed out that the conference had been fortunate to have such outstanding

candidates for the post of Deputy Secretary-General. "ITU is well assured of the brightest possible future when the best possible candidates are willing to put themselves forward, as we have found in this campaign. Fatimetou Mohamed-Saleck, Bruce Gracie, Magdalena Gaj and Shola Taylor are outstanding individuals in their fields and I would like to pay tribute to them", the United Kingdom delegate said.

"Malcolm has done a tremendous amount to promote capacity building and development through ITU and throughout the globe, and has acted in the best traditions of the Union. His commitment to accessibility and overcoming the global technology divide has served the membership well, and will continue to serve us as we go forward."

Saluting the work of outgoing Secretary-General, Dr Touré, and recognizing that the membership owe him a huge debt of gratitude for taking the Union forward, the United Kingdom delegate anticipated that "The new Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General will together now take ITU to an even more effective, open, liberal, and illustrious future as befits the world's oldest agency."

Congratulating his "good friend, Malcolm Johnson", on behalf of the Union's leadership and on behalf of all the staff, Dr Touré said "Malcolm, you did well, and we are very pleased to see you on this

team." He called Mr Johnson's election "another testimony of the membership's trust in the leadership of this current management team. Having elected the Deputy Secretary-General and the Secretary-General from the current team — that is really a very good measurement of your trust in this team."

Dr Touré congratulated and thanked all the candidates. "They have raised the bar very high in terms of the ideas that they have put forward during the campaign, and I hope those ideas will not just fade away". He expressed the hope that the newly elected management team would take on board all the innovative ideas put forward by all the candidates. Dr Touré called the election "a very fair, transparent, and balanced competition", adding that "each and every competitor has behaved himself or herself in a most professional manner."

All speakers who took the floor acknowledged that this has indeed been an exciting yet courteous election, with an outstanding range of candidates, all of them highly qualified professionals. Delegates from all regions of the world were unanimous in expressing their support and encouragement for the new management team and in thanking the candidates for showing so much interest in the post of Deputy Secretary-General. ■

► **François Rancy**

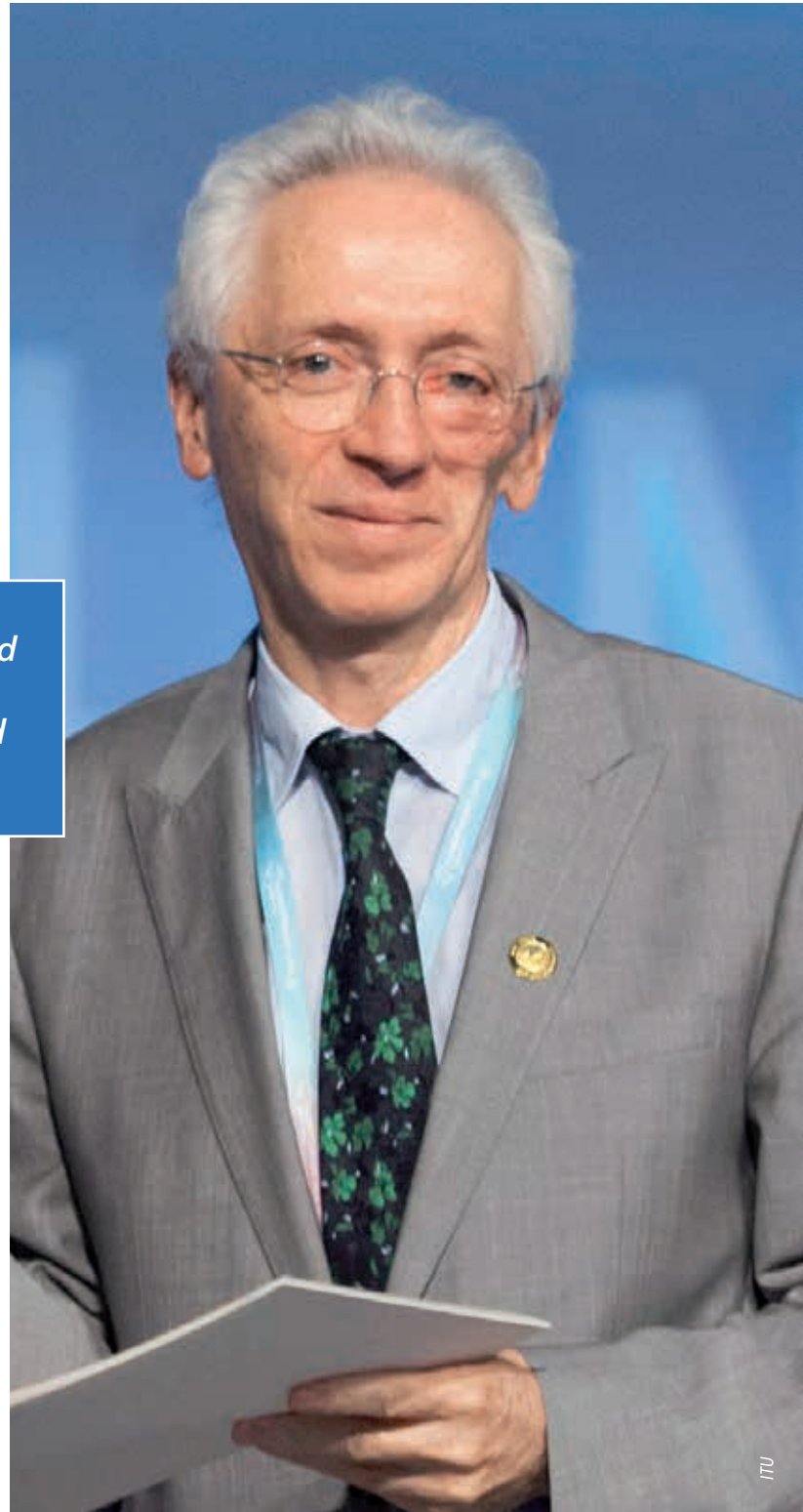
Re-elected Director of the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau

François Rancy of France was re-elected Director of the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) with 166 votes by the 19th Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan, Republic of Korea (20 October–7 November 2014). There were 166 countries present and voting and the required majority was 84.

“This work has been greatly facilitated by the outstanding quality of the relationship between the five elected officials of the Union...”

“I am overwhelmed by the trust you are putting in me in electing me for the second time as Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau,” Mr Rancy said following his election on 24 October. He expressed profound gratitude to all delegates and their governments, in particular to the government of France, which put forward and supported his candidacy.

Mr Rancy called it “a privilege and a great pleasure” to serve the membership and to have worked with all of them in achieving the goals of ITU and the objectives of its Radiocommunication Sector. “This work has been greatly facilitated by the outstanding quality of the relationship between the five elected officials of the Union. It has been an honour to work under the inspiring leadership of Hamadoun Touré,



my friend, and in very close cooperation with Houlin Zhao, Malcolm Johnson and Brahim Sanou, who are also my friends, and to work as one team and one ITU.”

During these four years, Mr Rancy explained, remarkable results have been achieved by the ITU Radiocommunication Sector in managing the frequency spectrum worldwide, in adopting standards and best practices, and in disseminating information and know-how to the entire ITU membership.

Highlighting these achievements, Mr Rancy also noted that a lot remains to be done to ensure that the management of spectrum and orbit resources by ITU continues to feed the development of radiocommunications and connectivity to all citizens of the world. “I am deeply honoured to benefit from your support to continue this work together with all of you for another four years to pursue this objective.”

The French delegate said that François Rancy’s re-election recognizes the remarkable work he has done at the helm of the Radiocommunication Bureau. Thanking all the delegations for their support, the delegate called it a very important moment not just for Mr Rancy, but for France as well. “François Rancy is a remarkable professional. He has a remarkable track record, and he is also a gentleman. Bravo! We wish you all the best in the future. The Radiocommunication Bureau has great challenges before it and we are certain that Mr Rancy will be able to address them and overcome them.” ■



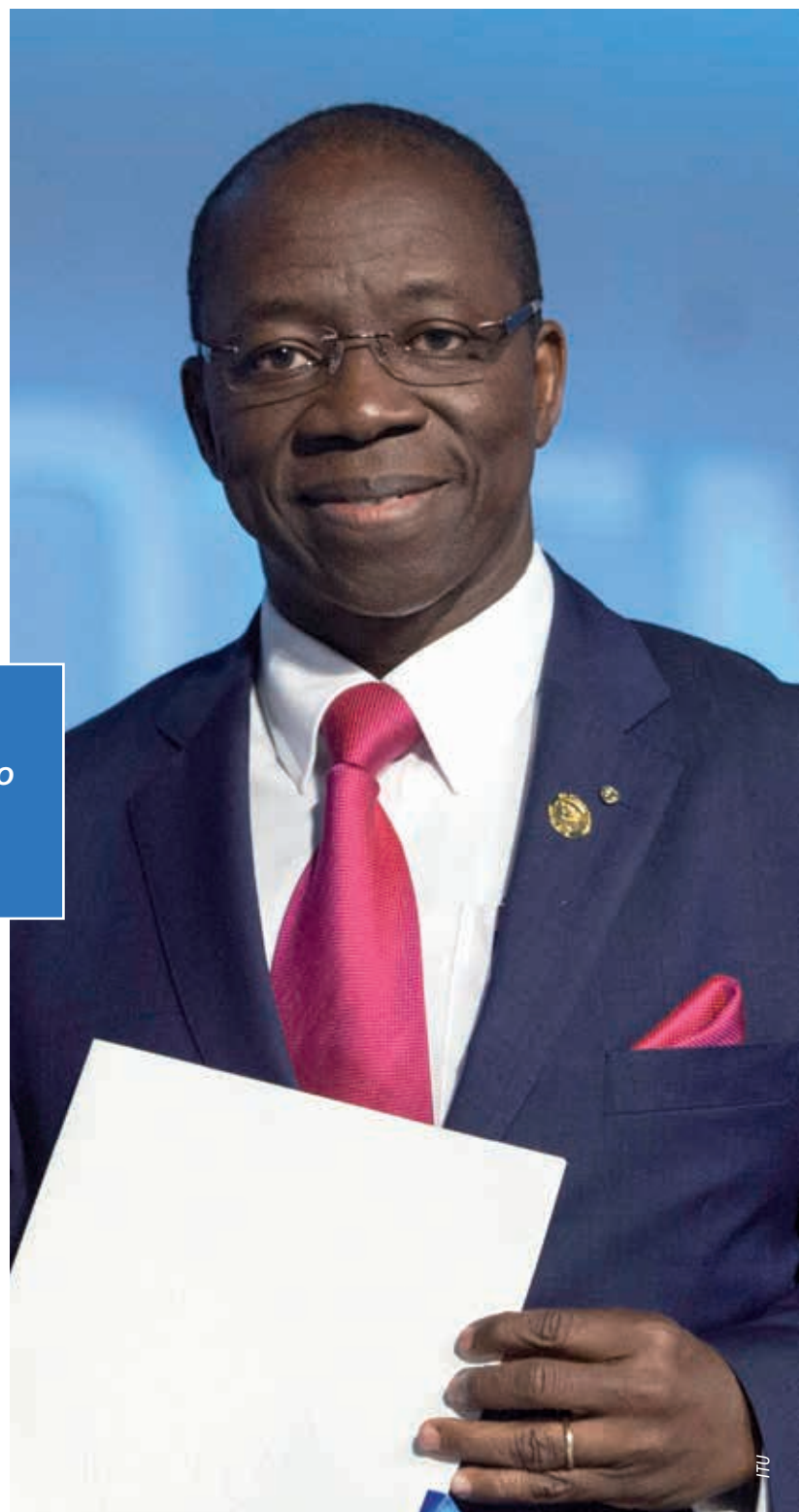
► **Brahima Sanou**

Re-elected Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau

Brahima Sanou of Burkina Faso was re-elected as Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) with 166 votes by the 19th Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan, Republic of Korea (20 October–7 November 2014). There were 166 countries present and voting and the required majority was 84.

