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Ministry of Communications

ANNEX 2 (to letter DM-1141)

Questionnaire on the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs)

Please return by 15 September 2004, by one of the following methods: By Post: ITU, ITR Secretariat, Room M.421/M.727, Place des Nations, CH-1211

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- 1) The International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) set many rules applicable to administrations and to recognized private agencies. There are also operational details in the ITRs.
- 1.1 taking into account that today many countries have liberalized the telecommunications sector and many administrations do not themselves provide international telecommunication services, how do the member States ensure the abidance of the ITRs provisions by Recognized Operating Agencies (ROA) and Operating Agencies (OA)?
- Answer: 1.1 To insure the abidance of the ROA / OA, Kuwait is in process to set number of regulations for Telecommunication Services Providers, including International Services, as the Ministry of Communications act as the regulator.

Note: at the moment, the Ministry of Communications is the only International Service Provider and the only International Gateway.

- 1.2 In your opinion, which, if any, of the ITRs provisions should be terminated, retained in the ITRs, transferred to the Constitution or Convention, or embodied in ITU Recommendations? Please provide any proposed draft text for amending the Constitution and/or Convention, if deemed appropriate.
- Answer: 1.2 ITR provisions that can be deleted, retained, or transferred to the ITU constitution or recommendation:
 - 1.2.1 Provisions that already exist or covered in the constitution.
 - 1.2.2 Irrelevant to the International Services, or can be added to the ITU constitution as general regulation.
 - 1.2.3 In general all ITR provisions should be specifically related to international Services Regulation to insure government-to-government agreement process.
 - 1.2.4 ITR provision should all be thoroughly revised to insure newly raised subjects are covered.
 - 1.2.5 Article 3.4 Quality of Services should be revised to assure required information travel to inquirer (to evaluate carriers performance, and assurance of 'call back' and 'Re-filing" control.
 - 2) Taking into account the considering a) through f) and believing a) and b) of resolutions 121:
 - 2.1 do you consider that the fast pace of change in the telecommunication environment could make the task of defining International Telecommunication Regulations difficult?
 - Answer: 2.1 Yes, the ITR should be regularly revised, updated, modified, deleted, or, create new provision in accordance with the new raised up issues. Beside many provisions were taken before all obstacles were thoroughly studied.
 - 2.2 Do you see some provisions of the ITRs contradicting your national regulations or regional regulations (e.g. EC directives) or other international instruments (e.g. WTO)?

Answer: 2.2 Maybe.

2.3 are provisions of the ITRs applicable for the provisions of international telecommunications services arising out of the evolving

telecommunications industry environment? Do you have any issues that are not covered by the current ITRs?

Answer: 2.3 Yes.

- 2.3.1 Security has not been thoroughly studied, some issues like genuine Signaling, and traffic information can be modified at the exchange (A number can modified, at certain level, when reaching destination, the actual originator is not known).
- 2.3.2 Billing information for International Services, including roaming, for hot billing and related charges or services.
- 2.3.3 Control and security of data traveling, to insure dedication or control of services (to control VoIP, Call Back, Re-filing, ... etc).
- 2.3.4 Managing the Synchronization of the call count and minute count, between International Gateways.
- 2.3.5 Charging and defining new services, like VoIP, data, Video conference.
- 2.3.6 International Tariffs and route charges should be revised.
- 2.3.7 IP Telephony should be regulated, similarly Data, Multimedia, Satellite communication, Aeronautic....etc.
- 2.3.8 Spam should be regulated.
- 3. Noting that the preamble of the ITRs refers to "most efficient operation" and that Paragraph 1.6 refers to 'compliance with the relevant ITU-T Recommendations', is Paragraph 1.6 sufficient to guarantee efficient operation of telecommunication, for example to ensure word-wide consistency, stability, and predictability of the E.164, E.212 and/or other numbering plans?

Answer: 3 Not available.