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| **Council 2020 Geneva, 9-19 June 2020** |  |
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| **Agenda item: ADM 11** | **Document C20/39-E** |
| **7 May 2020** |
| **Original: English** |
| Report by the Secretary-General | |
| REQUESTS FOR EXEMPTION FROM ANY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO DEFRAYING EXPENSES RELATING TO PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF ITU | |

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| Summary  Requests for exemption from making financial contribution were submitted by nine organizations of a regional or international character. Under the guidelines, the Council shall take account of the views expressed by the Secretary-General as to the mutual advantages of their participation in the activities of the Union.  Action required  The Council is invited to **consider** these requests for admission as Sector Members, exempted from financial contribution, and to **approve** the recommendations from the Secretary-General.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  References  [*CV231*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/Convention-E.pdf)*,* [*Res. 110 (Marrakesh, 2002)*](http://www.itu.int/council/pd/basic-dec-res-rec.doc#res110)*,* [*Documents C2000/28 (Rev.1)*](http://www.itu.int/itudoc/gs/council/c00/docs/28rev1.html)*,* [*C2001/26*](http://www.itu.int/itudoc/gs/council/c01/docs/026.html)*,*  [*C02/94 (section 2)*](http://www.itu.int/md/S02-CL-C-0094/en)*,* [*C03/40 and Add.1*](http://www.itu.int/md/S03-CL-C-0040/en)*,* [*C03-ADD/3*](http://www.itu.int/md/S03-ADCL-C-0003/en)*,* [*C05/40*](http://www.itu.int/md/S05-CL-C-0040/en) |

## Background

1.1. The criteria and guidelines on granting exemption, subject to “reciprocity”, were adopted by the 2000 session of the Council (Document [C2000/28(Rev.1)](http://www.itu.int/itudoc/gs/council/c00/docs/28rev1.html)). These criteria were reviewed and revised by Council in 2017. The criteria are available [here](https://www.itu.int/en/membership/Pages/exemption-criteria.aspx).

1.2. Exemption from fees is granted by the Council following an analysis by the relevant Bureaux and a recommendation by the Secretary-General. The main criteria include that the entity must be a legally recognized, non-profit, regional, or international organization dealing with telecommunications/ICTs, having non-profit member and activities in multiple countries, and offering reciprocal benefits to ITU. If approved, they become Sector Members or Associates under the terms of No. 231 of the Convention. Currently, there are 122 exempted regional and international organizations.

**Recommendations**

2. The following requests were received and are submitted for consideration of the Council:

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| Organization | Sector | Complies with criteria | SG Recommendation |
| **African Network Information Centre Ltd.** | ITU-D | YES | YES |

AFRINIC is the regional internet registry for Africa, accredited by ICANN to assign internet number resources within the region. Founded in 2004, AFRINIC is a non-profit, multi-stakeholder membership based and community-oriented organization with over 1,600 members. Members include governments, educational institutions and end-users. AFRINIC is currently a paying member of ITU-D. The secretariat is of the view that AFRINIC meets the criteria for ITU-D exemption.

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| Organization | Sector | Complies with criteria | SG Recommendation |
| **American Registry for Internet Numbers** | ITU-T ITU-D | Further Study YES | Further Study YES |

ARIN is a regional internet registry covering Canada, the United States, and many Caribbean and North Atlantic islands. Founded in 1997, ARIN manages the registration of internet number resources within its service region. ARIN has a multi-stakeholder membership of over 20,000 entities. ARIN is currently a paying member ITU-T and ITU-D. The secretariat is of the view that ARIN meets the criteria for ITU-D exemption. For ITU-T exemption, the secretariat recommends deferral of this request to the following Council to allow for further study and consultation with ARIN.