“I am delighted that the Member States are giving us the opportunity to continue working together...”

Speaking after his election on 24 October, Mr Sanou, conveyed his deepest gratitude to ITU Member States from the five regions for the confidence shown in him once again. Describing his re-election as an honour for him and for his country, he first thanked the then President of Burkina Faso, Blaise Compaoré “for the support he has given to ITU and for the commitment and personal support he has shown to me”. He then thanked the Prime Minister and the entire government of Burkina Faso, represented by Professor Jean Koulidiati, Minister for Development, the Digital Economy and Posts, and Ambassador



Prosper Vokouma, the country's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva. They "have always stood by my side", he said. Mr Sanou also thanked the whole team responsible for promoting his candidacy and, of course, the African Union.

To Dr Touré, Mr Sanou had this to say: "You once spoke to me about an old lady from Malaysia who was very wise, who used to say to her son, 'What belongs to you is whatever you have given to others willingly, without reckoning.' You will leave with your head held high, rich from the kindness and humility which you emanated at a personal level. We are all proud of you, and I especially so." He wished Dr Touré and his family every success in the future, and was sure that he would pursue his destiny "in making human history."

Congratulating Malcolm Johnson and François Rancy, Mr Sanou said "The years we have spent together have been years of not only professional fulfilment, but also friendship. I am delighted that the Member States are giving us the opportunity to continue working together."

Mr Sanou conveyed his warmest congratulations to Secretary-General Elect, Houlin Zhao, upon his outstanding election to direct ITU at the highest level. "I have benefited from your professionalism, your kindness, and your wisdom over the past four years. I pledge my unwavering support in continuing the teamwork which we have begun."

He asked the Chairman of the Conference, Wonki Min, to convey his deepest gratitude to the government of the Republic of Korea and the authorities of Busan, "a city which will now and forever be associated in my mind with a very happy episode in my life".

The delegate of Burkina Faso said that by re-electing Mr Sanou to the post of Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau countries had expressed renewed confidence in him and reaffirmed their confidence in Burkina Faso and in Africa. ■

► **Chaesub Lee**

Director Elect, ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

Chaesub Lee of the Republic of Korea was elected as Director of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) with 87 votes by the 19th Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan (20 October–7 November 2014). There were 169 countries present and voting and the required majority was 85 in an election that took place on 24 October. Bilel Jamoussi of Tunisia received 50 votes and Ahmet Erdinç Çavuşoğlu of Turkey received 32 votes.

“I will do my best to make ITU deliver excellent services as part of the new management team...”

Mr Lee thanked all delegates for their warm support and for putting their trust and confidence in him by electing him to the helm of one of the most important functions in ITU, in the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), for the next four years. He expressed his deep gratitude to the government of the Republic of Korea for presenting his candidacy, and his sincere thanks to Yanghee Choi, Minister of Science, ICT and



Future Planning, and to all who supported him in his election campaign.

Having participated in the work of ITU–T study groups for 27 years, Mr Lee took the opportunity of his election to express his gratitude to colleagues, especially those in ITU–T Study Group 13, as well as to TSB staff, for all their efforts. He also paid tribute to the other candidates for the post of Director of TSB. The standard of competition has been high and the campaign has been unfailingly friendly. “I am sure we will continue our friendship and work well together”, he said.

Noting that ITU would be celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2015, he reminded delegates that ITU–T would celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2016. “ITU–T (previously CCITT) has contributed remarkably to building today’s information society. In Asia, 60 years means

accomplishing one big cycle of one’s life and starting again on a new cycle. So I believe ITU–T is at one of its most important moments for continuous development of future ICT and telecommunications. This should be part of the next cycle of ITU–T”, he said.

As the TSB Director elect, Mr Lee pledged to enhance the value of ITU–T activities and products, as well as the efficiency and effectiveness of collaboration within and outside ITU–T. “In addition, I will do my best to make ITU deliver excellent services as part of the new management team, collaborating with the existing management team, also working together with the new Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General, and the other Directors”, he said.

The Republic of Korea’s Minister of Science, ICT and Future Planning, Yanghee

Choi, expressed deep gratitude to Member States for electing Mr Lee, noting that the government of his country well understood the significance of TSB and the role of the Director. The Minister observed that since joining ITU in 1952 the Republic of Korea had achieved remarkable growth in the global ICT sector. “I believe such growth has been possible thanks to the all-out support by ITU and the international community,” he said, explaining that the government of the Republic of Korea had been seeking an opportunity to give something back to the international community by sharing its experience accumulated so far. “Today such an opportunity has finally come to the Republic of Korea with Dr Lee’s election to the post of TSB Director. The government, along with Dr Lee, promise to contribute to ITU and the ICT sector worldwide”, he added. ■

▶ *Radio Regulations Board and ITU Council*

On 27 October, the conference elected a 12-member Radio Regulations Board (RRB) and the 48 Member States that will constitute ITU Council for the next four years (2015–2018).

The vote follows the election on 23 and 24 October of the new ITU Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General, as well as the Directors of the Union's three Bureaux — Radiocommunication (BR), Telecommunication Standardization (TSB), and Telecommunication Development (BDT).

The ITU Council acts as the Union's governing body in the interval between plenipotentiary conferences while one of the Board's main functions is to approve rules of procedures to facilitate application of the Radio Regulations, the international treaty governing the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite and non-geostationary-satellite orbits.

RRB membership by region

To achieve geographical balance, Board members are elected from ITU's five administrative regions. Two members are elected each from Regions A (Americas), B (Western Europe) and C (Eastern Europe and Northern Asia), and three each from Regions D (Africa) and E (Asia and Australasia). Following is a snapshot of the results.

Region A: The Americas (2 seats)

- ▶ Ricardo Luis Terán | Argentina | 159 votes
- ▶ Joanne Wilson* | United States of America | 154 votes

Region B: Western Europe (2 seats)

- ▶ Alfredo Magenta | Italy | 85 votes
- ▶ Lilian Jeanty* | Netherlands | 81 votes

Region C: Eastern Europe and Northern Asia (2 seats)

- ▶ Victor Strelets | Russian Federation | 102 votes
- ▶ Ievgen Khairov* | Ukraine | 68 votes

Region D: Africa (3 seats)

- ▶ Stanley K. Kibe | Kenya | 163 votes
- ▶ Simon Koffi | Côte d'Ivoire | 160 votes
- ▶ Mustapha Bessi | Morocco | 159 votes

Region E: Asia and Australasia (3 seats)

- ▶ Yasuhiko Ito | Japan | 136 votes
- ▶ Nasser Bin Hammad* | United Arab Emirates | 108 votes
- ▶ Doan Quang Hoan* | Viet Nam | 71 votes

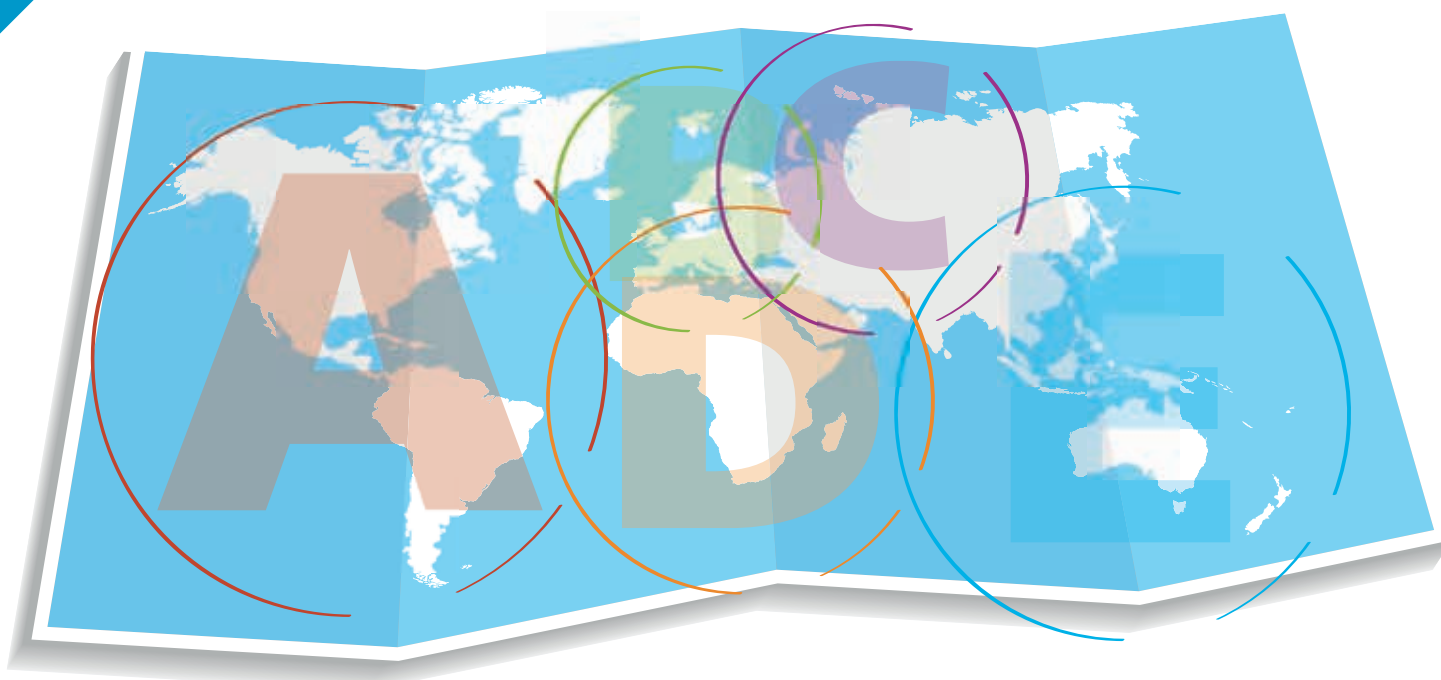
* Newly elected.

ITU Council Member States by region

Each of the five administrative regions is entitled to a designated number of seats on the ITU Council. The Americas (Region A) has 9 seats. Western Europe (Region B) has 8 seats. Eastern Europe and Northern Asia (Region C) has 5 seats. Africa (Region D) has 13 seats. Asia and Australasia (Region E) has 13 seats. The new composition of the ITU Council Member States is shown on next page.

Detailed results of all elections at PP-14 are available at <http://www.itu.int/en/plenipotentiary/2014/Pages/results.aspx>





New composition of Council Member States

A The Americas (9 seats)	B Western Europe (8 seats)	C Eastern Europe and Northern Asia (5 seats)	D Africa (13 seats)	E Asia and Australasia (13 seats)
Argentina	France	Azerbaijan*	Algeria	Australia
Brazil	Germany	Bulgaria	Burkina Faso	Bangladesh
Canada	Greece	Poland	Egypt	China
Costa Rica	Italy	Romania	Ghana	India
Cuba	Lithuania*	Russian Federation	Kenya	Indonesia
Mexico	Spain		Mali	Japan
Paraguay	Switzerland		Morocco	Korea (Rep. of)
United States	Turkey		Nigeria	Kuwait
Venezuela			Rwanda	Pakistan*
			Senegal	Philippines
			Tanzania*	Saudi Arabia
			Tunisia	Thailand
			Uganda*	United Arab Emirates

* Newly elected.



► **Main achievements of PP-14**

Highlights of conference conclusions

The Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14) strengthened ITU's mandate across existing work areas including bridging the digital divide, accelerating broadband roll-out, green information and communication technologies (ICT) to combat climate change, the role of ICT in disaster response, and the use of ICT to promote accessibility for persons with disabilities.

