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DIGITAL NATION-MONGOLIA:
POLICY AND REGULATORY ACHIEVEMENTS AND PLANS

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CONTENT

- COVID-19 IMPACTS ON GLOBAL AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- DIGITAL NATION-MONGOLIA
- LEGAL ENVIRONMENT AND SECTOR STRUCTURING FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION
- POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS AND PLANS
- MONGOLIA AND ASIA-PACIFIC INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY INITIATIVES
- CONCLUSIONS
The major impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the global and national developments:

- The Covid-19 impact is not limited to human health; this pandemic has affected every industry and the global ICT sector is no exception to this.
- For the communications sector, governments and public authorities around the world have implemented various policy and regulatory measures affecting the industry, ranging from legislation to recommendations with respect to traffic management, location data, alerts, spectrum and other measures.
- Some of the major areas of impact on the ICT industries included: Slow Growth and Postpone Investment in ICT Sector; Cancellation of ICT events and cooperation activities; Disruption of Supply Chains; Partially halting new technology development and Innovation/Research;
- Sometime each crisis is also an opportunity: Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated the digital transformation in every sphere of society and the country like Mongolia. The Mongolian government has succeeded in providing online public services to citizens and businesses during the Covid-19.
The Government of Mongolia has announced ICT as one of the leading sectors of the economy and is aiming to become a “Digital Nation for the next 5 years. Major policy and structural changes to accelerate Mongolia's digital transformation. These are:

- “VISION-2050” Long-Term Development Policy of Mongolia, the Parliament of Mongolia, 2020;
- The Standing Committee on Innovation and e-Policy was established within the Parliament, 2020;
- First introduced E-Mongolia System and Government on-line Platform, October 2020 (More than 660 public services from 61 Government organizations, July 2022);
- The Ministry of Digital Development and Communications (MDDC, www.mddc.gov.mn) was established at the Government, January 2022;
- The “E-Mongolia Academy” has been established to digitalize public services, develop the main and sub systems of e-government, improve digital skills of civil servants as well as for all, January 2022;
The Parliament of Mongolia has been ratified new laws in order to support digital transformation and Digital Nation-Mongolia within last 3 years.


- New legislation for Radio and TV Broadcasting “Law on Broadcasting” was approved by the Parliament in 2020;

To intensify the digital transformation and implementation of Digital Nation, IT related legal environment has been improved and 4 new laws have been approved by the Parliament in last year (effective since May 2022):

- Law on Public Information and Transparency;
- Law on Digital Signatures;
- Law on Cyber Security;
- Law on Personal Data Protection;
In order to achieve the Digital Nation, ICT Sector Medium-Term Development Policy document to be implemented in 2022-2027 was approved by the Government of Mongolia. This policy document states (MMDC) that:

- **Digital infrastructure**: Ensuring the availability of main infrastructure to meet the growing needs of ICT;
- **E-Governance**: To create unbureaucratic and transparent e-government;
- **Cybersecurity**: Establish a national security system in the cyber environment;
- **Digital Literacy**: Improving digital skills for all;
- **Innovation and Production**: Develop the information technology, big data, AI, blockchain-based platforms, national digital content and support to increase the share of economy;
- **National Development Accelerator**: We aim to introduce ICT products and services to increase competitiveness and efficiency;
The Communications Regulatory Commission (CRC) of Mongolia is an independent Mongolian Government Regulatory Authority (www.crc.gov.mn);

The CRC was established by the Communications Act of in 1995;

The CRC’s jurisdiction covers all regions of Mongolia;

Source: www.crc.gov.mn
The Communications Regulatory Commission (CRC) is planning to achieve the Digital Nation-Mongolia and digital transformation:

- CRC regulatory decisions and frameworks need to be up-to-date, flexible (licensing regime and use of spectrum), transparent, fair and market-oriented to support and speed-up digital transformation across sectors;
- Parliament has been ratified package of laws to accelerate the nation’s digital development to a new level. Emphasis will be placed on the implementation of these laws and the approval of compliance regulations and technical conditions and type approval procedures;
- Now is the time for an accelerated private-public sector collaboration/partnership to jointly respond to the crisis to ensure networks to handle increase of digital traffic and need for greater attention being paid to the cyber risks.
- The MDDC has been approved a policy to introduce 5G networks in 2023. The CRC is developing to approve the spectrum management plan and related regulatory documents for the introduction of 5G in Mongolia.
MONGOLIA AND ASIA-PACIFIC INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY INITIATIVES:

- The Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway is expected to be a region-wide intergovernmental platform/mechanism that aims to bridge the digital divide and accelerate digital transformation among the member countries.

- Mongolia would like to express appreciation and congratulations for the work done and the progress achieved by the AP-IS Secretariate, drafting groups, WGs, Steering Committee, on the development of the action plan for implementing the AP-IS initiative 2022–2026 and it need to approved by the CICTSTI04 and UNESCAP Session;

- The draft action plan for implementing the AP-IS initiative, 2022–2026, will serve as a blueprint to facilitate cooperative actions among member States for transformation to digital economies and sustainable development in the region.

- Digital Nation-Mongolia and Digital Transformation program will be coordinated and collaborated the Action plan 2022-2026 for AP-IS initiative;

- **Transit-Mongolia initiatives**: Russia-Mongolia-China (Railway, Highway Road and Fiber Optic Link-transit Traffic between EU-China and South Asian countries);
GENERAL CONCLUSIONS:

➢ This 6th Session of AP-IS Steering Committee meeting became good platform and important opportunity for the ESCAP member countries to learning and intensifying cooperation with the AP-IS Secretariate, WGs, SC and the draft action plan for implementing the AP-IS initiative 2022–2026, and sharing best practices of the national policy and plans;
➢ Mongolia is supporting the draft action plan for implementing the AP-IS initiative 2022–2026 and interest in active participation at level of AP-IS SC and WGs;
➢ In the era of digital transformation and digital economy, Governments need to build cross-institutional links fostering the collaboration among all stake-holders including education, industry, science/technology, and jointly implement policies & plans for digital transformation;
➢ Policy-makers and regulators should work together to provide people with access to technologies, the digital skills to use them, and trust in using ICTs within the AP-IS initiative and action plans,
➢ Need coordinated action plans and activities, events and capacity building programs of the AP-IS initiatives UNESCAP, UNDP, ITU, UPU, APT, APPU and policy makers, regulators, academics, NGO, business and industry for implementing and realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
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THANK YOU