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| Organization | Sector | Complies with criteria | SG Recommendation |
| **African Organization for Standardization (ARSO)** | ITU-T | YES | YES |

ARSO is an intergovernmental organization formed in 1977 by the African Union and UNECA with African countries through their national standards bodies as members. There are 39 member states from the region. ARSO seeks to harmonize standards across the region, initiate and coordinate new standards, facilitate the adoption of international standards by member bodies and coordinate the views of its members at international organizations. The secretariat is of the view that ARSO meets the criteria for ITU-T exemption.

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| Organization | Sector | Complies with criteria | SG Recommendation |
| **Gulf Cooperation Council Standardization Organization (GSO)** | ITU-T | YES | YES |

GSO is a legally recognized regional non-profit standardization organization established by the GCC Supreme Council in 2001, with membership of the GCC states. GSO’s mandate is to unify the various standardization activities and follow up on their implementation in cooperation with standardization bodies in member states to help develop the production and service sectors, foster trade, protect consumers, environment and public health, and enhance competitiveness of the GCC economies. The secretariat is of the view that GSO meets the criteria for ITU-T exemption.

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| Organization | Sector | Complies with criteria | SG Recommendation |
| **International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO)** | ITU-T ITU-D | YES YES | YES YES |

IMSO is an intergovernmental organization founded in 1999, whose primary purpose is the oversight of certain public satellite safety and security communication services provided by mobile satellite communication systems. IMSO also acts as the international coordinator, appointed by IMO to ensure the operation of the international system for the Long-Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT) worldwide by auditing and reviewing the performance of the system. IMSO is already an exempted member of ITU-R. The secretariat is of the view that IMSO meets the criteria for ITU-T and ITU-D exemption.

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| Organization | Sector | Complies with criteria | SG Recommendation |
| **ITU-APT Foundation of India** | ITU-R | YES | YES |

ITU-APT Foundation of India is a registered non-profit and non-political association founded in 2000. The Foundation has worked to encourage involvement of professionals, corporate, industry, R&D organizations, academia and other agencies to participate in the work of ITU and APT. They have both organizational and individual members in multiple developed and developing countries. The ITU-APT Foundation of India is already an exempted member of ITU-T and ITU-D. The secretariat is of the view that ITU-APT Foundation of India meets the criteria for ITU-R exemption.

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| Organization | Sector | Complies with criteria | SG Recommendation |
| **Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)** | ITU-R | YES | YES |

OGC is an international not-for-profit organization established in 1994 to advance the development and use of international standards and supporting services that promote geospatial interoperability. To accomplish this mission, OGC serves as a global forum for the collaboration of geospatial data/solutions providers and users. OGC already has fee exemption for ITU-T and ITU-D. The secretariat is of the view that OGC meets the criteria for ITU-R exemption.

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| Organization | Sector | Complies with criteria | SG Recommendation |
| **Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC)** | ITU-T | Further Study | Further Study |

APNIC is a multi-stakeholder member-based, not-for-profit organization, whose primary role is to distribute and manage Internet number resources in 56 economies of the Asia Pacific region. APNIC has more than 7,500 members, including governmental agencies and not-for-profit organizations who participate actively within the APNIC community. APNIC is committed to a global, open, stable and secure Internet. APNIC is a fee-paying member of ITU-D and has indicated its intention to continue that membership. The secretariat recommends deferral of this request to the following Council to allow for further study and consultation with APNIC.

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| Organization | Sector | Complies with criteria | SG Recommendation |
| **Latin America and Caribbean Internet Addresses Registry (LACNIC)** | ITU-T ITU-D | Further Study  YES | Further Study YES |

LACNIC is an international, non-governmental organization established in 2002. They have a multi-stakeholder membership of more than 10,000 entities. LACNIC distributes and administers internet numbering resources, provides reverse resolution services, maintains the WHOIS database and makes other resources available to entities in the region. The secretariat is of the view that LACNIC meets the criteria for ITU-D exemption. For ITU-T exemption, the secretariat recommends deferral of this request to the following Council to allow for further study and consultation with LACNIC.

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