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| **Agenda item: PL 1.3** | **Document C19/71-E** |
| **27 May 2019** |
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| Note by the Secretary-General |
| contribution from the russian federation |
| PROPOSALS FOR THE REVISION AND MERGING OF rESOLUTION 1336 AND RESOLUTION 1344 |

I have the honour to transmit to the Member States of the Council the attached contribution submitted by the **Russian Federation.**

 Houlin ZHAO
 Secretary-General

Contribution of the Russian Federation

PROPOSALS FOR THE REVISION AND MERGING OF RESOLUTION 1336 AND RESOLUTION 1344

# 1 Introduction

1.1 The Russian Federation ascribes great importance to improving the strategy and mechanisms for creating and managing the Council working groups (CWGs) dealing with the most relevant areas of ITU activity and drawing up proposals for the Council on ways of improving the efficiency of the Union’s activities in those areas in periods between ITU plenipotentiary conferences, in particular the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet).

1.2 CWG-Internet is required to identify, study and develop matters related to international Internet-related public policy issues. The operational procedures for CWG-Internet activities are set forth in ITU Council resolutions:

• Resolution 1336 on the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet);

• Resolution 1344 on the modality of open consultation for the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet).

There are two resolutions setting forth procedures for CWG-Internet activities because the decision concerning the holding of open online and physical consultations was taken later by the Council.

1.3 In practice, the two resolutions follow very similar logic and cover different aspects of CWG-Internet activities. In line with efforts to reduce the number of resolutions, it would appropriate to merge these two documents.

1.4 In Resolution 102 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), the Plenipotentiary Conference noted the importance of the CWG-Internet activities, resolved to continue the CWG-Internet activities and issued specific instructions directly to the working group and Council, including on the revision of Resolution 1344, as well as to the Directors of the Bureaux of the Sectors to contribute to CWG‑Internet concerning the activities undertaken by their respective Sectors which are relevant to the work of the group.

1.5 In addition, the revised resolution should take account of experience already gained in the holding of open consultations in order to provide all stakeholders, in particular those taking part in open consultations for the first time, with procedures and approaches for their organization and to ensure the effective participation of all interested parties.

# 2 Proposal

The proposed draft revised resolution reflects the experience gained by CWG-Internet in its work since the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference and contains a number of changes and clarifications, taking into account the group’s operational activities and the decisions of the 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference, as well as the views of a number of ITU Member States expressed at CWG-Internet meetings.

2.1 It is proposed that Resolutions 1336 and 1344, relating to the activities of CWG-Internet, be revised by merging them.

2.2 In order to ensure the more effective participation of Member States and all stakeholders in open consultations, it is proposed that provisions be added to the revised resolution which clarify the procedure for the holding of open consultations on the basis of proposals from ITU Member States.

2.3 An initial draft text of the modified resolution on the work of CWG-Internet is presented below.

RESOLUTION (modified 2019)

(adopted at the Plenary Meeting)

Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet)

The Council,

recognizing

a) Resolution 102 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) on ITU’s role with regard to international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses;

b) Council Resolution 1305 (2009) on the role of the Dedicated Group in identifying Internet-related public policy issues;

c) Council Resolution 1344 (Mod. 2015) on the modality of open consultation for the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues,

further recognizing

a) that § 35 of the Tunis Agenda reaffirms that the management of the Internet encompasses both technical and public policy issues and should involve all stakeholders and relevant intergovernmental and international organizations. In this respect it is recognized that:

i) Policy authority for Internet-related public policy issues is the sovereign right of States. They have rights and responsibilities for international Internet-related public policy issues.

ii) The private sector has had, and should continue to have, an important role in the development of the Internet, both in the technical and economic fields.

iii) Civil society has also played an important role on Internet matters, especially at community level, and should continue to play such a role.

iv) Intergovernmental organizations have had, and should continue to have, a facilitating role in the coordination of Internet-related public policy issues.

v) International organizations have also had and should continue to have an important role in the development of Internet-related technical standards and relevant policies.

b) that § 68 of the Tunis Agenda recognizes that all governments should have an equal role and responsibility for international Internet governance and for ensuring the stability, security and continuity of the Internet. It also recognizes the need for development of public policy by governments in consultation with all stakeholders;

c) that § 36 of the Tunis Agenda recognizes the valuable contribution by the academic and technical communities within those stakeholder groups mentioned in § 35 to the evolution, functioning and development of the Internet;

d) that § 56 of UNGA Resolution 70/125, on the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit of the Information Society (WSIS), recognizes that there are many cross-cutting international public policy issues that require attention and have not been adequately addressed;

e) that in Resolution 102 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) the Plenipotentiary Conference resolved to continue the CWG-Internet activities as listed in the relevant Council resolutions;

f) that the goal and intent of open consultations with stakeholders is to bring in unique perspectives that various stakeholder groups may have on aspects of certain topics, bearing in mind the sovereign right of States on public policy issues,

resolves

1 to continue the work of the Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues (CWG-Internet), limited to Member States, with open consultation to all stakeholders and in accordance with the terms of reference as described in the Annex;

