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|  | **Revision 1 toDocument EG-ITRs-5/10** |
| **15 September 2025** |
| **English only** |
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| Chair, EG-ITRs |
| REPORT OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE EXPERT GROUP ON THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION REGULATIONS, 2023-2026 (EG-ITRs) |

# 1 Introduction

**1.1** The fifth meeting of theEG-ITRs (2023-2026) was held on 11-12 September 2025.

**1.2** On behalf of the Secretary-General, Ms Doreen Bogdan-Martin, the TSB Director, Mr Seizo Onoe, welcomed the participants to the fifth meeting of EG-ITRs (2023-2026). He commended the members on the progress made over the past four meetings, and for their support and commitment to the work of the Group. He urged them to continue working together collaboratively over the remaining meetings of the Group on the final report before Council 2026.

**1.3** The Chair thanked the Director for his presence and support for the meeting, and stressed the importance of constructively considering the proposals presented to the Group and using this meeting productively and efficiently to review the Draft Final Report of the Group to Council 2026.

# 2 Adoption of the Agenda and allocation of documents

2.1 The Agenda ([EG-ITRs-5/1(Rev. 1)](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-EGITRS5-C-0001/en)) was presented by the Chair.

2.2 Some members suggested moving Contribution 5 under Agenda Item 5 stating that the proposals relate to the discussions on the Draft Final Report, but the contributors requested to retain it under Agenda Item 3.

2.3 The meeting agreed to discuss Contribution 9 first under Agenda Item 3 as requested by the contributors.

2.4 The Agenda was adopted.

# 3 Introduction/Discussion of general contributions from Member States and Sector Members

The EG-ITRs examined the various contributions (in the order listed in the agenda), which were noted by the Group. The summaries of the contributions (as submitted by the authors of the documents) along with the corresponding discussions are provided below.

## RCC Member States Contribution [EG-ITRs-5/9](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-EGITRS5-C-0009/en), RCC Executive Committee, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan

### 3.1.1 Summary of contribution

### This contribution provides the EG-ITRs with empirical data on the current use of the ITRs by operating agencies (telecommunication operators) and/or administrations in RCC/CIS Member States and the proportion of global telecommunication services which now rely on the ITRs to include in the EG-ITRs final report and to Council 2026 and provide this information for examination and submission to the 2026 Plenipotentiary Conference with the Council's comments.

### Discussion

(a) Some members expressed support for the proposal stating that, as the Terms of Reference mandate the Group to consider empirical data on the current use of the ITRs, it is important to reflect the empirical data that has been shared by members with the Group over its two year term, including in this contribution, demonstrating the current use of the ITRs by some operators and administrations, in the Final Report - particularly in Section 3.6 (b) as well as through annexes.

(b) Some members were of the view that, while the provision of empirical data is essential to this discussion, the Final Report must also take into account that several members have submitted data and contributions that demonstrate that the ITRs are not being used by operators or administrations in their regions, and that no obstacles are presented by the concurrent existence of two versions of the treaty for the electronic communication industry.

## 3.2 Contribution [EG-ITRs-5/5](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-EGITRS5-C-0005/en), Russian Federation

### 3.2.1 Summary

### This contribution proposes the addition of the following into future ITRs: Artificial intelligence, non-geostationary satellite constellations, public telephone and OTT applications and services, Telecommunication/ICT security, Non-discriminatory access to international telecommunications/ICT services.

### Discussion

(a) Some members expressed support for this proposal, stating that the ITRs remain an essential legal instrument for facilitating global interconnection, interoperability, and the efficient, reliable, and secure provision of international telecommunications services. They believe the treaty and regulations should evolve to reflect new and emerging technologies—such as AI, GSOs, and OTTs—while safeguarding national sovereignty, protecting consumers, and fostering trust and resilience in the global ICT environment. For these members, it is important that the report explicitly reflects these discussions, either through revisions to section 3.6 or by including the contribution as an annex. They note that treaties can be periodically revised, and that capturing these issues in the report aligns with the group’s mandate to consider trends that could impact the ITRs.

(b) Some members are of the view that while new and emerging technologies are important topics, there is a broader ongoing debate in the international arena on ways to address their application and impact on the global digital economy, rather than through revisions to the ITRs, whose remit is specific to international telecommunication/ICT services. They caution against conflating discussion of such trends with calls to revise or update the treaty, which are also matters that are beyond the Group’s current Terms of Reference. In their view, a static treaty may not be the best mechanism for addressing dynamic issues related to new and emerging technologies. These members support reflecting the diversity of views and linking all the contributions in the Final Report. Some members stated that the ITRs need not be static: they could be revised regularly, as are the Radio Regulations.

# 4 Presentation/Discussion of Draft Final Report

 The Chair presented Document 2 to the Group, the Draft Final Report prepared by the Chair with the support of the Vice Chairs, for consideration and review.

# 5 Introduction/Discussion of contributions from Member States and Sector Members on the Final Report

The EG-ITRs examined the various contributions (in the order listed in the agenda), which were noted by the Group. The summaries of the contributions (as submitted by the authors of the documents) are provided below.