Responding to immediate global challenges, the conference passed several landmark resolutions from global flight tracking for civil aviation to using information and communication technologies to break the chain of health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission. Empowering youth with

telecommunication and ICT and implementing the Smart Africa Manifesto, among others, are also notable (see related stories).

The conference approved ITU's Strategic Plan and Financial Plan for 2016–2019, as well as the Connect 2020 Agenda, which sets out a clear vision and shared objectives for the future of the ICT sector.

For the first time since 1992, the conference made no amendments to the ITU Constitution and Convention, the global treaty that governs the work of ITU.

This article highlights some of the new and revised resolutions from PP-14.

New resolutions

Protecting telecommunication service users/consumers:

This resolution encourages the creation and promotion of policies that ensure the delivery of free, transparent, updated and accurate information to end users about telecommunication services, including international roaming rates and relevant applicable conditions.

Facilitating the Internet of Things to prepare for a globally connected world: This resolution seeks to promote investment in, and development of, the Internet of Things through exchanging experiences, reinforcing work conducted in relevant ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) study groups, and organizing seminars and capacity-building activities across the world.

Connectivity to broadband networks: This resolution recognizes that connectivity to broadband networks is supported by diverse technologies, including fixed and mobile terrestrial technologies, and fixed and mobile satellite technologies. Spectrum is essential for the direct provision of wireless broadband connectivity to users by satellite or terrestrial means, as well as for the underlying enabling technologies. Consequently, the resolution instructs the Directors of the Radiocommunication and Standardization Bureaux to work closely with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau on capacity-building related to the development of national strategies to facilitate the deployment of broadband networks, including wireless broadband networks.

Promoting efforts for capacity building on software-defined networking in developing countries: This resolution envisages disseminating best practice on software-defined networking (SDN). The aim is to bridge the gap in technology adoption in developing countries at early stages of implementation of SDN-based networks.

Creating an enabling environment for the deployment and use of ICT applications: This resolution instructs ITU to reflect the use of ICT applications in the ICT Development Index.

It invites Member States to introduce e-applications to support sustainable development.

A mixed bag

Other new resolutions call for: strengthening the role of ITU with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities; review of the current methodologies and development of a future vision for the participation of Sector Members, Associates and Academia in the activities of ITU; combating counterfeit telecommunication/information and communication technology devices; assisting Member States to combat and deter mobile device theft; countering misappropriation and misuse of international telecommunication numbering resources; a strategy for the coordination of efforts among the three Sectors of the Union; ITU participation in memoranda of understanding with financial and/or strategic implications; options for the Union's headquarters premises over the long term; support and assistance for Iraq to rebuild its telecommunication sector.

Two new decisions focus on monitoring mechanism on ITU programmes and projects and on the use of hyperlinks in ITU documents.

Revised resolutions

Internet matters

Revisions to the package of Internet-related resolutions listed below were approved by consensus and will further enhance ITU's engagement with all stakeholders.

- ▶ Resolution 101 on Internet Protocol-based networks.
- ▶ Resolution 102 on ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses.

- ▶ Resolution 133 on the role of administrations of Member States in the management of internationalized (multilingual) domain names.
- ▶ Resolution 180 on facilitating the transition from IPv4 to IPv6.

Making an important change to previous working methods, PP-14 empowered ITU's Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues to conduct both physical and online consultations, allowing the group to benefit from perspectives brought by stakeholders from all nations.

The need for affordable international Internet connectivity for all the world's people, as well as the importance of nurturing a truly multilingual Internet were emphasized.

Cybersecurity

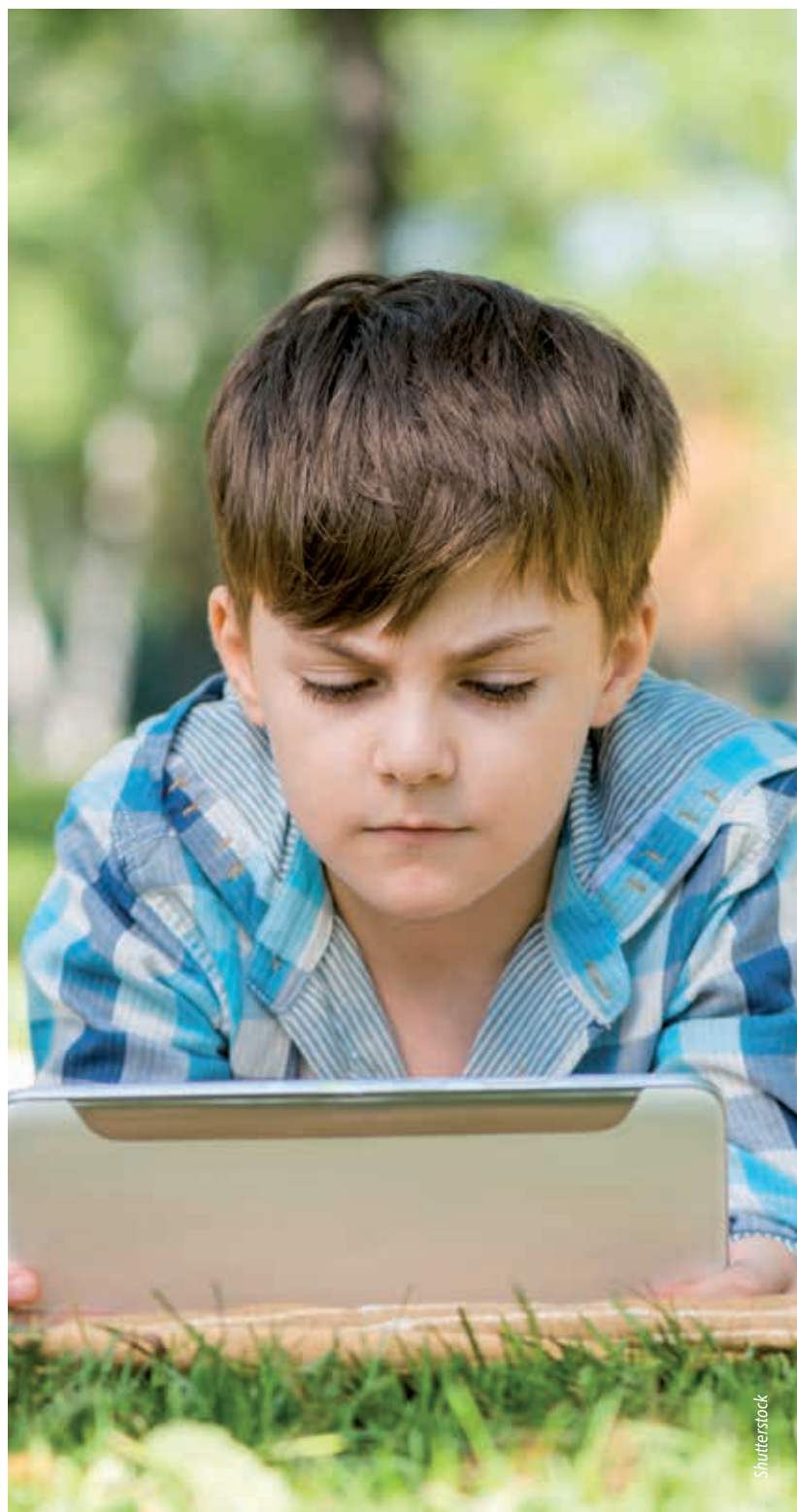
Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on strengthening the role of ITU in building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies, gives high priority to ITU's role in fostering cooperation at national, regional and international levels. It will improve collaboration between ITU and all relevant stakeholders, and will also aid Member States in enhancing cybersecurity, mitigating risks and unleashing the full benefits of information and communication technologies.

Child online protection

Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on ITU's role in child online protection underlines a global commitment to ensuring safety and confidence online. The revised resolution strengthens ITU's mandate on matters related to child online protection (COP) and recognizes the work of ITU in this field. The working group's output documents related to child online protection will be made publicly accessible, ensuring that these important materials can be accessed by everyone.

Financial Plan for 2016–2019

In approving the Financial Plan of the Union for 2016–2019, the conference emphasized a new culture of efficiency and



economy at ITU, strengthening the control of the Union's finances, and the funding of after-service health insurance (ASHI) and long-term liabilities.

The Financial Plan cites CHF 635 704 000 as the forecast revenue and expenditure for 2016–2019. The amount of the contributory unit remains unchanged at CHF 318 000.

Strategic Plan for 2016–2019

Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) underlines the importance of linking strategic, financial and operational plans as a way of measuring progress in achieving ITU's objectives and goals.

The resolution sets out the strategic plan for 2016–2019, instructing the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Directors of the three Bureaux, to implement the plan according to the principles of results-based budgeting and management.

Annual progress reports to the ITU Council on the implementation of the strategic plan for 2016–2019 and on the performance of the Union towards achieving its goals and objectives should include recommendations for adjusting the plan in the light of changes in the telecommunication/ICT environment or the results of the performance evaluation.

Proposals by the competent Sector advisory groups, decisions by conferences and assemblies of the Sectors, and changes in the strategic focus of the Union's activities are to be reflected in the reports by the Secretary-General.

Linking strategic, financial and operational planning in ITU

Resolution 72 (Rev. Busan, 2014) considers that progress in achieving the goals and objectives of ITU can be measured and considerably enhanced through the process of linking strategic, financial and operational plans that set out the activities to be undertaken.

The Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux are to identify measures to ensure coherence between the operational plans of the Sectors and the General Secretariat. For reasons of transparency, details of all costs incurred in the

deployment of external human resources in delivering the requirements agreed by the ITU membership will be published.

Implementing results-based management in ITU

The Plenipotentiary Conference in Guadalajara in 2010 instructed the Secretary-General to pursue the full implementation of results-based budgeting and results-based management, including the presentation of biennial budgets.

Resolution 151 (Rev. Busan, 2014) instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the three Bureaux to continue that work by developing a comprehensive ITU results framework to support implementation of the strategic plan and linkage of strategic, financial and operational plans.

The resolution also calls for a comprehensive performance monitoring and evaluation framework to support the ITU results framework, with risk management to ensure that contributions from Member States are used to best advantage.

Free online access to ITU publications

Decision 12 (Rev. Busan, 2014) provides for the general public, on a permanent basis, free online access to: ITU–R, ITU–T and ITU–D recommendations and reports; ITU–R handbooks on radio-frequency spectrum management; ITU publications concerning the use of telecommunications/ICT for ensuring disaster preparedness, early warning, rescue, mitigation, relief and response; the International Telecommunication Regulations; the Radio Regulations; the Rules of Procedure; the basic texts of the Union; the final acts of plenipotentiary conferences; final reports of world telecommunication development conferences; ITU Council resolutions and decisions; the final acts of world and regional radiocommunication conferences; and the final acts of world conferences on international telecommunications.

ITU Telecom events

With regard to selecting the venue for ITU Telecom events in future, Resolution 11 (Rev. Busan, 2014) calls for an open and



Cook Island TV station in Avarua.
The sole television provider for 15 islands in the heart of the South Pacific Ocean with a population of 15 000 people

transparent bidding process, and — to the extent possible — rotation between regions, and between Member States within regions.

The Secretary-General is asked to revise the model host-country agreement, in particular to allow the Union and the host country to make changes necessary as a result of force majeure or other performance criteria.

Special measures for the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition

Improving the telecommunication networks and international interconnectivity of least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition will give an impetus to social and economic integration and overall development, and provide the opportunity to create knowledge societies.

Resolution 30 (Rev. Busan, 2014) instructs the Secretary-General and the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau to propose to the ITU Council concrete measures to provide effective assistance to these countries.

