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| **Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)**  **25th Meeting, Geneva, 24-27 March 2020** | C:\Users\comas\AppData\Local\Temp\Rar$DRa0.735\jpg\ITU official logo_blue_RGB.jpg | |
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|  | **Document** **TDAG-20/9-E** |
|  | **13 February 2020** |
|  | **Original:** **English** |
| Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau | |
| Expert Group on the International Telecommunication  Regulations (EG-ITRs): Progress report to TDAG | |
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| **Summary:**  This progress report presents the work of the Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITRs)[[1]](#footnote-1), highlighting the main outputs from its two meetings organized so far.  **Action required:**  TDAG is invited to note this document and provide guidance as deemed appropriate in order to contribute to the work of EG-ITRs.  **References:**  Revision 2 to Document EG-ITRs-1/DL/3-E, Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Resolution 1379 (Modified 2019) of the ITU Council. | |

**Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITRs)   
Progress report to TDAG**

1. **Background**

Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the periodic review and revision of the International Telecommunication Regulations, instructed the Secretary-General to reconvene an EG-ITR, open to the ITU Member States and Sector Members, with terms of reference and working methods established by the ITU Council, to review those regulations.

At its session in June 2019, the Council reviewed and modified its Resolution 1379, on Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations, and approved the terms of reference for the group, which are available at the following link: <https://www.itu.int/en/council/Pages/eg-itrs.aspx>.

1. **Outputs from the first meeting of the Expert Group on the ITRs (16-17 September 2019)**

During the first meeting of the Expert Group on the ITRs, which took place from 16 to 17 September 2019, the main focus was on its working methods and terms of reference developed on the basis of Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) and Council Resolution 1379 (Modified 2019), as outlined above. The chairman also gave a presentation on [working methods and terms of reference](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-EGITR1-190916-DL-0004/en) of the group, based on these resolutions.

The group discussed all the contributions received for the meeting, and decided that in addition to its terms of reference, the generic template proposed by Ghana below (now known as “Examination Table”) would also be used to collate the views of the group on the provision-by-provision review of the ITRs.

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| 2012 Article | Sub article and provision | Related 1988 sub article and provision | Applicability in fostering provision and development of networks and services | Flexibility to accommodate new trends and emerging issues | Summary outcome |

**Note to the Directors of the Bureaux to seek views from their Sector advisory groups:** A note from the EG-ITR chairman inviting the *Directors of the Bureaux* to seek advice from their respective Sector advisory groups to contribute to the work of the EG-ITR was adopted, guided by Resolution1379 (Modified 2019), and in compliance with Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018).

**Discussion on whether or not to use a questionnaire to gather views:**  One of the proposals put forward for Member States and Sector Members to collect inputs from stakeholders was the circulation of a common questionnaire. In this regard, the group noted in the report of its meeting the statement from the vice-chairman of the Americas region. According to this statement, by way of an internal practice, the administrations that comprise the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) will use and circulate a questionnaire on the use, applicability and flexibility of the ITRs among its Member States and Associates, which include the private sector, civil society, academia and the Internet technical community. Other members are at liberty to also use the questionnaire to carry out their own formal consultations or information gathering.

Work plan of EG-ITR: A final work plan was adopted (Annex 1), as a living document. Inputs to the “Examination Table” during the course of the meetings of the group will be fully finalized and confirmed at the 5th meeting of the EG-ITR.

1. **Outputs from the Second meeting of EG-ITR (12-13 February 2020)**

Based on the work plan and the “Examination Table” approved during the first meeting, members focused on the provision-by-provision analysis for the following articles (44 provisions), reflecting the different views expressed in the written contributions and in the discussions during the meeting:

* Preamble (to be revised by the EG-ITR vice-chairmen)
* ARTICLE 1 Purpose and scope of the Regulations
* ARTICLE 2 Definitions
* ARTICLE 3 International network
* ARTICLE 4 International telecommunication services.

The Examination Table reflects the discussions of the group on the:

1. Applicability in fostering provision and development of networks and services.
2. Flexibility to accommodate new trends and emerging issues of the ITRs.
3. Summary outcome of the discussions, based on (1) and (2) above.

The updated Examination Table is available in document [EG-ITRs-2/DL/2](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-EGITR2-200212-DL-0002/en).

Broader views on the ITRs are summarized in the meeting report as well. In addition, the chairman’s report to the Council will reflect the outcomes of both meetings as indicated in the individual meeting reports.

**Annex 1**

**EG-ITR work plan**

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|  | **Revision 2 to Document EG-ITRs-1/DL/3-E 17 September 2019  English only** |

**Work plan**

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| **Meeting** | **Primary Actions** | **Provisions** | **Expectations** |
| 2nd Meeting  (12-13 February 2020) | Provision-by-provision examination of the ITRs | Preamble  ARTICLE 1 Purpose and scope of the Regulations  ARTICLE 2 Definitions  ARTICLE 3 International network  ARTICLE 4 International telecommunication services | Draft results of the provision-by-provision examination using the Examination Table[[2]](#footnote-2)  Progress report to the Council |
| 3rd meeting (September 2020) | ARTICLE 5 Safety of life and priority of telecommunications  ARTICLE 6 Security and robustness of networks  ARTICLE 7 Unsolicited bulk electronic communications  ARTICLE 8 Charging and accounting  APPENDIX 1 General provisions concerning accounting | Draft results of the provision-by-provision examination using the Examination Table |
| 4th Meeting  (February 2021) | ARTICLE 9 Suspension of services  ARTICLE 10 Dissemination of information  ARTICLE 11 Energy efficiency/e-waste  ARTICLE 12 Accessibility  ARTICLE 13 Special arrangements  ARTICLE 14 Final provisions  APPENDIX 2 Additional provisions relating to maritime telecommunications | Draft results of the provision-by-provision examination using the Examination Table  Progress report to the Council |
| 5th Meeting (September 2021) | Overall observations based on the provision-by-provision examination |  | First draft of the Final Report to Council 2022 |
| 6th Meeting (just prior to Council 2022) | Finalize the Final Report to Council 2022 |  | Final Report to Council 2022 |

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1. The Expert Group on ITRs website is available at: <https://www.itu.int/en/council/Pages/eg-itrs.aspx>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Note: Identification of new trends in telecommunications/ICT and emerging issues in international telecommunications/ICT environment will be covered under column 5 of the agreed* Examination Table *(Flexibility to accommodate new trends and emerging issues).* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)