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| **Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-18) Dubai, 29 October – 16 November 2018** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Document 7-E** |
|  | **15 November 2017** |
|  | **Original Chinese/English** |
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| Note by the Secretary-General | |
| CANDIDACY FOR THE POST OF SECRETARY-GENERAL | |
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Further to the information published in Document 3, I have the pleasure in transmitting to the Conference, in annex, the candidacy of:

**Mr Houlin ZHAO (People's Republic of China)**

for the post of Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union.

Houlin ZHAO  
 Secretary-General

**Annex**: 1

**Ministry of Industry and Information Technology**

**People’s Republic of China**

21 November, 2017

To: Houlin ZHAO  
 Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)  
 Geneva, Switzerland

Your Excellency,

Further to your letter dated 23 October, 2017 that concerns the preparations for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference to be held in 2018 (Ref. CL-17/42), I have the honour to inform you officially that the Government of the People’s Republic of China has decided to present the candidature of **Mr Houlin** **Zhao** for the post of Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union for another term, and the candidature of China once again for membership of the ITU Council.

Since being elected Secretary General of ITU in 2015, Mr Houlin ZHAO has attained marked achievements in overcoming the challenges that ITU faces in advancing its work and activities by way of promoting reform and innovation. His pragmatism and spirit of teamwork has been widely recognized. We are confident that Mr ZHAO will undoubtedly, if re-elected to the post of Secretary-General, continue to lead ITU in playing an even more important role in the worldwide development of information and communication technologies (ICTs).

As a Member State of ITU, China has long been participating actively in the organization’s work and is committed to fulfilling its purpose. Together with other ITU Member States, China will continue to give its full support to the organization so as to enhance its contribution to the worldwide development of ICTs.

Please accept, Sir, my highest compliments,

Wei MIAO

Minister of Industry and Information Technology

People’s Republic of China

*Attachment*: CV of Mr Houlin ZHAO

# Candidate for the post of

# Secretary-General, 2019‑2022

# Houlin ZHAO



**General**

Date of Birth: 7 March 1950 (Jiangsu, China)

Nationality: Chinese

Marriage Status: Married with one son, two grand-children

Languages: Chinese, English and French

Current Post: Secretary-General of ITU

**Education**

**1975:** Graduated from Nanjing University of Posts and Telecommunications, China

**1985:** Master of Science in telematics, University of Essex, United Kingdom

**Professional Experience**

**2015-2018: Secretary-General**

* Implemented the Strategic and Financial Plan of the Union.
* Enhanced the transparency and efficiency of the organization.
* Gained greater confidence and support of the membership of the Union.
* Extended the cooperation with UN and its other specialized agencies as well as other partners.
* Cooperation with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) has been rendered one of the priorities of the Union’s work.
* Raised awareness of people in relation to the importance of ICT in supporting achieving the UN SDGs and further encouraged investment in ICT by various parties.
* A better environment has been created for the Union’s staff and its management.

**2007-2010, 2011-2014: Deputy Secretary-General (two terms)**

* Assisted the Secretary-General, in coordination with Elected Officials, in successful management of ITU’s activities and strategies, maintaining good contacts with Members, facilitating promotion of ITU worldwide.
* Contributed to the good teamwork of the Elected Officials and to the transparent and efficient functioning of the Union.
* Contributed to strengthening the relationship between Members and ITU, to increasing Union’s openness, and to enhancing partnership with all stakeholders concerned.

**Internally, among other roles:**

* Acting Chief of “Personnel Department” and later “Administration and Finance Department” in 2007, Acting Head of “Procurement Unit” in 2007; Acting Manager of “ITU Telecom” during May 2008‑October 2009, and Acting Chief of the “Conference and Publications Department“ in 2007 and 2013 during the recruitments for the posts.
* Supervised Departments of General Secretariat: “Conference and Publications Department”, “Information Services Department”, “Human Resource Management Department”, and “Finance Resource Management Department”.
* Chair of cross-sector projects and teams: “WSIS Task Force”, “Task Force on Emergency Communications and Climate Change”, “ICT Funds”, “ITU Publication Policy Committee (IPPC)”, and “Appointment and Promotion Board (APB) for P staff”.

**1999-2002, 2003-2006: Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (two terms)**

* Successfully organized WTSA-2000 in Montreal, Canada, and WTSA-2004 in Florianopolis, Brazil.
* Improved the ITU-T’s environment in a timely manner, e.g.: Associate Members created, free online access of ITU-T Recommendations offered to public, the Alternative Approval Procedures (AAP) developed; established the NGN Focus Group in 2004 and the IPTV Focus Group in 2006.
* Closely worked with industry members, e.g.: organized “Informal Consultation Meetings (Martigny meetings)” in 2000 and 2001, the “Chief Technical Officers (CTOs) meetings” two times during 2003-2006, and “the Informal Forum Summits” in 2001 and 2003.
* Closely cooperated with ISO/IEC, e.g.: MoU on e-business signed in 2000, the “Common Patent Policy of ITU-T/ITU-R/ISO/IEC” adopted in 2006.
* Cooperated with ICANN, IETF and RIRs, e.g.: signed the MoU with ICANN, W3C, ETSI on PSO in July 1999; organized the first joint management meeting of ITU-T Study Group Chairmen and IETF Area Directors in November 1999; cooperated with RIPE NCC on management of ENUM in 2002.
* Encouraged the developing countries to participate at standardization work, e.g.: organized a plenary meeting of ITU-T Study Group 12 in Senegal in 2001, and many workshops in the regions.

**1986-1998: ITU Staff Member**

* Engineer/Counsellor of CCITT/TSB, responsible for ITU-T SG 7 (Data networks and open system communications) and SG 8 (Terminals for telematics services).
* ITU-T coordinator with ISO, IEC and ISO/IEC JTC 1, developed common texts between ITU-T and ISO/IEC; promoted effective cooperation between ITU-T and ISO, IEC, ISO/IEC JTC 1 in many areas.
* Member of the ITU Appointment and Promotion Board for G-level staff.

**1975-1986: Engineer of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, China**

* Engineer for national projects and for developing national standards on telecommunication services and networks.
* Chinese delegate to various CCITT Study Group meetings.
* Published a number of technical articles in China.
* Awarded a Prize for science and technology achievements from the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, China, 1985.

**Commitment**

Over the last two decades, modern telecommunication/ICT and related services have developed rapidly everywhere with the remarkable result of having 7 billion mobile phone subscriptions and nearly 4 billion Internet connections at present. However, there are still many challenges and difficulties in connecting all human beings on the planet and ensuring equal benefits of those services for every individual. Based on its achievements and successes, ITU should continue to work closely with its Member States, which are the Union’s solid foundation, and further strengthen its partnership with the private sector and many other stakeholders (for example, NGOs and academic institutions), which play a very important role in global ICT business. ITU should aim to retain its place as a pre-eminent organization responsible for the development and harmonization of telecommunications/ICT services in the global information society.

The visionary leadership, energy and dedication of Mr Zhao during his period in office as Secretary-General (the first term) have been highly appreciated by ITU Members. His consistently outstanding performance and his transparent, efficient, fair and pragmatic management style have received wide recognition and praise. His deep understanding of the members, strategic vision, excellent spirit of teamwork, superior communication skills, firm willingness to take on responsibility, and tireless efforts to gain confidence and trust of the membership in the Union, will all assure his work as Secretary‑General of the organization for one more term. He is the ideal leader of the Union to act as the bridge to the future.

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