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| Title: ITU logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2022-2024 | | | TSAG-TD134 |
| TSAG |
| **Original: English** |
| **Question(s):** | | N/A | | Geneva, 12-16 December 2022 |
| **TD (Ref.:** [SG2-LS30](http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/ls/sp17-sg2-oLS-00030.docx)**)** | | | | |
| **Source:** | | ITU-T Study Group 2 | | |
| **Title:** | | LS/i on issues arising from discussions on re-numbering of Kazakhstan's E.164 country code [from ITU-T SG2] | | |
| **LIAISON STATEMENT** | | | | |
| **For action to:** | | | - | |
| **For information to:** | | | TSAG | |
| **Approval:** | | | ITU-T Study Group 2 management (6 December 2022, by correspondence) | |
| **Deadline:** | | | N/A | |
| **Contact:** | | | Phil Rushton UK | Tel: +44 1206 729738 E-mail: [philrushton@rcc-uk.uk](mailto:philrushton@rcc-uk.uk) |

A new liaison statement has been received from SG2.

This liaison statement follows and the original file can be downloaded from the ITU ftp server at <http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/ls/sp17-sg2-oLS-00030.docx>.

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|  | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION  **TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**  STUDY PERIOD 2022-2024 | | | | **SG2-LS30** |
| **STUDY GROUP 2** |
| **Original: English** |
| **Question(s):** | | 1/2 | | |  |
| **(Ref.: SG2-TD163/GEN)** | | | | | |
| **Source:** | | ITU-T Study Group 2 | | | |
| **Title:** | | LS on issues arising from discussions on re-numbering of Kazakhstan’s E.164 country code | | | |
| **LIAISON STATEMENT** | | | | | | |
| **For action to:** | | | - | | | |
| **For information to:** | | | TSAG | | | |
| **Approval:** | | | ITU-T Study Group 2 management (6 December 2022, by correspondence) | | | |
| **Deadline:** | | | N/A | | | |
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| **Abstract:** | This liaison brings to the attention of TSAG the summary of discussions of ITU-T SG2 experts on the proposal and options to change Kazakhstan’s E.164 country code. |

**Introduction**

Kazakhstan has sought to leave the +7 integrated numbering plan. The original option to reserve/assign +997 which was an available spare country code, and in line with ITU-T Recommendations (and in line with the codes that had been assigned to other countries that left the +7 integrated numbering plan). At some point the original option was replaced by reservation of +77, which not only runs counter to ITU-T Recommendation E164.1, but is also not an available spare country code. The advice from the ITU-T SG2 experts to the TSB Director is that no further action be taken with respect to the assignment of this resource until the March 2023 meeting of Study Group 2. Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation have been asked to discuss the issue, as allowed for in their 2006 agreement on the use of +7 and inform SG2 of the results. Irrespective of the discussion on Kazakhstan country code, SG2 will need to consider what action is required with respect to +7 (see below).

**Status of activity**

A Rapporteur Group Meeting of Q1/2 (virtual, 1-4 November 2022) progressed the issue of a Country Code for Kazakhstan (section 3.5 of the Q1/2 report – [SG2-TD171/PLEN](https://www.itu.int/md/T22-SG02-230313-TD-PLEN-0171/en)). Among the outcomes, the participants agreed to the following:

– according to E.164, a hypothetical +77 CC would require changing the status of +7, and therefore the agreement of the two countries was necessary to review the status unless the whole country code +7 is reclaimed. Only country codes that are spare can be reserved/assigned.

– The criteria of assigning only 3 digit E.164 country codes remains (section 4.3 of E.164.1).

– Clarifications would be welcome from Kazakhstan on the operational consequences (technical, business or otherwise) of migrating to +997 to the March 2023 meeting.

– Discussions between Russia and Kazakhstan are encouraged for them to come back with a way forward at the March meeting of SG2.

The meeting also agreed that the characterization of the problems associated with the use of a hypothetical CC +77 as depicted in [TD10](https://extranet.itu.int/meetings/ITU-T/T22-SG02RGM/20257-221101/TDs/T22-SG02RGM-20257-221101-TD-0010.docx) was correct, and should be the basis for contributions to the March meeting of SG2. The advice of the Q1/2 experts to the TSB Director is not to assign +77. Until the March 2023 meeting the participants recommended that all actions relative to +77 as a new country code should be put on hold, given the elements that still need further investigation and the uncertainty of the impact from any possible assignment +77.

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