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| Russian Federation |
| TOPICS FOR THE COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL INTERNET-RELATED PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES |

The Russian Federation suggests choosing two topics simultaneously for a period of one year to conduct open online and physical consultations with stakeholders.

Currently, the Internet regulation is actively developing in many countries. The matters pertaining to regulation of network infrastructure building and usage and services provided is subject to national responsibility and constitute a sovereign right of any state. However, taking into account the cross-border nature of Internet services, it is worth noting that Internet regulation will be more successful should Member States coordinate their efforts at the national level, besides establishing the international regulation. Russian Administration is deeply concerned with the lack of regulation of Internet at the international level, which leads to Internet fragmentation (meaning the establishment of national and regional areas with various set of services and working conditions), emergence of additional barriers and prevents creation of a favorable environment for the development of the Internet global service ecosystem.

Undoubtedly, the discussion about the international regulation of the Internet should be wide, with the participation of many stakeholders. That is why the Russian Federation proposes, within the framework of Public Policy Issues “Protection, Security, Integrity, Viability and Sustainability of the Internet”, to adopt the following topic for open consultations held by the CWG-Internet:

“International internet-related public policies”

It is expected to exchange information and discuss the following issues:

- challenges of the global transformation from a voice-centric to an IP-based data-centric telecommunications ecosystem;

- impact of new technologies in telecommunication/ICT and Internet development on public policies; the role of States, business and civil society in the process of Internet governance;

- the practice of public regulation, industrial regulation and self-regulation of the Internet in different countries, the aspects of operators and service providers’ operational activity in the midst of such regulation;

- exchange of best practices on aspects of Internet governance in developing countries, taking into account the experience of developed countries;

- proposals for cooperation at the international level, aimed at assessing the need for stakeholders to develop international policies on Internet governance, and proposals for the organization the process of further development such international public policies within ITU.

In addition, taking into account the relevance of the issue of confidentiality and protection of personal data, it is proposed to organize open consultations on the topic "Confidentiality and protection of personal data in order to create a favorable environment for the development of Internet services". National regulation in this area should not become a barrier to the development of global, cross-border Internet space.

It is expected to exchange information and discuss the following issues:

- purposes, principles and general approaches for the protection of individuals in relation to the processing of personal data and their transfer;

- legislative and regulatory mechanisms adopted in different countries to protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data (such as the national laws on personal data, GDPR other similar laws) and the possibility of their harmonization at the international level;

- procedures for cross-border (international) transfer of personal data;

- vision of operators and Internet providers of regulation in the field of privacy and protection of personal data and measures for their practical implementation, proposals for its improvement, development and harmonization at the international level;

- international cooperation in the protection of personal data, the development of international policies for the protection of personal data and the harmonization of national regulation in order to create a favorable environment for the development of national and global Internet business.