## 5.1 Contribution [EG-ITRs-5/3](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-EGITRS4-C-0003/en), Hill

### 5.1.1 Summary

### This contribution proposes some revisions to the Chair’s draft for the final Report to Council of the EG-ITRs, based on the outline agreed at the previous meeting, on the contributions submitted to previous meetings of the EG-ITRs, on the discussions summarized in the reports of the previous meetings of the EG‑ITRs, and on the final report of the previous EG-ITRs.

## 5.2 Multi-country Contribution [EG-ITRs-5/4](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-EGITRS4-C-0004/en), Russian Federation, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan

### 5.2.1 Summary

### The contributors propose to add some provisions that were not included in the current version of the report, including provisions on providing the ability to verify users of telecommunication/ICT services and applications, non-discriminatory access to telecommunication/ICT services and applications, and non-geostationary satellite constellations/communication systems.

## 5.3 Multi-country Contribution [EG-ITRs-5/6](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-EGITRS5-C-0006/en), Bulgaria, Czech Republic, United Kingdom

### 5.3.1 Summary

The contributors provide proposed revisions to the draft final Report of the EG-ITRs to ITU Council 2026.

## 5.4 Contribution [EG-ITRs-5/7](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-EGITRS5-C-0007/en), United States

### 5.4.1 Summary

This contribution provides comments and revisions to the draft final Report of the EG-ITRs to ITU Council 2026, with the aim of ensuring that the text remains factual and concise and accurately reflects the continued lack of consensus that has characterized the work of the Group.

**5.5 Contribution** [**EG-ITRs-5/8**](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-EGITRS5-C-0008/en)**, Egypt**

**5.5.1 Summary**

Egypt proposes a couple of recommendations to be considered by the Council inclusive of: suspending discussions on the ITRs until such time as there is consensus on how to proceed; convening another EG-ITRs in order to attempt to find a consensus on how to proceed; convening a WCIT, and its preparatory process, in order to revise the ITRs and, convening a mini-WCIT back-to-back with the WTSA, to abrogate the substance of the ITRs, or, if possible, to abrogate the ITRs entirely.

**5.6 Discussion on the Draft Final Report and related Contributions**

**5.6.1** The views on the Draft Final Report, as reflected in the Contributions as well as those exchanged during the deliberations of the Group, have been captured in [Document DL 1](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-EGITRS5-250911-DL-0001/en).

**5.6.2** The meeting also agreed that members are welcome to submit individual statements to the Group, reflecting on their views on the matters contained in the Terms of Reference as well as on the potential way forward for the ITRs, and these will be added as Annexes to the Final Report in alphabetical order.

# 6 Discussion on Next steps

**6.1** **Final Report**

**6.1.2** The meeting continued its work on the Draft Final Report for submission to Council 2026, for onward submission to the 2026 Plenipotentiary Conference with the Council's comments. The meeting agreed to hold a sixth meeting and invited contributions to that meeting, bearing in mind the intent to retain existing agreed text as far as possible. It was agreed that the management team would complete the missing sections of the Draft Final Report (section 2.5), which will be published one month before the sixth meeting.

**6.2 Meeting Report**

**6.2.1** The Chair presented the draft report of the fifth meeting to the Group for approval. Members considered the meeting report and suggested modifications.

**6.2.2** The draft meeting report was agreed for publication by the Secretariat.

# 7 Any other business

# 8 Closing of the Meeting

In closing, the Chair thanked all the ITU Member States and Sector Members who made contributions and participated in the work of the Expert Group, the Vice-Chairs, and ITU Elected Officials, the Secretariat, the interpreters and the remote moderator for their efficient assistance during the meeting. The meeting thanked the Chair, the Vice Chairs, the Secretariat, the interpreters and the remote moderator for their efficient support.

 Shahira Selim (Egypt)
 Chair

*Annex: 1*

Annex

Statement by Canada

Canada wants to thank the Chair and the Secretariat for the hard work, diligence, patience, and kindness in conducting the proceeding of this Working Group.

It will not come as a surprise if we take this opportunity to reiterate our long-standing views on the ITRs, dating back 13 years at the 2012 World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT-12).

Canada strongly believed then and continues to believe now, after 13 years and multiple meetings of the EG-ITRs, that the successful deployment and use of telecommunication services and applications worldwide, as reflected and evidenced in several international telecommunication reports and publications, including those of the ITU, has not been the result of the ITRs.

What has been and will continue to be a successful path for the deployment, adoption and use of telecommunications and ICTs in a rapidly evolving telecommunications sector, is the creation and enhancement of regulatory environments that promote competition, investment, transparency, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Canada also believes that public-private partnerships (PPPs) have proven to be remarkably effective in the design and successful implementation of national and regional telecommunication and ICT development strategies.

Canada looks forward to continuing working with all ITU membership and stakeholders to ensure that the focus of our collective work and the effective and efficient use of our human and financial resources remain on closing the digital divides to connect the unconnected and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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