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|  | **Document EG-ITRs-2/6** |
| **8 November 2023** |
| **English only** |
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| Contribution from Hill | |
| ROUTING OF INTERNATIONAL NUMBERS | |
| **Purpose**  To present information on the issues regarding the routing of international numbers.  **Action required**  The Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations is invited to **discuss** this document.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Reference**  *Council* [*Resolution 1379*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0121/en) *(Terms of Reference)*  [*EG-ITRs-1/2: Contribution from Hill: Overall considerations*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-EGITRS1-C-0002/en) | |

**Summary**

This contribution presents information on issues regarding the routing of international telephone numbers and submits that consideration should be given to adding provisions to the ITRs to ensure routing of such numbers, and this in order to ensure the relevance of the ITRs which “consist of high-level guiding principles” in the current telecommunication/ICT environment.

**Background**

1. Pursuant to its Terms of Reference, the EG-ITRs may consider, among others, the relevance of the ITRs which “consist of high-level guiding principles” in the current telecommunication/ICT environment.

2. At the 4-13 July 2018 of ITU-T Study Group 2, two operators presented contribution [SG2-C98](https://www.itu.int/md/T17-SG02-C-0098/en). The contribution notes that a large number of transit networks (“carriers”) would route all E.164 country codes including ranges under non geographic country codes. However, contrary to ranges under geographic country codes, those under country codes 882 and 883 in particular may not be opened in “access” networks such as the PSTN or mobile networks so that emergency services cannot call back the mobile device. This is undesirable because those ranges may be used for eCall services[[1]](#footnote-1). eCall is a system used in vehicles across the European Union which automatically makes a free 112 emergency call if a vehicle is involved in a serious road accident.

3. The cited contribution called for publication of a note in the Operational Bulletin whose operational part stated: “Given the criticality of the [eCall] service, we therefore call for these [specific 882 and 883] numbers to be opened and routed on public networks and in particular those in Europe. We also thank the member states in their assistance to make sure these numbers are reachable by the networks in their country.”

4. We submit that, in order to facilitate the innovative use of E.164 numbering resources in the current telecommunication/ICT environment, consideration should be given to adding a new high-level guiding principle on routing of E.164 numbering resources.

5. A specific proposal can be found in no. 6 of Addendum 3 to our contribution [EG-ITRs-1/2](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-EGITRS1-C-0002/en), namely that consideration be given to adding a provision along the following lines to Article 3 of the ITRs:

a) Member States shall ensure, through national regulation, that all international numbering resources assigned and published by ITU can be dialled and are routed in their jurisdictions.

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1. <https://europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/travel/security-and-emergencies/emergency-assistance-vehicles-ecall/index_en.htm> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)