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| Note by the Secretary-General |
| CONTRIBUTION FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA |
| CONTRIBUTION ON THE MODALITY OF OPEN CONSULTATION FOR THE COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON INTERNET-RELATED PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES (CWG-INTERNET) |

I have the honour to transmit to the Member States of the Council a contribution submitted by **the People's Republic of China**.

 Houlin ZHAO
 Secretary-General

China (People's Republic of)

CONTRIBUTION ON THE modality of open consultation for the Council Working Group on Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-INTERNET)

# 1 Introduction

1.1 Resolution 1344 adopted by C12 identified open consultation as the modality to be adopted by the Council Working Group on Internet-related Public Policy Issues (CWG-Internet).

1.2 Resolution 102 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Rev. Busan, 2014) instructs the Council to revise its Resolution 1344 to direct the CWG-Internet, limited to Member States, with open consultation to all stakeholders, and to conduct such open consultation according to the following guidelines:

• CWG-Internet will decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for open consultation, drawing primarily from Council Resolution 1305.

1.3 Resolution 1344 of the Council (C12, last amended C15) stipulates that CWG-Internet will decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for open consultation, drawing primarily from Council Resolution 1305.

1.4 Resolution 1305 of the Council sets out a list of topics established in accordance with decisions of ITU membership at the Plenipotentiary Conference, Council and world conferences, which defines the scope of work of ITU on international Internet-related public policy issues.

# 2 Discussion

2.1 Resolution 102 of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Rev. Busan, 2014) stipulates that CWG‑Internet will decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for open consultation, drawing primarily from Council Resolution 1305. The list with twelve topics in Annex 1 to Resolution 1305 of the Council has provided the main elements of concern to Member States in the context of Internet-related public policies, and the topics listed therein have been broadly deemed as very important by the ITU membership.

2.2 The topics listed in Annex 1 to Resolution 1305 of the Council, which all fall within the mandate of ITU, are highly relevant to the scope of work for CWG-Internet.

2.3 The topics listed by the Council cover a wide range of issues, which are of interest to all parties and reflect the inclusiveness of the CWG-Internet.

2.4 Considerable results have been obtained through recent open consultations, yet many of the important topics in the list in Resolution 1305 of the Council have not been discussed. Since February 2015, the topics discussed in open consultations include "Challenges and Best Practices in Designing, Deploying and Implementing IXP", "Access to the Internet by People with Disabilities and with Special Needs", "Building the Enabling Environment for Internet access" and "Development aspects of the Internet", which cover only a small portion of the topics set out in Annex 1 to Resolution 1305.

2.5 Resolution 1344 of the Council (C12, last amended by C15) identifies open consultation as the modality to be adopted by CWG-Internet, but does not specify the number of topics to be consulted upon.

# 3 Proposal

We believe that it is necessary to clearly establish principles for defining topics for open consultations so that ITU will play a better role in guiding the Internet-related public policy issues and to effectively accommodate concerns of all the parties. We would like to suggest the following:

1) when determining topics for open consultations, CWG-Internet should give priority to the topics listed in Resolution 1305 of the Council, especially those which have not yet been discussed;

2) under the precondition that the quality of the consultations can be ensured, CWG-Internet may increase as appropriate the number of topics to be discussed at each open consultation.

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