2 CWG-Internet will decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for open consultation according to the following guidelines:

• CWG-Internet will decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for open consultation, drawing primarily from Council Resolution 1305;

• CWG-Internet should generally hold both open online consultation and physical open consultation meetings, with remote participation, within a reasonable period, prior to each CWG-Internet meeting;

• Relevant inputs received from stakeholders will be submitted to CWG-Internet for consideration of the issues chosen for its next meeting;

3 CWG-Internet will hold online consultations for all stakeholders on issues decided by CWGInternet. Topics for consultations are decided at a meeting of CWG-Internet on the basis of Member States’ proposals. Each member of the group may, however, only propose one topic for consultations immediately following the CWG-Internet meeting. The consultations should be launched no later than 15 days after the end of the CWG-Internet meeting in which the topic(s) for consultation are decided. The deadline for responses should be 30 days before the physical open consultation meeting. The Secretariat shall publish a consolidated report of consultation responses no later than 15 days before the physical open consultation meeting;

4 all relevant inputs received in the open consultation will be available to CWG-Internet and all other stakeholders on a dedicated publicly accessible webpage of the CWG-Internet website; in this regard:

• all stakeholders can submit their responses to a reflector set up by the ITU Secretariat;

• an email address will be provided to send responses to the ITU Secretariat;

• all relevant responses received from stakeholders as well as a compiled version will be submitted for consideration at the next meeting of CWG-Internet;

5a physical open consultation meeting, with remote participation taking into account that webcasting and captioning are also especially relevant to support the participation to persons with disabilities, should be conducted within three days prior to the CWG-Internet meeting, preferably at the beginning of the week;

6 in addition, CWG-Internet may decide to conduct another physical open consultation organized by the ITU, as appropriate, at relevant multistakeholder forums/events such as the annual WSIS Forum among others consistent with the rules and procedures of these forums/events, in order to facilitate the greater participation of stakeholders in the physical consultation process;

7 input from the open online consultation on the topic(s) decided by the CWG-Internet will form the basis of discussion at the physical open consultation meetings,

instructs the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux

1. to pursue the activities specified in *instructs the Secretary-General* and *instructs Directors of the Bureaux* (including specific instructions to the Directors of BDT and TSB) of Resolution 102 (Rev. Dubai, 2018);

2. to update the existing web repository of experiences and best practices in international Internet-related public policy issues,

invites Member States

to elaborate their respective position on each of the international Internet-related public policy issues addressed by the Council Working Group and to contribute actively to the work of the Group.

**ANNEX**

**Council Working Group on international Internet-related public policy issues**

**Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference for the Council Working Group are to:

1 identify, study and develop matters related to international Internet-related public policy issues, and including those issues identified in Council Resolution 1305 (2009);

2 work in accordance with decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 stipulated in Resolution 102 (Rev. Dubai, 2018);

3 disseminate its outputs throughout ITU’s membership and the ITU secretariat and to all relevant international organizations and stakeholders actively involved in such matters for their consideration in their policy making processes;

4 consider and discuss the activities of the Secretary-General and the Directors of the Bureaux in relation to implementation of Resolution 102 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), and to prepare inputs into these ITU activities, as appropriate;

5 continue to identify, study and develop matters on international Internet-related public policy issues, taking into account relevant ITU resolutions;

6 consider and discuss the report prepared by the Secretary-General for the Council related to Internet activities of the Union and provide comments if necessary;

7 decide on the international Internet-related public policy issues for open consultations in accordance with Council Resolution 1344 (Rev. 2015);

8 organize and conduct open online and physical consultations with all stakeholders on the international public policy issues in accordance with Council Resolution 1344 (Rev. 2015); Physical consultation meetings should, to the maximum extent possible, provide remote participation, webcasting and captioning facilities (including transcript captioning) so as to support the participation of persons with disabilities;

9 relevant inputs received from stakeholders will be submitted to CWG-Internet for consideration of the issues chosen for its next meeting;

10 discuss the outcomes of open consultations and present proposals and recommendations to the Council, as necessary;

11 encourage all stakeholders to submit their national and international experiences and best practices on Internet-related public policy issues in order to enrich the existing repository for the benefit of all Member States;

12 provide an annual report to the Council on CWG-Internet activities.

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