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|  | **Document EG-ITRs-5/8** |
| **28 August 2025** |
| **English only** |
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| Contribution by Egypt (Arab Republic of) |
| POSSIBLE WAYS FORWARD ON THE ITRS |
| **Purpose**To acknowledge the work of the Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations, highlight the ongoing lack of consensus on the future of the ITRs, and discuss the possible ways forward.**Action required**The Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations is invited to **consider** this document.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**References** *EG-ITRs 4th meeting report* |

**Summary of the proposal for the meeting report:**

In line with Annex 2 of the fourth meeting report, the possible ways forward on the ITRs, include:

“ a) suspend discussions on the ITRs until such time as there is consensus on how to proceed

b) convene another EG-ITRs in order to attempt to find a consensus on how to proceed

c) convene a WCIT, and its preparatory process, in order to revise the ITRs

d) convene a mini-WCIT back-to-back with the WTSA, to abrogate the substance of the ITRs, or, if possible, to abrogate the ITRs entirely.”

Egypt proposes that the 2026 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference should discuss these possible ways forward, and determine which way is most suitable for the ITRs.

**Proposal:**

Egypt wishes to express its appreciation for the efforts undertaken within the Expert Group on the ITRs (EG-ITRs) over the past study period.

We commend the efforts made to engage members and bridge differing perspectives with a view to achieving consensus. We also recognize the contributions and active participation of members who engaged under the agreed Terms of Reference.

Egypt has been a strong supporter of the ITRs since the beginning of the review process of the 1988 version. We participated in all Expert Groups, the Council Working Group on WCIT-12, and WCIT itself. During all of our interventions and written contributions we highlighted the importance of the ITRs, and the importance of having one single version of the treaty.

As reflected in the discussions held during the group’s meetings, particularly on topics such as the impact of new trends in telecommunications, the empirical data regarding current use, and the broader relevance of the ITRs, still divergent views remain. While some members continue to support the ITRs as a relevant treaty instrument, others have indicated that they no longer consider the ITRs necessary or applicable.

Despite multiple rounds of discussions and thoughtful contributions addressing various elements within the Terms of Reference, consensus has not been reached.

In this context, and considering the current impasse, Egypt believes it is time for the ITU Council to consider a different path forward. It may be appropriate to explore the necessary steps that would allow the Union to address the status of the ITRs in a manner that preserves ITU's institutional integrity.

Therefore, and in line with Annex 2 of the fourth meeting report, the possible ways forward on the ITRs, include:

“ a) suspend discussions on the ITRs until such time as there is consensus on how to proceed

b) convene another EG-ITRs in order to attempt to find a consensus on how to proceed

c) convene a WCIT, and its preparatory process, in order to revise the ITRs

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