Member States are invited to cooperate with these countries for the development of telecommunications and ICT and the integration of telecommunication infrastructure, making it possible to improve international connectivity conditions.

Rebuilding telecommunications — New focus on South Sudan and Somalia

The inclusion of South Sudan is a major update to Resolution 34 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on assistance and support to countries in special need for rebuilding their telecommunication sector. Resolution 34 envisages assistance and support to the Government of South Sudan in building its telecommunication system, policy and regulatory framework.

The revised resolution also notes that Somalia has not benefited adequately from the Union's assistance because of two and

a half decades of war in that country, the lack of a functioning government, and a failure to achieve the conditions of order and security sought by United Nations resolutions.

ITU's role in the development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies, in providing technical assistance and advice to developing countries and in implementing relevant national, regional and interregional projects

Technological advances in telecommunication systems are enabling sustainable and affordable access to information and knowledge. Resolution 135 (Rev. Busan, 2014) declares that ITU should maintain contact with the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization to revise the International Programme for the Development of Communication, with a view to continuing to implement WSIS Action Line C7 in the Tunis Agenda relating to education and cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme.

Strengthening ITU's project execution function

ITU requires funding to fulfil its role as executing agency for development projects, but there continues to be a lack of funding from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other international financial institutions for project implementation.

Resolution 157 (Rev. Busan, 2014) instructs the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, to strengthen ITU's project execution function, taking into account the lessons learned by the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector and best practices elsewhere.

The Council is to foster a participatory and inclusive process with the Member States and regional organizations in order to ensure that priorities and possible forms of funding are agreed upon prior to implementation and execution of initiatives.

Emergency and disaster situations

Modern telecommunications and ICT play a crucial role in early warning of disasters, and facilitate disaster prevention, mitigation, relief and recovery efforts. There is a need to train rescue and relief agencies, as well as the general public, in the use of modern communication technologies to strengthen both disaster preparedness and response. Resolution 136 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on the use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief, therefore instructs the Directors of the Bureaux to develop recommendations, guidelines and standards, and provide relevant training in these areas.

Human exposure to and measurement of electromagnetic fields

Resolution 176 (Rev. Busan, 2014) strengthens ITU's mandate to contribute to the work of relevant organizations to define international standards related to electromagnetic fields exposure. It invites ITU Member States to raise public awareness on this topic and to comply with the guidelines produced by ITU.

Telecommunication/ICT applications for e-health

Resolution 183 (Rev. Busan, 2014) calls on ITU to work collaboratively on e-health-related activities with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other relevant organizations, in particular to develop programmes that enable developing countries to introduce e-health services safely and effectively.

Measuring information and communication technologies

Resolution 131 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on measuring information and communication technologies to build an integrating and inclusive information society strengthens ITU's mandate to compile information and statistical data on information and communication technologies for evaluating the trends of these



technologies and measuring the impact on narrowing the digital divide. It also aims at strengthening cooperation between ITU and other organizations involved in collecting ICT data.

Gender equality and mainstreaming

Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) reinforces ITU's commitment to mainstreaming gender equality across the Union. New elements in this resolution include a request to modify recruitment policies in ITU in order to increase the number of women in senior positions, and a call to reinforce ITU's main initiatives on promoting gender equality through ICT, such as the celebration of "Girls in ICT Day" or the continuation of the "GEM-TECH Awards".

Bridging the standardization gap

Resolution 123 (Rev. Busan, 2014) emphasizes the need to enhance capacity-building activities, as well as to develop guidelines for developing countries on priority standardization issues.

Next-generation network deployment in developing countries

Resolution 137 (Rev. Busan, 2014) calls for sharing of best practices on business model evolution and operational aspects of next-generation networks.

Bridging the digital divide

Resolution 139 (Rev. Busan, 2014) seeks policies to promote public and private investments to bridge the digital divide using available technologies such as radiocommunication systems. Titled "Use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies to bridge the digital divide and build an inclusive information society", the resolution also highlights the importance of strengthening cooperation with the relevant international and regional organizations.

ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and in the overall review by United Nations General Assembly of their implementation

Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) provides strategic guidance on ITU's future role in WSIS implementation and follow-up. It has been updated to include the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event.

The resolution invites Member States to create synergies and institutional linkages between WSIS and the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda to continue strengthening the impact of ICT for sustainable development.

Non-discriminatory access

Resolution 64 (Rev. Busan, 2014) instructs the ITU Secretary-General to compile and distribute available online services and applications relevant to the Union's activities, and identify those that cannot be accessed. He is also asked to take appropriate measures and steps to promote broad and equitable participation of all members in ITU online services and applications.

Climate change and protection of the environment

Resolution 182 (Rev. Busan, 2014) is updated in line with the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences on sustainable development and climate change. Titled "The role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies in regard to climate change and the protection of the environment", it reinforces ITU's mandate in the areas of e-waste, energy efficiency and smart water management, and instructs the ITU Secretary-General to produce periodic reports on the greenhouse gas emissions of the ICT sector.

New status for Palestine

Revised Resolutions 99 and 125 (Assistance and support to Palestine for rebuilding its telecommunication networks) provide for increased participation of the State of Palestine in the work of

the Union. The new rights afforded by Resolution 99 (Rev. Busan, 2014) also allow the State of Palestine to be seated alongside delegations of Member States in French alphabetical order, give the delegation the right to present proposals in its own name, (with the exception of amendments to the ITU Constitution, Convention and General Rules), and allow representatives from the State of Palestine to serve as chair or vice-chair of technical study groups and focus groups.

Council Working Groups

Decision 11 (Rev. Busan, 2014) emphasizes the need for greater efficiency in the running of Council working groups (including grouping and reducing the number of meetings to reduce costs) and calls for geographical and gender balance in the leadership of these groups.

In brief

Stable Constitution: The conference decided that no modifications should be made to the provisions, structure of, and hierarchy between, the Constitution and the Convention. It also disbanded the Council Working Group on a Stable Constitution established under Resolution 163 (Guadalajara, 2010) and abrogated this resolution.

Space Protocol: The conference decided that the Council should continue to monitor any further developments regarding ITU's possible role as Supervisory Authority of the International Registration System for Space Assets under the Space Protocol. It also agreed that the ITU secretariat should continue to express interest in ITU assuming the aforementioned role.

Efficiency of the Radio Regulations Board: The conference agreed not to modify Resolution 119 (Rev. Antalya 2006) on methods to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Radio Regulations Board (RRB). It also decided that each RRB member would be required to sign a declaration at the time of taking office in order to prevent any conflict of interest in their duties.

At the closing ceremony, ITU Secretary-General, Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, awarded the Mayor of Busan Metropolitan City, Byung-soo Suh, the ITU gold medal and certificate, recognizing his exceptional support and warm welcome to PP-14.



Satellite networks: The conference agreed not to modify Resolution 86 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) "Advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks".

Apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services: The conference agreed not to modify Resolution 22 (Rev. Antalya 2006) on apportionment of revenues in providing international telecommunication services. The relevant ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) study groups are invited to continue their work on network externalities and costing methodologies for international Internet connections.

ITU document access policy: The conference agreed that all ITU conference and assembly input and output documents should be made available to the public at large as from 2015 — unless disclosure would cause potential harm to a legitimate private or public interest that outweighs the benefits of accessibility. The Council is to consider a draft ITU document access policy prepared

by its Working Group on Financial and Human Resources, and submit the policy to the Plenipotentiary Conference in 2018 for final decision.

Election procedures: The conference asked the Council to propose options for improving the electoral process of the elected officials in the Union.

Awards in recognition of hospitality and excellence

At the closing ceremony, ITU Secretary-General, Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, awarded the Mayor of Busan Metropolitan City, Byung-soo Suh, the ITU gold medal and certificate, recognizing his exceptional support and warm welcome to PP-14.

Dr Touré also awarded conference Chairman, Wonki Min, the ITU gold medal and certificate for his outstanding contribution to ITU activities and for his astute chairmanship of PP-14. ■

More revised as well as abrogated resolutions

Revised resolutions (Busan, 2014)		
2	World telecommunication/information and communication technology policy forum.	
21	Measures concerning alternative calling procedures on international telecommunication networks.	
25	Strengthening the regional presence.	
41	Arrears and special arrears accounts.	
48	Human resources management and development.	
58	Strengthening of relations between ITU and regional telecommunication organizations and regional preparations for the Plenipotentiary Conference.	
77	Scheduling and duration of conferences, forums, assemblies and Council sessions of the Union 2015–2019.	
94	Auditing of the accounts of the Union.	
111	Considering major religious periods in the scheduling of ITU conferences, assemblies and Council sessions.	
144	Availability of model host-country agreements in advance for conferences and assemblies of the Union held away from Geneva.	
146	Periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations.	
150	Approval of the accounts of the Union for the years 2010–2013.	
151	Implementation of results-based management in ITU.	
152	Improvement of management and follow-up of the defrayal of ITU expenses by Sector Members and Associates.	
154	Use of the six official languages of the Union on an equal footing.	
158	Financial issues for consideration by the Council.	
159	Assistance and support to Lebanon for rebuilding its telecommunication networks (fixed and mobile).	
162	Independent Management Advisory Committee.	
166	Number of vice-chairmen of Sector advisory groups, study groups and other groups.	
167	Strengthening and developing ITU capabilities for electronic meetings and means to advance the work of the Union.	
169	Admission of academia, including colleges, institutes and universities and their associated research establishments to participate in the work of the Union. This Resolution was agreed on the understanding that its resolves 4 is to be interpreted as meaning that academia participation does not include ITU treaty-making conferences.	
170	Admission of Sector Members from developing countries to participate in the work of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector and the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector.	
174	ITU's role with regard to international public policy issues relating to the risk of illicit use of information and communication technologies.	
175	Telecommunication/information and communication technology accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs.	
177	Conformance and interoperability.	
Abrogated resolutions		
4	Rev. Guadalajara, 2010	Duration of plenipotentiary conferences of the Union.
35	Kyoto, 1994	"Telecommunication support for the protection of the environment", which was abrogated after its provisions were integrated into the revision of Resolution 182 (Rev. Busan, 2014) titled: "The role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies in regard to climate change and the protection of the environment".
93	Minneapolis, 1998	Special arrears accounts.
153	Rev. Guadalajara, 2010	Scheduling of Council sessions and plenipotentiary conferences.
163	Guadalajara, 2010	Establishment of a Council working group on a stable ITU Constitution.
171	Guadalajara, 2010	Preparations for the 2012 World Conference on International Telecommunications.
172	Guadalajara, 2010	"Overall review of implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society", which was abrogated after its provisions were integrated into the revision of Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014).

► ***Global flight tracking for civil aviation to be placed on the agenda of WRC-15***

The loss of Flight MH370 has spurred worldwide discussions on global flight tracking and the need for ITU and other relevant organizations to coordinate action within the scope of their respective mandates.

Determining the position of aircraft and reporting it to air traffic control centres is an important element of aviation safety. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has developed standards and recommended practices for systems that do this. ITU and ICAO signed a memorandum of understanding in 2012 to establish a framework for enhanced cooperation.

ICAO, at its special meeting on global flight tracking (Montreal, 12–13 May 2014), encouraged ITU to provide the necessary spectrum allocations for satellite to meet emerging aviation needs. But the agenda of the forthcoming World Radiocommunication Conference in 2015 (WRC-15) does not directly address global flight tracking. However, studies on global flight tracking are ongoing in the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R).

On 30 October 2014, the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference approved a new resolution titled “Global flight tracking for civil aviation”. The new resolution instructs WRC-15 to include in its agenda the consideration of global flight tracking, taking into account ITU-R studies. The Secretary-General will bring this resolution to the attention of WRC-15 and ICAO. The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau will prepare a specific report on the matter for consideration by WRC-15.

