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| **Agenda item: PL 3** | **Document C23/66-E** |
| **23 June 2023** |
| **Original: English** |
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| Contribution from Australia, Canada and the United States of America | |
| DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE EXPERT GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION REGULATIONS (EG-ITRS) | |
| **Purpose**  Australia, Canada and the United States of America submit this contribution as a basis for discussion of the Terms of Reference of the Expert Group on the ITRs that will be established by Council following instructions from Resolution 146 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference.  **Action required by the Council**  The Council is invited **to discuss and adopt** Terms of Reference for the EG-ITRs.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  [Res 146](https://staging.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-146-E.pdf) (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference  Council [Res 1379](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0139/en) (to be abrogated) | |

DRAFT NEW Resolution [...]

Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITRs)

The ITU Council,

considering

*a)* Article 25 of the ITU Constitution, on World Conferences on International Telecommunications (WCIT);

*b)* No. 48 in Article 3 of the ITU Convention, on other conferences and assemblies;

*c)* Resolution 146 (Rev. Bucharest 2022) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on the Periodic review of the International Telecommunication Regulations,

recalling

*a)* that as instructed by PP 14 and PP 18 Council created and re-created an Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITRs);

*b)* that these EG-ITRs met over eight years and submitted final reports on the review of the ITRs to Council in 2014 and 2018, which in turn submitted said final reports to the 2018 and 2022 Plenipotentiary Conferences,

resolves

1 that an Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITRs), open to all Member States and Sector Members, be reconvened to conduct a review of the ITRs with the Terms of Reference in Annex 1 of this Resolution;

2 that the Group has a Chair and six Vice-Chairs, one from each ITU region, nominated by Council taking into account competency, qualifications while enhancing gender balance;

3 that the EG-ITRs shall prepare a progress report to the annual sessions of the Council in 2024 and 2025;

4 that the EG-ITRs shall prepare a final report to the 2026 session of the Council for its further submission to the 2026 Plenipotentiary Conference with the Council's comments;

5 that the General Rules of conferences, assemblies, and meetings of the Union and Rules of procedure of the Council related to working groups of the Council shall apply to the Group;

6 that to the maximum extent possible, provide interpretation in the six ITU official languages, remote participation, webcasting, captioning and transcription;

7 that all the output documents of meetings of the Group shall be made publicly available consistent with the ITU’s document access policy, and that all input documents shall be made publicly available subject to the decision of the submitter;

8 that the EG-ITRs should meet as part of the cluster of Council Working Group meetings in 2023, 2024 and 2025, and that a final physical meeting should be held prior to Council in 2026,

instructs the Secretary-General

to make necessary arrangements to implement this Resolution,

instructs the Directors of the Bureaux

1 each within their field of competence, with prior advice from the relevant advisory group, to contribute to the work of the Group, recognizing that the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector has most of the work relevant to the ITRs;

2 to consider providing fellowships, where resources are available, for developing and least developed countries according to the list established by the United Nations, in order to widen participation in the Group,

invites Member States and Sector Members

to participate in and contribute to the EG-ITRs on the review of the International Telecommunication Regulations.

**Annex:** 1

Annex

Terms of Reference of the Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (EG-ITRs)

1 On the basis of contributions submitted by Member States, Sector Members and inputs from the Directors of the Bureaux if necessary, the EG-ITRs shall undertake a comprehensive review of the ITRs.

2 The EG-ITRs shall undertake a provision-by-provision examination of the ITRs, focusing on the 2012 ITRs, taking into account the final reports submitted by previous EG-ITRs to PP 2018 and PP 2022.

3 The review should include, among others:

a) empirical data on the current use of the ITRs by operators a/o telecommunication administrations, including the applicability of the provisions of the ITRs in fostering the provision and development of international telecommunication/ICT services and networks;

b) flexibility of the provisions of the 2012 ITRs to accommodate new trends in telecommunications/ICT and emerging issues in international telecommunications/ICT environment;

4 The EG-ITRs will present a progress report to Council 2024 and Council 2025, and a final report to Council 2026 to be further submitted to the 2026 Plenipotentiary Conference with the Council’s comments.

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