|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues Fourteenth meeting – Geneva, 5-6 February 2020** |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  | **Document CWG-Internet-14/5-E** |
| **21 January 2020** |
| **English and Russian only** |

Russian Federation

International internet-related public policy issues on harnessing new and emerging telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development

1. **Introduction**

Today, the development of new and emerging telecommunications/ICTs based on the Internet is important, both for humanityas a whole and for an individual state. “Now technologies are being came up will change the world, the nature of the economy, the lifestyle of millions, if not billions of people” said the President of the Russian Federation V.V. Putin Thanks to new Internet services progress has been made in the development of scientific knowledge, education, medicine, economics and other areas. At the same time, the proper functioning of new and emerging technologies has become a vital function for any state, its population and economy.

Despite the challenges of new and emerging telecommunications/ICTs based on the Internet, there is no comprehensive international system for it governance, and aspects of the regulation are divided between different organizations and uncoordinated. However, the complexity of new and emerging telecommunications/ICTs regulation requires close international cooperation.

Given the scope of ITU's responsibility and the competence of specialists, it makes sense to consider sectoral legal challenges in this international organization both in the current regulation and recommendation for future governance. ITU Member States and other stakeholders need to consider this issue and exchange best practices in order to prepare relevant methodological materials, manuals and, if necessary, recommendations and/or other CWG-Internet output documents.

1. **Discussions**

The world community needs immediate, coordinated and effective actions aimed at creating an effective integrated model for managing and regulating new and emerging telecommunications/ICTs. At the same time, the interests of all stakeholders should be represented on an equal basis, not just some groups. However, it is necessary to clearly define the roles of stakeholders in this process, including states. After all, the states, that are the subjects of international law, act as the guarantor of the citizens’ rights and freedoms, play a major role in matters of economy, security and stability of the Internet infrastructure, and take measures to prevent, detect and suppress illegal actions in the global network.

For the successful, reliable and safe use of new technologies, international regulation and rules in the field of new and emerging technologies telecommunications/ICTs and Internet governance and are required. Speaking about the legal regulation of such technologies, it is necessary to take into account the main problem, which is that regulation is constantly trying to catch up with innovation, and to some extent it regulates the technologies of the past, and the accepted standards become outdated in a fairly short time after they entry into force. That is why experts representing stakeholders within the framework of the CWG-Internet should understand how the current legislation takes into account the possibility of the existence of such services and technologies and can be used to organize relationships of its use. At the same time, it is necessary to determine which key aspects of innovative services and new and emerging technologies are subject to regulation in order to avoid excessive regulatory regulation of details that are changing rapidly in the context of explosive growth of innovations in the field of ICT and the Internet. In addition, we advocate that the potential risks and needs of users - private and business users, as well as public interests should be taken into account when developing new and emerging technologies, which are only possible if key aspects of such technologies, that affect public interests, are identified.

It’s also necessary to note the negative effect on the development of new and emerging technologies telecommunications/ICTs from the uncoordinated national legislative initiatives. At the same time, some of them are extraterritorial and affect the entire ecosystem of the Internet. This is a dangerous tendency to substitute international regulation and harmonized national legislation with uncoordinated national regulatory initiatives. Firstly, there is a risk of creating barriers to the development of new technologies and the fragmentation of the Internet. Secondly, sooner or later the world community will come to understand the need for international regulation of new and emerging technologies telecommunications/ICTs and then it will be necessary to change the national regulation that have already taken shape in different countries. That is why, in recent years, the Russian Federation has consistently expressed concern about the risk of fragmentation of the Internet ecosystem (infrastructure and services), speaking up with initiatives to prevent it in various international organizations.

1. **Proposals**

Russian Administration would like to support the activity conducted by ITU-T on various aspects related to new and emerging technologies telecommunications/ICTs, as well as the work carried out at ITU-D to assist developing countries in these areas.

We propose to organize a discussion of issues related to aspects of regulation at the international level in the field of development and use of new and emerging technologies telecommunications/ICTs driven by CWG-Internet:

1. to organize a wide discussion in the CWG-Internet with the participation of Member States and all interested parties and identify innovative key new and emerging technologies and potential challenges that they may arise, in order to develop international regulation of the fundamental aspects and features of such technologies, avoiding excessive detailing;
2. to develop proposals/recommendations to the ITU Council on the role of states in ensuring the regulation of such technologies at the international level;
3. to invite states to share legislative practices in the field of new and emerging technologies telecommunications/ICTs;
4. to discuss the need and feasibility studies on legal issues: liability, privacy, information security, etc. in relation to new and emerging technologies telecommunications/ICTs and develop proposals to the ITU Council;
5. to define the necessary and sufficient measures for the regulation of new and emerging technologies telecommunications/ICTs and develop by CWG-Internet roadmap of international cooperation for development such regulations and prepare proposals for the ITU Council.