Before the approval of this resolution, Malaysia’s Minister of Communications and Multimedia, Ahmad Shabery Cheek, in his policy statement to the Plenipotentiary Conference stressed the importance of information and communication technologies in real-time monitoring and tracking of airline flight data, and said searching for black boxes should be “a thing of the past”. Mr Cheek recalled the tragic cases of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370, which disappeared en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing, and the shooting down of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH17 over Ukraine, both incidents resulting in heavy loss of life. He stressed the importance of spectrum allocation in enabling real-time flight data monitoring and tracking and noted ITU’s commitment in this regard. ■





A health worker wearing personal protective equipment leaves the house of a victim of the Ebola virus

► ***Stemming the tide of Ebola***

A new ITU resolution "Using information and communication technologies to break the chain of health-related emergencies such as Ebola virus transmission" was approved unanimously during the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14) in Busan, Republic of Korea from 20 October to 7 November. Under the resolution, the Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau, in coordination with the other directors, will develop guidelines and best practices for using information and communication technologies (ICT) for the

timely exchange of information on health-related emergencies, while ITU Member States and Sector Members will promote regional, subregional, multilateral and bilateral projects using ICT as a tool to support responses to different types of disasters.

The resolution was put forward by the delegation of Sierra Leone following a brainstorming session convened by ITU Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun I. Touré in Busan on 27 October 2014. Delegates exchanged views on the Ebola epidemic, aiming to identify collective global

responses. Dr Touré underlined that the immediate challenge is to ensure universal access to telecommunications and ICT resources in rural areas that could be used for saving lives.

ICT services and applications

ITU deployed 27 satellite terminals to support ongoing efforts. "In affected areas, ICT services and applications play an important role in coordinating human logistics and ensuring timely delivery of

medicines and other resources that could save lives,” Dr Touré said.

Experience in different countries shows areas in which support could be provided. For example, telecommunication service providers could facilitate the dissemination of critical messages. ITU could lead partnerships of operators, the Internet community and others to work with regulators and ministries in affected countries for the secure release of call data records to assist researchers and responders.

Regulatory barriers should be removed to ensure easy deployment and use of telecommunication applications for the purpose at hand. Preventative actions are important, and non-affected countries need to have all the necessary knowledge and tools at their disposal to run effective health awareness events and campaigns.

Highlighting the steps taken so far by ITU to ensure that there is support for the affected countries, the Secretary-General said “My team is also working with the World Health Organization (WHO) to come up with other urgent measures that include efficient applications that could be used by government agencies, the general population and humanitarian workers.”

These new applications being designed in close cooperation and coordination with WHO aim to facilitate early warning alerts, report new cases of infection, and support coordination of humanitarian action at community, country and regional levels. Big data analytics

will be used to find correlations between certain events and the possible spread of Ebola. Social media — such as Facebook, twitter, blogs and online forums — could provide massive information that could be used for early warning.

Action and solidarity

The Ambassador of Sierra Leone to the Republic of Korea, Omrie Michael Golley, explained that “The rate of infection continues to double month after month. And the socio-economic impact of the Ebola crisis is now well beyond our wildest imagination. Inflation has spiked exponentially as prices of food commodities have skyrocketed proportionately. The lives of families have been devastated due to the chain deaths of loved ones, and the general hardship accompanied by the crisis.”

One of Sierra Leone’s central strategies in the fight against Ebola is access to information. An awareness-raising message — avoid body contact — is repeated to citizens through various media including radio, mobile phones, newspapers and television. But “there are tens of thousands of households and hundreds of villages that do not have access to these communication media,” the Ambassador said, adding that “the role of ICT in the fight against Ebola has clearly become ever more prominent in dealing with the crucial aspect of communication access and the general flow of information.”

Côte d’Ivoire, a country that has frontiers with countries gravely affected by the epidemic, has created a database in order to access 21 million SIM cards. This enables the regulatory authority to analyse information (such as population movements) and to focus on public health messaging.

Rwanda has joined the global community in fighting the deadly virus, and a team of Rwandan health professionals has already joined the front lines.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo, where the word “Ebola” originated, shared its own experience (unrelated to the current outbreak in West Africa) and announced that it will be sending its team of doctors to West Africa.

The United States Government response involves multiple federal departments and agencies. Its efforts include the deployment of key medical and expert personnel, the construction of a hospital for infected medical workers, and overseeing the construction of up to 17 100-bed Ebola treatment units in Liberia. The United States is pairing with Sweden to launch “Fighting Ebola: A grand challenge”, a platform for crowdsourcing and incubating innovative ideas to improve delivery of care and stem the spread of the disease.

Nigeria, one of the first countries to contain the disease, is sending health workers to support countries that have been hit by Ebola. Nigeria was declared Ebola-free on 20 October 2014.

"While Nigeria was applauded as a spectacular success story, in the words of the WHO representative, we have only won the battle, and not the war. The war will end when West Africa is declared free of Ebola. West Africa must be declared Ebola-free but clearly this is not a West African problem. It has become a global issue with cases of infection in the United States and in Spain," said Nigeria's Federal Minister of Communication Technology, Omobola Johnson. Earlier, in her policy statement to the conference, Ms Johnson described the role of ICT in helping Nigeria contain the virus, through awareness-building and contact-tracing. Over 70 million Nigerians are connected to the Internet. "We had a phone app that helped in reducing reporting times of infections by 75 per cent. Test results were scanned to tablets and uploaded to emergency databases, and field teams got text message alerts on their phones informing them of the results," she explained.

Cuba called for human, material and financial resources to fight Ebola and other diseases. More than 1000 health workers from Cuba now work in Africa, and are assisting in this common effort against the virus.

GSMA, an ITU Sector Member, has been working with technical and humanitarian organizations to support operators in affected countries in launching and maintaining critical messaging, data tracking and health worker services. GSMA has asked for ITU's assistance in moving forward in these areas.

The Internet Society (ISOC) has established the Ebola Tech response group to help fight this outbreak using the Internet and other communication technologies. The first step includes quickly identifying a small number of technology-based projects that can be implemented in the affected countries.

The Russian Federation will contribute USD 2.5 million for 2014 and 2015 earmarked for coordination between international public health and medical services to help stem the tide of the Ebola threat. The Russian Federation is also offering direct technical aid and support to the affected countries — to the tune of USD 4 million — to help them establish public health systems.

Guyana has proposed a crowdfunding campaign where "the generosity of the people of the world can be leveraged using the Internet, where they can make small donations to contribute to ITU's efforts in terms of buying equipment that would be used in information dissemination, and reporting information in terms of tracking the virus."

Saudi Arabia underlined the critical role of ICT in combating disease, citing its experience in dealing with the Corona virus. Mobile-optimized public health messaging and preparedness measures in (so far) non-affected countries are particularly important in preventing outbreaks of disease.

Overarching support

In response to the new ITU resolution, the Japanese delegation announced at PP-14 that it will contribute CHF 180 000 in support of the ITU campaign to develop Ebola prevention mobile applications.

South Africa informed PP-14 that it had deployed mobile laboratories and technical assistance to West African countries affected by the Ebola outbreak.

ITU, GSMA and the Internet Society are joining forces to fight against Ebola. The three organizations will bring together the global telecommunications and Internet communities, to leverage their extensive reach, capacity and respective memberships to increase the effectiveness of ICT, especially mobile communications and the Internet, for better preparedness, early warning and response. ■



► ***Empowering youth through telecommunication and ICT***

Today, youth under the age of 25 account for 42.5 per cent of the world's population and constitute the most active population in terms of use of the Internet. A new ITU resolution on "Empowerment of youth through telecommunication/information and communication technology" aims to promote skills and career development for youth in this area. It also encourages Member State administrations to include young professionals in the composition

of their delegations. The resolution was initially put forward by Poland, supported by Costa Rica.

Under the terms of the new resolution, ITU will continue to engage with youth in outreach, through communications, capacity building and research, from the perspectives of digital inclusion. ITU will also promote innovation, entrepreneurship and skills development, in order to equip youth to participate fully in the digital economy and in all aspects of society.

In addition, ITU should promote partnerships with academia for the purpose of youth development.

High priority will be accorded to integrating young professionals in the human resources and operations of ITU. The work being done at ITU, particularly in its Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) will continue with the aim of helping empower youth through information and communication technologies by promoting policies that improve

socio-economic conditions for youth. In this context, some countries highlighted the importance of Resolution 76 (Dubai, 2014) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference, on promoting ICT among young women and men for social and economic empowerment.

ITU is called upon in the new resolution to maintain a youth perspective in the implementation of its strategic plan and financial plan for 2016–2019, as well as in the operational plans of the Bureaux and the General Secretariat. ITU will investigate and analyse the impact of telecommunication and information and communication technologies on youth. There is also a call to maintain the ITU Telecom World Young Innovators Competition on a yearly basis. Age groups of youth shall be defined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the nature of ITU activities.

The Council is instructed to build on the initiatives carried out over the past four years and to accelerate youth empowerment in ITU as a whole, within existing budgetary resources. It should consider involving youth in the celebrations of ITU's 150th anniversary and in the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day. It should also look into launching a special recognition award for young people who make outstanding contributions in the field of ICT.

The ITU Secretary-General will bring this resolution to the attention of the

United Nations Secretary-General in an effort to promote increased coordination and cooperation for development policies, programmes and projects that link ICT to the promotion and empowerment of youth.

ITU and Busan City enter partnership to boost youth activities

Prior to the approval of the resolution on youth, ITU and Busan City signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 27 October 2014 that recognizes the role of ICT in addressing the concerns of young people around the world. Today, an estimated 75 million youth (aged between 15 and 24) are unemployed. The MoU highlights three distinct areas of cooperation:

- ▶ Promoting the engagement of youth in the field of ICT, encouraging them to study technical subjects to allow them to pursue careers in the ICT sector.
- ▶ Narrowing the digital divide, by exploring ways of connecting the unconnected, and ensuring that marginalized groups have unfettered access to ICT tools and applications.
- ▶ Promoting research on emerging ICT, particularly the Internet of Things, to ensure that young people are involved in helping the industry innovate the future of the sector.

Under the terms of the MoU, activities to facilitate this cooperation will include educational outreach programmes, capacity building and knowledge sharing, and crowdsourcing of the views of youth to international ICT forums, including facilitating participation in any activities on the Internet of Things, organized by ITU.

"Information and communication technologies play an integral role in addressing the problems that youth face today, and they have the power to create a more stable and prosperous world for our children. As Secretary-General of ITU, and as a father myself, I am optimistic about the future that we are committing to here in Busan," Dr Hamadoun I. Touré said.

Busan City Mayor Byung-soo Suh said, "This commitment will ensure that the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference has a positive and lasting impact on Busan City, and by extension, the youth of the Republic of Korea."

The MoU builds on Busan Metropolitan City's support to the Young ICT Policy Leaders programme at PP-14. The city's sponsorship made it possible for young people to participate in PP-14 via their national delegations, as a way of helping ITU to empower and engage with the next generation of ICT policy-makers, who, the Secretary-General said, "will be shaping both national and international policy for years to come". ■



The Smart Africa Manifesto gets a boost in Busan

A new resolution calls on ITU to help implement the Smart Africa Manifesto. In October 2007, African Heads of State at the Connect Africa Summit held in Kigali, Rwanda, set connectivity goals for the Africa region.

