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|  | **Document EG-ITRs-1/9** |
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| **English only** |
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| Contribution from South Africa (Republic of) |
| PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION REGULATION - DISCUSSION ON WORKING PLAN AND TERMS OF REFERENCE OF EG-ITRS, BASED ON PP RES. 146 (REV. DUBAI, 2022) AND COUNCIL RES. 1379 (MOD. 2023) |
| **Purpose**1. To implement the PP Resolution 146 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) and Council Resolution 1379 (Modified 2023).

**Introduction**1. In 2022, the Plenipotentiary Conference resolved to continue consideration of issues relating to the ITRs, including their review as well as reconvening an expert group (EG-ITR), open to the ITU member states and sector members, with terms of reference and working methods established by the ITU Council.
2. In a multi-country contribution[[1]](#footnote-1) at the Plenipotentiary Conference, which included South Africa, it was proposed that the EG-ITR should conduct an analysis of the current situation of the telecommunication environment regarding the new trends and the emerging technologies in order to identify high level principles applicable to members.
3. Resolution 1379 (Modified 2023) stipulates that:

“*Taking into consideration the work of the previous two Expert Groups, the review may consider, amongst others:*1. *new trends in telecommunications/ICT and emerging issues in international telecommunications/ICT environment which may impact the ITRs,*
2. *empirical data on the current use of the ITRs by the operating agencies and/or administrations and the proportion of global telecommunication services which now rely on ITRs, and*
3. *the relevance of the ITRs which “consist of high-level guiding principles” in the current telecommunication/ICT environment*.”

**Proposal**1. In developing and finalising the working plan, the Republic of South Africa believes that the working plan must provide for the following:
2. submission of information by member states and sector members relating to identified new trends and emerging issues in international telecommunications/ICT environment which may impact the ITRs. Member states and sector members to, where possible, motivate why they believe that the identified trends and emerging issues have an impact on the ITRs; and
3. submission of empirical data by member states and sector members on the current use of the ITRs by the operating agencies and/or administrations.

**Conclusion**1. The Republic of South Africa believes that if the working plan makes provision for the submission and analysis of information as contained in paragraph 5 above, then it should be easy to determine the extent of the relevance of certain provisions of the ITRs.
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1. Algeria (People's Democratic Republic of), Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of), Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire (Republic of), Egypt (Arab Republic of), United Arab Emirates, Ghana, Mauritius (Republic of), Nigeria (Federal Republic of), South Africa (Republic of), Tunisia, and Zimbabwe (Republic of) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)