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| **Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITRs) Fifth meeting – Virtual meeting, 30 September-1 October 2021** |  |
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| **China (People's Republic of)**  Recommendations of the Next Step of the Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITRs) | |

1. **Introduction**

Resolution 146 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) adopted by PP-18 resolves to conduct a comprehensive review of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) and instructs the Secretary-General to reconvene an EG-ITRs to review the ITRs. ITU Council Resolution 1379 (Modified 2019) identified the terms of reference (TOR) of the EG-ITRs.

In September 2019, EG-ITRs held its first meeting in Geneva. All parties agreed on the working methods and work plans for the review of ITRs and developed a template (known as "Examination Table") for reviewing the ITRs provision-by-provision in accordance with the TOR of the EG-ITRs and the "Work Plan" approved by all parties.

In accordance with the Work Plan, the EG-ITRs held their second, third and fourth meetings from February 2020 to February 2021. During this period, the EG-ITRs successfully completed the provision-by-provision examination of the 2012 edition of the ITRs.

1. **Recommendations for the Next Step**

In accordance with Resolution 1379 (Modified 2019) and the approved Work Plan, the EG-ITRs will discuss the overall observations of members on the 2012 edition of the ITRs based on the provision-by-provision exanimation conducted during the first four meetings and complete the report of the EG-ITRs to be summitted to Council 2022 .Based on the TOR of EG-ITRs and the consensus reached at the previous four meetings, China would like to put forward the following recommendations for the next step of the EG-ITRs:

1. It is proposed that the outcome of the review of the first four EG-ITRS meetings be fully recognized and utilized. The EG-ITRs has completed the provision-by-provision review of the 2012 edition of the ITRs and has formed the opinions on each provision in terms of “applicability in fostering provision and development of networks and services” and “flexibility to accommodate new trends and emergent issues”. The Summary Outcome, which was filled as agreed by members, is the fundamental basis for all parties to discuss their overall observations on the 2012 edition of the ITRs and an important foundation for the EG-ITRS to carry out the next-step work.

2. Respect the patterns of technological development and promote the development of rules in parallel. ITU Council Resolution 1379 (Modified 2019) states the need to take into account new trends in telecommunications/ICT and emerging issues in international telecommunications/ICT environment. It is proposed that the parties look at the review of ITRs in a spirit of seeking truth from facts and from the perspective to promoting the development of the international telecommunications/ICTs to, fully understand new trends in telecommunications/ICT and emerging issues that have occurred or may occur as a result, conduct accurate analysis on the applicability of ITRs in fostering provision and development of networks and services, and the flexibility of ITRs to accommodate new trends and emergent issues, to make objective and reasonable judgments.

3. Identify specific differences and put forward effective solutions. New trends and emerging issues in international telecommunication /ICT need to be addressed and resolved through international rules agreed by the international community. Legal rules always fall behind, which is determined by their own nature, and need to be constantly improved with the changes of their regulated objects and adjusted legal relationship. The same is true to the ITRs. In light of the examinations conducted so far, there were basically three views on the vast majority of the provisions: some members were of the view that there was no need to change the provision for it was applicable and flexible; some members expressed the view that the provision was not necessary as it was no longer applicable or flexible; other members suggested that the provision needed to be updated to reflect changes in the provision of telecommunications /ICT services to end users. We therefore propose that, based on the Examination Table, especially the Summary Outcome, the parties put forward their specific options on whether and how to amend the relevant provisions of the ITRs, which should be included in the overall observations on the 2012 edition of the ITRs and the report of the EG-ITRs to be submitted to Council 2022.

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