As a follow-up to the Connect Africa Summit, President Paul Kagame of Rwanda hosted the Transform Africa Summit in October 2013, which adopted the SMART Africa Manifesto highlighting the need to place information and communication technologies at the centre of national socio-economic development. The Transform Africa Summit created the multistakeholder SMART Africa Alliance as the implementation framework and a Governance Board, made up of

the Presidents of Rwanda (Chairman), Senegal, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Gabon, South Sudan and Mali, the African Union and ITU. This Board will oversee the implementation of the manifesto. Meanwhile, the SMART Africa Scholarship fund has been established to address the gap in ICT expertise through African centres of excellence.

Under the terms of the new resolution on "Implementation of the Smart Africa Manifesto", the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, in coordination with the Directors of the Radiocommunication and Standardization Bureaux, will provide technical expertise to carry out feasibility studies, project management

and support for the implementation of the Smart Africa manifesto.

The Secretary-General will engage the different United Nations agencies to support various components of the Smart Africa programmes, in areas within their scope and mandate. He will also implement measures aimed at mobilizing financial and in-kind support from governments, the private sector and other partners.

Member States are invited to cooperate with African countries in promoting regional, subregional, multilateral and bilateral projects and programmes to implement the Smart Africa Manifesto.



► **Connect 2020 Agenda**

Growth, inclusiveness, sustainability, and innovation and partnership

A global agenda to shape the future of the information and communication technology (ICT) sector was unanimously adopted by the international community at the 19th ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14). This agenda is embodied in a conference resolution entitled “Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology development”

and it sets out a shared vision, goals and targets that ITU Member States have committed themselves to achieve by 2020 in collaboration with all stakeholders across the ICT ecosystem. ITU will contribute to the Connect 2020 Agenda through its 2016–2019 Strategic Plan, which was also adopted at PP-14.

In her opening address to some 3000 delegates at PP-14, President

Park Geun-hye of the Republic of Korea highlighted the Connect 2020 Agenda, saying “I fully support the four goals of the ITU’s Connect 2020: growth, inclusiveness, sustainability, and innovation.”

Under the Connect 2020 Agenda, ITU Member States have endorsed a shared global vision, envisaging an information society, empowered by the interconnected world, where telecommunications and

information and communication technologies enable and accelerate socially, economically and environmentally sustainable growth and development for everyone.

As ITU Secretary-General Hamadoun I. Touré commented, “The Connect 2020 Agenda ensures that we can join forces to harness the power of these technologies so that everyone around the world can benefit from access.”

Global goals and targets for the ICT sector

The four high-level strategic goals of the agenda (growth, inclusiveness, sustainability, and innovation and partnership) outlined below — and their respective targets (see box) — represent an invitation to all stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society and academia, to work together towards their achievement. These goals and targets are detailed in an annex to the resolution “Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology development”.

Essentially, the Connect 2020 goals build on previous commitments of the United Nations to sustainable development as defined in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), the work of the UN Broadband Commission for Digital Development, and

the on-going discussions on the post-2015 Development Agenda.

At PP-14, policy statements from more than one hundred countries further emphasized national commitments. A series of expert round tables discussed the opportunities and challenges associated with achieving these goals and targets, as well as with assessing progress.

Goal One, “Growth — Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunications/ICTs”, envisages bringing an additional 1.5 billion users online by 2020, with a particular focus on improved telecommunication infrastructure and increased access, use and affordability of ICT.

Goal Two, “Inclusiveness — Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all”, aims to reduce the gaps in access, use and affordability while increasing broadband coverage, gender equality online and ICT accessibility.

ITU and its Member States will work towards minimizing the potential negative impact of ICT, such as cyberthreats (including harm to the most vulnerable sectors of society, in particular children) and damaging effects on the environment (such as e-waste) under Goal Three on “Sustainability — Manage challenges resulting from telecommunication/ICT development”. Developing relevant national strategies and putting into force the necessary legal frameworks was broadly recognized by PP-14

as the key starting point for addressing cyber risks.

Recognizing the continual need to adapt systems and practice, Goal Four on “Innovation and partnership — Lead, improve and adapt to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment” aims to ensure that advances in new technologies and strategic partnerships become a key driver for the post-2015 Development Agenda.

Sharing experiences and best practices, especially with regard to enabling policies and regulatory frameworks, were seen as a key way forward, in order to embrace the opportunities of the digital era in a harmonized way.

What the resolution says

Under the terms of the new resolution, the ITU Secretary-General will monitor the progress towards the achievement of the Connect 2020 Agenda, leveraging data, among others, from the ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database and the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development. He will disseminate information and share knowledge and best practices on national, regional and international initiatives contributing to the Connect 2020 Agenda. He is also tasked to further facilitate implementation of the WSIS Action Lines for which ITU has responsibility and that are linked with the Connect 2020 Agenda.

To foster cooperation in implementing the Connect 2020 Agenda, the Secretary-General will bring this resolution to the attention of all interested parties, including, in particular, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic and Social Council.

The Directors of the Bureaux will report on the progress towards achievement of the objectives and outcomes of the work of each Sector, as elaborated within the strategic plan for the Union for 2016–2019, that contributes to the Connect 2020 Agenda.

In particular, the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau will coordinate the collection, provision and dissemination of indicators and statistics that measure and provide comparative analysis for the progress towards the achievement of the global telecommunication/ICT targets and report their progress as part of the annual Measuring the Information Society Report.

The Council will review annually consolidated progress reports from the

Secretary-General on the accomplishment of the Connect 2020 Agenda.

Member States are invited to participate actively in implementing the Connect 2020 Agenda, and to contribute with national, regional and international initiatives. In addition, Member States will:

- ▶ invite all other stakeholders to contribute and work together towards the Connect 2020 Agenda;
- ▶ provide data and statistics, as appropriate, to monitor progress towards the achievement of the Connect 2020 Agenda;
- ▶ report national progress towards the achievement of the Connect 2020 Agenda, and contribute to the database that will collect and disseminate information on national and regional initiatives contributing to the Connect 2020 Agenda;
- ▶ engage actively in discussions on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, in accordance with the process established by UNGA;
- ▶ ensure that information and communication technologies are central to the

Post-2015 Development Agenda, by being acknowledged as an important tool to achieve this Agenda's overall Sustainable Development Goals;

- ▶ contribute to the work of ITU, as elaborated in the strategic plan for the Union for 2016–2019, that contributes to the Connect 2020 Agenda.

Sector Members, Associates and Academia are invited to take an active role towards implementing the Connect 2020 Agenda. All stakeholders are invited to contribute with their initiatives and their experience, qualifications and expertise to its successful implementation.

Dr Touré concluded that "With the adoption of its 2016–2019 Strategic Plan and Budget at PP-14, ITU is set to play its part in contributing to the Connect 2020 Agenda. The roll-out of the Connect 2020 Agenda will now gather pace across the world, laying the groundwork for full mobilization of the global ICT sector, concentrated on implementation of specific and measurable targets towards the 2020 horizon."

Connect 2020 goals and targets

Goal 1	"Growth — Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunications/ICTs"	
	Target 1.1	Worldwide, 55 per cent of households should have access to the Internet by 2020.
	Target 1.2	Worldwide, 60 per cent of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020.
	Target 1.3	Worldwide, telecommunications/ICTs should be 40 per cent more affordable by 2020.
Goal 2	"Inclusiveness — Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all"	
	Target 2.1.A	In the developing world, 50 per cent of households should have access to the Internet by 2020.
	Target 2.1.B	In the least developed countries (LDCs), 15 per cent of households should have access to the Internet by 2020.
	Target 2.2.A	In the developing world, 50 per cent of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020.
	Target 2.2.B	In the least developed countries (LDCs), 20 per cent of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020.
	Target 2.3.A	The affordability gap between developed and developing countries should be reduced by 40 per cent by 2020. Here, developing countries include the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition.
	Target 2.3.B	Broadband services should cost no more than 5 per cent of average monthly income in developing countries by 2020.
	Target 2.4	Worldwide, 90 per cent of the rural population should be covered by broadband services by 2020.
	Target 2.5.A	Gender equality among Internet users should be reached by 2020.
	Target 2.5.B	Enabling environments ensuring accessible telecommunications/ICTs for persons with disabilities should be established in all countries by 2020.
Goal 3	"Sustainability — Manage challenges resulting from telecommunication/ICT development"	
	Target 3.1	Cybersecurity readiness should be improved by 40 per cent by 2020.
	Target 3.2	Volume of redundant e-waste to be reduced by 50 per cent by 2020.
	Target 3.3	Greenhouse gas emissions generated by the telecommunication/ICT sector to be decreased per device by 30 per cent by 2020.
Goal 4	"Innovation and partnership — Lead, improve and adapt to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment"	
	Target 4.1	Telecommunication/ICT environment conducive to innovation.
	Target 4.2	Effective partnerships of stakeholders in the telecommunication/ICT environment.

Source: Connect 2020: Global telecommunication/information and communication technology goals and targets, Annex to Resolution WG-PL/9 (Busan, 2014).

President of Rwanda envisions a sustainable, inclusive and secure future

Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda, addressing the ITU's 19th Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan, Republic of Korea, on 28 October 2014, said that the world has seen the immense opportunities of the connected and borderless world. "Our collective aspiration is to further extend these possibilities to all the world's people", he said. He saw the results of the election of ITU's top management as a resounding endorsement of the work of its leadership, and he thanked Dr Hamadoun Touré and his team for pushing the frontiers of ICT, and relentlessly advocating for access, even in the most remote areas.

"Their tremendous work has contributed to Africa's ability to leapfrog into the future." He saw this as being in large measure due to Dr Touré's vision and ability to mobilize private sector investment in ICT in the developing world. For example, at the time of planning for the Connect Africa Summit, which was held in 2007, USD 55 billion had been pledged. But in the end, more than USD 70 billion was actually invested.

President Kagame noted that in Africa ICT have improved communication between governments and their citizens, making leaders more accessible and promoting accountability. Beyond Africa, ICT are supporting openness between peoples, paving the way for real trust and greater understanding.



He said that Rwanda was honoured to host the Connect Africa (2007) and Transform Africa (2013) Summits, and that the most recent offspring of the summits was the Smart Africa Manifesto, which is shaping the future of ICT on the continent. Its strategy is founded on a future where the world's people are connected among themselves and with their environment, empowered by emerging technologies such as the Internet of Things, big data, and cloud computing. In this future, ICT continue to help humanity make advances in education and health care, ensure full security, and fuel economic growth through leaps of financial inclusion, innovation, job creation for youth as well as the empowerment for women.

"This is a future in which we are committed and one that we owe to future generations: one that is sustainable, inclusive, and secure", said President Kagame.

He then went on to present an Open Letter to delegates at the conference, from the Broadband Commission for Digital Development. ■



► Gender equality and mainstreaming

Winners of the GEM-TECH Awards 2014

Seven winners received the Gender Equality and Mainstreaming Technology (GEM-TECH) Awards 2014 in Busan on 28 October at a plenary session of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference. ITU and UN Women launched this new global annual technology award in June 2014 to recognize individuals or organizations that demonstrate a commitment to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment through information

and communication technologies (ICT). More than 360 nominations from over 70 countries around the world were received. The awards were open to leading women and men, as well as organizations working in the field of ICT and gender. Out of a total of 37 finalists, the following winners were chosen:

In **Category 1** (ICT applications, content, production capacities and skills for women's social and political

empowerment and links with sustainable development), the winner was UNESCO — Women in African History: An E-Learning Tool. In accepting the award, the UNESCO spokesperson described the e-learning tool as a multimedia platform that celebrates the women who have shaped Africa, telling stories of resistance to tyranny, and the struggle for human rights and dignity for the empowerment of girls and women.

