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**Contribution by the People’s Republic of China**

Optimization of ITU’s high-level events of a global nature

 Attached is a document on the optimization of ITU’s high-level events of a global nature which was submitted to the Council session in 2017.

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| Note by the Secretary-General |
| CONTRIBUTION FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA |
| OPTIMIZATION OF ITU'S HIGH-LEVEL EVENTS OF A GLOBAL NATURE |

I have the honour to transmit to the Member States of the Council a contribution submitted by **the People's Republic of China**.

 Houlin ZHAO
 Secretary-General

China (People's Republic of)

Optimization of ITU's High-level Events of a Global Nature

# 1 Background

As the specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for Information and Communication Technology (ICT), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) organizes and hosts each year quite a number of high-level events of a global nature, including ITU Telecom, Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium, WSIS Forum and ITU Kaleidoscope Academic Conference, etc.

The yearly high-level events hosted by ITU provide excellent opportunities for its Member States to enhance exchanges and interaction by exploring together the hot issues in the ICT sector and sharing the related best practices. These events also serve as important platforms for ITU to fulfil its mandate and increase its visibility among the public. Notwithstanding the above, we believe that there is room for improvement in terms of the arrangement and scheduling of these high-level events so that assiduous efforts made by ITU at the moment in reducing expenditure and increasing efficiency will bear abundant fruits:

a) The aforesaid high-level events have been institutionalized, since the majority of them are held on a yearly basis. On the whole, the yearly high-level events organized by ITU are quite numerous and their dates and venues are "scattered".

b) Generally speaking, participants in the high-level events are high-level representatives from Member States' ICT administrations, the industry and the academic circles. However, due to various constraints, high-level representatives, including senior officials or leaders, from Member States are not able to attend frequently the high-level meetings of ITU, which is not advantageous for the effect and the impact of the events.

c) Excessive institutionalized events taking place every year is not conducive to ITU's efficiency measures aimed at saving human, financial and other resources.

d) Topics of some of the high-level events are correlated, and therefore to hold these events back-to-back will not only help augment efficiency, but also will be in the interest of strengthening exchanges amongst members, and expanding participation and the impact of the events.

# 2 Proposal

To enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the ITU's high-level events and the participation of Member States in them, we would like to propose that all current high-level events of the Union be reflected upon and systemized by the General Secretariat so that the latter will come up with an optimized events arrangement and scheduling option which is to be submitted to the next Council meeting for consideration.

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