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| Logo  Description automatically generated | **Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)**  **28th Meeting, Virtual, 24-28 May 2021** | | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
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| 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 the third and fourth meetings organized on 17-18 September 2020 and 3-4 February 2021, respectively.  **Action required:**  Pursuant to Res. 1379 (Council 2019) which instructs the Directors of the Bureaux  “*each within their field of competence, with advice from the relevant advisory group, to contribute to the work of the Group, recognizing that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector has most of the work relevant to the ITRs*”;  and following the invitation of the EG-ITR Chairman to the BDT Director to:  “*seek advice from the relevant advisory group to contribute to the work of the EG-ITR   Group, taking into account the agreed work plan of EG-ITR in annex 1*”;  TDAG is invited to note this document and provide guidance and inputs as deemed appropriate at its fifth meeting in September 2021, in order to achieve the goals of the 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 the 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 third meeting of the Expert Group on the ITRs (17-18 September 2020)**

The third meeting of the EG-ITRs, focused on the provision-by-provision review of the ITRs of the following articles, in accordance with the Work Plan agreed during their first meeting (16-17 September 2019), available in Annex 1:

* 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

In accordance with past practice, and as agreed at the first meeting of the EG-ITRs, the Group conducted the review of the above provisions using the Examination Table, taking into account the contributions received and the discussions at the meeting. The “*Summary Outcome*” column of the Examination Table was completed during the meeting while the other two columns on “*Applicability in fostering provision and development of networks and services*” and “*Flexibility to accommodate New trends and Emergent issues*” were completed offline by the Vice Chairs in consultation with their regions. The Report of the meeting was published on the website on 8 January 2021.

1. **Outputs from the fourth meeting of the EG-ITRs (3-4 February 2021)**

At the fourth meeting, the members of the EG-ITRs focused on the provision-by-provision review of the ITRs of the following articles in accordance with the agreed Work Plan:

* 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

In accordance with past practice, and as agreed at the first meeting of the EG-ITRs, the Group conducted the review of the above provisions using the Examination Table, taking into account the contributions received and the discussions at the meeting. The “*Summary Outcome*” column of the Examination Table was completed during the meeting while the other two columns on “*Applicability in fostering provision and development of networks and services*” and “*Flexibility to accommodate New trends and Emergent issues*” were completed offline by the Vice Chairs in consultation with their regions. The Report of the meeting was published on the website on April 2021.

**Next Steps:**

In addition, the Chairman of the EG-ITRs will provide a Progress Report to Council that 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)