The winner in **Category 2** (ICT applications, content, production capacities and skills for women's economic empowerment and poverty reduction) was iMerit Technology Services, India. In accepting the award, the representative of iMerit explained that the role of the company was to provide scalable, web-based services to business clients globally, while providing a motivating digital work environment and training its young employees to deliver high quality, agile services. "The 30 000 marginalized and minority young women and men who have been skilled in ICT and technologies and mainstreamed into Internet and IT jobs now earn three to seven times their earlier family income", she said, adding that women at iMerit believe strongly in market-based solutions and do not wish to be long-term beneficiaries of the United Nations or of large corporations. Their idea of mainstreaming is for women to be shareholders in companies like iMerit so that they can participate in the global Internet economy.

In **Category 3** (Promoting Women in the ICT sector — attracting, retaining and promoting women within the ICT sector and into decision-making positions in both the private and public sector), the winner was BCS, the Chartered Institute for IT, United Kingdom. Receiving the award, the representative of BCS emphasized the role of volunteers in the United Kingdom in attracting women into IT and retaining them. She called for recognition of the additional revenue for companies

and additional innovation for academia that comes from maximizing the potential of women in the technology industries and technology professions.

For **Category 4** (Enabling girls to become ICT creators — initiatives aimed at providing girls with the opportunity to become not just active users, but creators of ICT and content), the winner was the Research Center for Feminist Action (CIPAF), Dominican Republic. Receiving the award on behalf of Magaly Pineda, the founder and Director of CIPAF, and a pioneer in promoting ICT as part of the political agenda of the feminist movement of the Dominican Republic and of the Latin America and Caribbean region, the spokesperson transmitted Ms Pineda's message: "I would like to thank you for the recognition and initiative of ITU in establishing this award, and I receive it with pleasure on behalf of the girls and women of the Dominican Republic and of Latin America who dream of a world without violence, with social justice, where gender equality is a reality."

The winner in **Category 5** (Closing the ICT gender gap — ensuring ICT accessibility for women, such as digital literacy training and ensuring affordable and meaningful access to ICT by women) was the Telecentre.org Foundation — Telecentre Women, Philippines. The representative of Telecentre.org described the collective achievement by hundreds of organizations that work tirelessly to make ICT meaningful and useful for many

people. While accepting that providing support to one million women is a significant achievement, he recognized that in the larger scheme of things it was a very small step towards women's equality. "We need more help. We need more participation. Today our work and the goal of building this information society is by no means finished. We still have more than 4.4 billion people every day that have no access to the Internet or ICT. We need your participation and we need your support in enabling new opportunities for women. Most of those 4 billion people are women. Without them, we cannot really build a serious future for this humanity", he said

In **Category 6** (Efforts to reduce online threats and to build women's confidence and security in the use of ICT), the winner was South Africa's Association for Progressive Communication (APC) — Take Back the Tech! The Take Back the Tech! campaign was initiated in 2006 and now has partners in more than 25 countries. Accepting the award, the representative of APC said "No one used to speak about violence against women online, even though it was part of our experience in using ICT and the Internet. It was through commitment and activism of the campaigners in organizing documents and creating content and experimenting with new technologies, sharing what they know and engaging with all stakeholders, including human rights groups, tech companies, and the government, that this issue is now becoming seriously recognized as a significant

barrier to the participation of women and girls online. It needs serious attention.”

The winner in **Category 7** (ICT and broadband strategies, policies and frameworks that promote women’s digital empowerment) was Nigeria’s Federal Ministry of Communication Technology. Receiving the award on behalf of the Federal Government of Nigeria, the spokesperson said that “Being one of the recipients of the GEM-TECH Awards from the ITU is an important validation of President Jonathan’s administration on gender inclusion and empowerment, facilitated by information and communication technologies.” She stressed that women and girls are under-represented in ICT, whether in terms of access, use or employment. Given the importance of ICT to national development, closing this gender digital divide has become a priority for Nigeria. “We cannot afford to exclude half our population from the benefits of ICT for development”, she said, listing three flagship programmes for empowering women through ICT: digital girls clubs in secondary schools to help girls develop an early interest in the sector and the Internet in general; building up the ICT skillset of select unemployed girls to fill vacant IT jobs in the country; and a smart women platform for disseminating relevant and useful information to Nigerian women via mobile phones.

ITU Secretary-General, Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, looking back at almost 20 years since the Beijing Declaration and Platform



“ITU estimates that some 200 million fewer women are online compared to men. Women are coming online later, and more slowly...”

*Dr Hamadoun I. Touré,
ITU Secretary-General*

for Action stressed the need to close the gender digital divide. Dr Touré stated: “ITU estimates that some 200 million fewer women are online compared to men. Women are coming online later, and more slowly. And without remedial action, it is estimated that the Internet gender gap could grow to 350 million within three or four years. Equality in access to broadband is not only an issue of right and wrong; it also makes commercial and economic sense. And this is why the Broadband

Commission for Digital Development set a fifth advocacy target on achieving equality in broadband access by 2020.”

In a message delivered on her behalf by Dr Touré, the UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka said “We need all of you to join our efforts, so that these inspiring GEM-TECH winners and others working at the forefront of digital inclusion are leading a turning point for women’s digital empowerment through technology.”

Gold partners sponsoring the awards were Oman, Rwanda, Switzerland, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Silver partners were Cisco Systems and Facebook.

Six global achievers

Also recognized at the GEM-TECH Award ceremony were the following six “Global Achievers”: Alcatel-Lucent’s StrongHer initiative; Cisco Systems’ Chief Technology Officer, Monique Morrow; Academy Award winning actor and advocate and ITU Special Envoy for Women and Girls in ICT, Geena Davis; GSMA’s Connected Women programme; Intel Corporation’s Director of Social Innovation, Renee Wittemyer; and former Serbian Minister of Communications and State Secretary for Digital Agenda, Jasna Matić.

They were later presented their awards by President Paul Kagame of Rwanda at a gala dinner.



Doreen Bogdan-Martin,
*Chief of ITU's Strategic Planning
and Membership Department*

GEM-Tech Awards Breakfast with Women Ministers

A special breakfast with women ministers took place on 21 October, ahead of the first edition of GEM-TECH Awards.

Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Chief of ITU's Strategic Planning and Membership Department, said that apart from networking, the special breakfast was also to honour ministers and take stock of progress that has been made since WSIS, since the endorsement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals

in 2000, and perhaps most importantly since the 20th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be celebrated in 2015 in Beijing, China.

Next September, the United Nations Millennium Development Goals will be replaced by the Sustainable Development Agenda for the post-2015 era. The importance of ICT has already been recognized as a tool of empowerment for women in the proposed goals. But that is not enough. "If we want to make sure that ICT are truly embraced, they must be recognized as a powerful tool for

the implementation of the sustainable development goals that are essential to women — especially maternal and child health and education for all," Ms Bogdan-Martin added.

Walda Roseman, the originator of the now traditional women's breakfast, was presented with the ITU Gold medal and certificate by Dr Touré "as a small token and recognition of her wonderful and valuable contribution to the ICT sector over the years". ■

Official Visits

During September, October and November 2014 courtesy visits were made to ITU Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun I. Touré and Houlin Zhao, ITU Deputy Secretary-General by the following ministers, ambassadors to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, and other important guests.

ITU headquarters September



Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, ITU Secretary-General and Abdul Hannan, Ambassador of Bangladesh



Mohamed Siad Doualeh, Ambassador of Djibouti



Sandro M. Radicella, Head, Telecommunications/ICT for Development Laboratory, International Centre For Theoretical Physics



From left to right: Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, ITU Secretary-General; Hiem Phommachanh, Minister of Post and Telecommunications, Lao P.D.R.; and Houlin Zhao, ITU Deputy Secretary-General



Kok Jwee Foo, Ambassador of Singapore

MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Official Visits



Faizur Rahman Chowdhury,
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Posts,
Telecommunications and Information
Technology, Bangladesh



Houlin Zhao, ITU Deputy Secretary-General
and
Mourad Boukadoum, Counsellor,
Permanent Mission of Algeria in Switzerland

ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 (PP-14) Busan, Republic of Korea (20 October–7 November)



From left to right: N.K. Goyal, President,
CMAI Association of India;
Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, ITU Secretary-General;
and Anil Prakash, Secretary-General,
ITU-APT Foundation, India



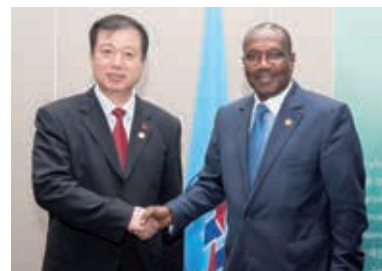
Chang Gyu Hwang,
CEO, Korea Telecom, Republic of Korea



Dr Ali Abbasov,
Azerbaijani's Minister of Communications
and High Technologies



Volodymyr Zvieriev,
Chairman of the State Service of Special
Communications and Information Protection
of Ukraine



Liu Lihua,
Vice-Minister, China's Ministry of Industry and
Information Technology

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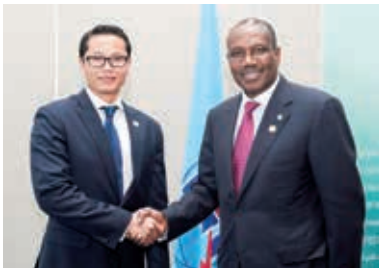
Uri Gutman,
Israel's Ambassador in Republic of Korea



Dr Eugene Juwah,
Executive Vice Chairman/Chief Executive
Officer, Nigerian Communications
Commission (NCC)



Tharcisse Nkezabahizi,
Burundi's Minister of Telecommunications,
Information, Communication and Relations
with Parliament



Channmeta Kan,
Secretary of State, Ministry of Posts and
Telecommunications, Cambodia



Moa Chakrya,
Chairman of the Telecommunications
Regulator of Cambodia



Edward Omame Boamah,
Ghana's Minister of Communications



Eduardo Neri González Martínez,
President, Comisión Nacional de
Telecomunicaciones (CONATEL), Paraguay



Yaya Abdoul Kane,
Senegal's Minister of Posts and
Telecommunications



From left to right: H. Priyanga,
Director, Spectrum Management,
Telecommunications Regulatory Commission
of Sri Lanka; Dr Hamadoun I. Touré,
ITU Secretary-General; and M.K. Jayantha,
Director, Finance, Telecommunications
Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka

MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Official Visits



Dr Pornchai Rujiprapa,
Thailand's Minister of Information and
Communication Technology



From left to right: Dr Hamadoun I. Touré,
ITU Secretary-General; Wei Miao, China's
Minister of Industry and Information
Technology; and Houlin Zhao, ITU Deputy
Secretary-General



Kila Gulo-Vui,
Director for Economics, Consumer and
International Affairs, National Information
and Communications Technology Authority
(NICTA), Papua New Guinea



From left to right: Dr Hamadoun I. Touré,
ITU Secretary-General; Mohamed Jamil
Ahmed Mulla, Minister of Communications
and Information Technology, Saudi Arabia;
and Abdullah Al Dalab, Deputy Governor,
Communications and Information Technology,
Saudi Arabia



From left to right: Aaron Boyd, Chief Strategy
Officer, ABI Research; Dr Hamadoun I. Touré,
ITU Secretary-General; and Tim Archdeacon,
President and Chief Executive Officer,
ABI Research



Hlengiwe Mkhize,
South Africa's Deputy Minister of
Telecommunications and Postal Services



Marianne Treschow,
former Director General of the Swedish Post
and Telecom Agency (PTS)



Jean-Louis Beh Mengue,
Director General, Telecommunications
Regulatory Board, Cameroon



Baiysh Nurmatov,
Deputy Director of the State Communication
Agency of Kyrgyzstan

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Muhammad Haroon Javed,
Pakistan's Director of International
Coordination



From left to right: Leslie Martinkovics,
Director, International Regulatory Affairs,
Verizon; Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, ITU Secretary-
General; and Jacquelynn Ruff, Vice President,
International Public Policy and Regulatory
Affairs, Verizon



João Carlos Albernaz,
General Manager of Satellites and Global
Services, ANATEL



Salma S. Al Khalassi,
Senior Analyst, Consumer Affairs,
Telecommunications Regulatory Authority,
United Arab Emirates



Housna Zoubeyri,
Head of Roaming Department,
Comores Telecom, Comoros



From left to right: Ayesha Hassan, Senior Director
of Stakeholder Relations, Internet Society;
Kathryn Brown, President/CEO, Internet Society;
Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, ITU Secretary-General;
and Sally Shipman Wentworth, Vice President of
Global Policy Development, Internet Society



Peter Dengate Thrush,
Former Chairman of the Board of the Internet
Corporation for Assigned Names and
Numbers (ICANN)



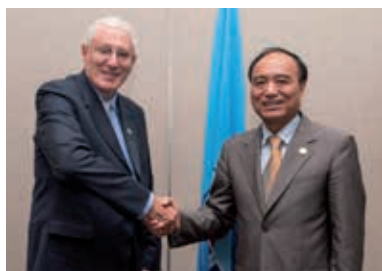
Dr Allam Mousa,
Minister of Transportation,
Telecommunications and Information
Technology, Palestine

MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Official Visits



Houlin Zhao, ITU Deputy Secretary-General and Darcy W. Boyce, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office of Barbados with responsibility for Telecommunications



Laudalio Veiga,
General Director, Futurecom



Arnold Djiwatampu,
Indonesia, former Director of the ITU
Telecommunication Development Bureau



Toshio Obi,
Professor, Waseda University, Japan



Gabriel Seraphim Muthisse,
Mozambique's Minister of Transport and
Communications



Anusha Rahman Khan,
Pakistan's Minister of State for Information
Technology



Jean-Pierre Biyiti Bi Essam,
Cameroon's Minister of Posts and
Telecommunications



From left to right: Jose Guadalupe Rojas Ramirez; Director General, Commissioner's Office, Federal Institute of Telecommunications (IFT), Mexico; Elizabeth Peña Jáuregui, Director General, Commissioner's Office, IFT; Luis Fernando Borjon Figueroa, Commissioner, IFT; Houlin Zhao, ITU Deputy Secretary-General; and Mario German Fromow Rangel, Commissioner, IFT

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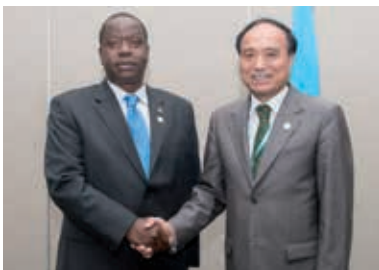
David A. Gross,
Partner at Wiley Rein and former Ambassador
of the United States



Richard C. Beaird,
Senior International Policy Advisor, Wiley
Rein, former Ambassador of the United
States, and former Senior Deputy United
States Coordinator for International
Communications and Information Policy



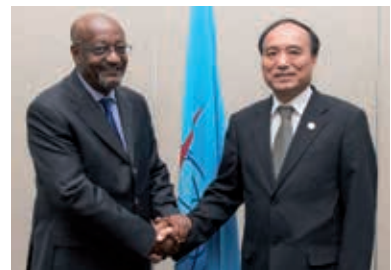
Panji Kaunda,
Zambia's Deputy Minister of Transport,
Works, Supply and Communications



Fred Matingi,
Kenya's Minister of Information and
Communication Technology



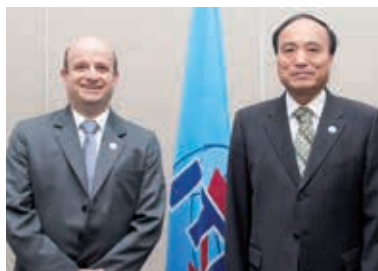
Jackson Miake,
ICT Programme Manager, Vanuatu
Government and Head of Delegation for the
Government of Vanuatu at ITU PP-14



Getachew Engida,
Deputy Director General of the United
Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural
Organization (UNESCO)



R.N. Jha,
Director General (International Relations),
Department of Telecommunications,
Government of India



Gonzalo Martín Ruiz Díaz,
President of the Board, OSPITEL

World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS) Tbilisi, Georgia (24–26 November)



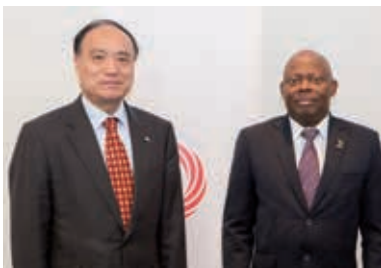
Pali Lehohla,
Statistician General, Statistics, South Africa



Christoph Legutko,
Global Public Policy CEE Director,
Intel Corporation



Nagwa El Shenawy,
Undersecretary for Information and Strategic
Planning, Information Centre, Ministry of
Communication and Information Technology,
Egypt



Eusébio Saíde,
Vice-Minister of Transport and
Communications, Mozambique



Irakli Garibashvili,
Prime Minister, Georgia



Stanley Simataa,
Deputy Minister, Ministry of Information and
Communication Technology, Namibia

ITU headquarters November



Elayne Whyte Gómez,
Ambassador of Costa Rica



Diarra Mariam Flantié Diallo,
Former Minister of Communication and
Information Technology, Mali

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Aya Thiam Diallo,
Ambassador of Mali



Luigi Gambardella,
Chairman of the Executive Board of the
European Telecommunications Network
Operators' Association (ETNO)



Professor Mark I. Krivocheev,
Chief Scientist, Radio Research and
Development Institute (NIIR), Moscow,
Russia Federation



Gisela Kopper Arguedas,
Costa Rica's Minister of Science, Technology
and Communications



John Paton Quinn,
Ambassador of Australia



Alexandros Alexandris,
Ambassador of Greece



“Let me take this opportunity to give special thanks to my fellow elected officials over the past four years: Houlin Zhao, Deputy Secretary-General and Secretary-General Elect; Malcolm Johnson, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) and Deputy Secretary-General Elect; François Rancy, re-elected Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau; and Brahim Sanou, re-elected Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau. Together we created One ITU, building a better and stronger Union. I am delighted that these four individuals will form the new management team along with Chaesub Lee, the new Director of TSB.”

Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, ITU Secretary-General

► One ITU

Making the world a better place

***Message from Dr Hamadoun I. Touré
ITU Secretary-General***

In sixteen years at ITU — including eight years as Secretary-General — I have learned much and made very many friends. At the helm of the Union, I never hesitated in taking the decisions that needed to be taken — based on the best of my knowledge, in full sincerity, and with the desire to make ITU a stronger organization and this world a better place for all.

Today, I am happy to see that information and communication technologies are playing a vital role in resolving each and every one of the great challenges facing humanity — from the Millennium Development Goals to climate change, health care, education and good governance.

Since the beginning of 2007, when I took office as ITU Secretary-General, the number of mobile cellular subscriptions globally has more than doubled, from 2.7 billion to an estimated 6.9 billion at the end of 2014. Progress in the developing world has been even more spectacular, growing from 1.6 billion subscriptions to 5.4 billion. Even in the 48 United Nations (UN)-designated Least Developed Countries, the mobile cellular penetration rate is approaching 60 per cent, a remarkable achievement bearing in mind that in the year 2000 mobile cellular penetration globally was just 12 per cent.

The number of Internet users has risen from under 1.2 billion at the beginning of 2007 to over 2.9 billion at the end of 2014. During the same period, the number of developing world Internet users has grown from 500 million to 1.9 billion. The most spectacular progress of all has been the growth in mobile broadband, and by the end of 2014 there will be around 2.3 billion active mobile broadband subscriptions — with well over half of them in the developing world.

This is not just a story of connectivity for connectivity's sake, however. This is a story of real human progress. For most of the world's people, phones and smartphones and connected computers are not playthings, or even productivity tools, but a lifeline.

Over the past eight years, we have worked to enhance connectivity globally. We held "ITU Connect the World Summits" in each region of the world, mobilizing tremendous financial and human resources to roll out ICT infrastructure and applications in developing countries.

We launched the Global Cybersecurity Agenda, which has its physical manifestation in the form of IMPACT, in Malaysia, with some 150 countries now on board. We can be particularly proud, in this regard, of the Child Online Protection initiative, an international collaborative network to promote the online safety of children around the world.

We launched the Broadband Commission for Digital Development with UNESCO, a multi-stakeholder advocacy group which has taken broadband to the top of the global political agenda, with 140 countries now having national broadband plans.

We have made progress in gender activities at ITU — both in our own ITU Gender Mainstreaming Policy, as well as the successful launch of initiatives such as Girls in ICT Day and the Gender Equality and Mainstreaming Technology (GEM-TECH) Awards launched this year by ITU and UN Women. We have also promoted accessibility-aware standards and policies in the Union's work; indeed ITU's own Accessibility Policy is the first of its kind for a UN agency.

I was proud to serve on the joint Commission on Information and Accountability for Women and Children's Health, with the World Health Organization. At ITU we have also made progress on youth issues, notably with the BYND 2015 Global Youth Summit in Costa Rica in 2013, and the Youth ICT Policy Leaders programme and youth resolution at the Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14) in Busan, Republic of Korea.

We opened an ITU liaison office in New York, which has brought us even closer to our sister United Nations agencies. I have been incredibly fortunate to have benefited from the trust and wisdom of Ban Ki-moon, who took office as the United Nations Secretary-General on the same day that I became ITU Secretary-General — 1 January 2007. It is an honour to have been part of the United Nations system under his great leadership. We at ITU have gained enormously from Ban Ki-moon's advocacy and support. Our importance in the UN system will remain essential as we move towards the post 2015 Development Agenda.

Let me take this opportunity to give special thanks to my fellow elected officials over the past four years: Houlin Zhao, Deputy Secretary-General and Secretary-General Elect; Malcolm Johnson, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) and Deputy Secretary-General Elect; François Rancy, re-elected Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau; and Brahima Sanou, re-elected Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau. Together we created One ITU, building a better and stronger Union. I am delighted that these four individuals will form the new management team along with Chaesub Lee, the new Director of TSB.

ONE ITU — MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

Message from Dr Hamadoun I. Touré



**“Let me wish
my successor
and friend
Houlin Zhao
even greater
success.”**

*Dr Hamadoun I. Touré,
ITU Secretary-General*

Let me also praise our Member States for setting strong and sound foundations for the future of information and communication technologies through the wise decisions they took at PP-14. This issue of *ITU News* highlights the great achievements made in Busan, Republic of Korea.

PP-14 renewed and strengthened the consensus among ITU Member States on the role that the Union should play in the fields of the Internet and cybersecurity — further enhancing ITU’s engagement with all stakeholders, as well as recognizing the importance of contributing to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process. I was also pleased that PP-14 sought to make international Internet connectivity affordable for all the world’s people, as well as to nurture a truly multilingual Internet. For the first time since 1992, the conference made no amendments to the Constitution or Convention.

On a personal note, I was given the best leaving gift I ever could have hoped for — concluding the conference without the need for a vote. This is the ITU way — consensus! And I am really grateful for the efforts of membership, who worked hard and long to achieve it. This is really something to be proud of, and sets the Union on a great course for the next four years.

Together, we have lifted the Union higher than ever before. What drove us was writing history, a little bit of history every day, and keeping in mind the history readers of the future, and I am sure that the generations of history readers of the future will see what a great job we have done together.

Let me thank all our members for their faith in the endeavour, and let me wish my successor and friend Houlin Zhao even greater success. ■

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Join us in **Doha**, Qatar

2014

to continue
the conversation
that matters



Doha, December