## Memorandum of Understanding Between

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)

And

Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)



# Memorandum of Understanding Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)

#### And

### Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

WHEREAS, WHEREAS, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (hereinafter referred to as "TRAI"), with headquarters at Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg (Old Minto Road), New Delhi is an Indian independent government agency serving as the national regulator for Telecommunications& Broadcasting Sectors in India.

WHEREAS, the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (hereinafter referred to as "BEREC"), supported by the Agency for Support for BEREC (BEREC Office) located at Z.A. Meierovica Bulv. 14, 2nd Floor, Riga LV-1050, LATVIA, is an independent EU body composed of the National Regulatory Authorities for the electronic communications sector from the Member States and the European Commission(the Commission), to which participation is open to European Economic Area States and third countries, in particular candidate countries, which facilitates the consistent application of the electronic communication framework throughout the European Union;

WHEREAS, both TRAI and BEREC (each referred to individually as "party" and collectively as "parties") have an interest in effective electronic communications regulation that promotes competitive markets, technological innovation, and value for consumers;

WHEREAS, both TRAI and BEREC have previously entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "MOU") in 2018 and hereby wish to state their intent to continue a cooperative relationship, as outlined in this MOU;

**THEREFORE**, TRAI and BEREC have reached the following understandings:

#### I. PURPOSE

The goal of this MOU is to encourage a cooperative relationship between the parties that supports the parties' respective efforts to address current and future regulatory challenges in both India and Europe, as well as to develop collegial working relationships between experts representing both parties.

Further, this MOU is intended to facilitate the possibility of additional tasks to be jointly agreed to be undertaken by the parties during the lifetime of this MOU and such tasks/projects shall be set out in separate non-legally binding documents agreed by the parties if and when they arise.

#### **II. AREAS OF COOPERATION**

- A. Cooperative Activities may include but are not limited to:
- TRAI BEREC annual meetings: strategic debate on common issues and agreement on any future collaboration;
- Joint working groups: Participation in meetings of BEREC and TRAI as may be deemed appropriate and upon invitation by the host for the purpose of closer collaboration and knowledge sharing;
- Information exchange (e.g. questionnaires, working papers, specific events, etc.).

Such activities may be concluded via electronic means or in-person meetings between representatives of both parties.

The parties intend to determine, by mutual arrangements, the way in which exchange of information on regulatory issues is to be addressed, and those issues or joint tasks, if and when undertaken, which may be more particularly described and set out in additional agreements between the parties. Said means of information exchange may include, but are not limited to, the creation of the *ad hoc* Joint working groups described in Annex I.

The relevant terms and conditions (including, without limitation, those relating to financial, legal and operational matters, as well as to the respective rights, roles and responsibilities of the parties, if any) concerning the Cooperative Activities will be set forth in one or more non-legally binding written agreements, project documents and/or other instruments negotiated, agreed to and signed separately by both of the parties following the execution of this MOU.

#### B. Regulatory Issues

The parties intend to determine, by mutual arrangements, the regulatory issues to be addressed through their cooperative relationship. Those issues may include, but are not limited, to the issues described in Annex II.

#### III. MOU IMPLEMENTATION

#### A. Responsibilities

The parties intend to make the necessary arrangements to ensure implementation of this MOU.

#### **B.** Communications

The parties intend to communicate regarding accomplishments related to this MOU.

#### C. Rules and Procedures

Each party intends to operate according to its respective rules and procedures.

#### IV. <u>COSTS</u>

The costs for each party resulting from the implementation of this MOU shall be borne by each one of them.

#### V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### A. Duration and modification

This MOU will become effective on the date of its signature by both parties' authorised representatives, and its provisions will remain applicable until this MOU is terminated in accordance with its terms.

This MOU may only be modified or supplemented pursuant to a written amendment mutually agreed to and signed by both of the parties. Any such amendment will be annexed to this MOU and will form an integral part hereof.

This MOU may be terminated by either party by providing written notice thereof to the other party at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of such termination.

#### B. Representation

For the purposes of communications or notices with respect to this MOU, both TRAI and BEREC will be represented by their sitting Chairs. Both participants may designate other focal points.

#### C. Legal Enforceability

This MOU is not intended to create legal and binding obligations for either party, but is a statement of the parties' intent to form a cooperative relationship.

#### VI. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any dispute between the parties arising from this MOU will be resolved by amicable direct negotiations between the parties, or by any other means to which the parties mutually agree in writing.

#### VII. SIGNATURES

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have caused their duly authorized representatives to sign this MOU in three (3) originals in the English language, as of the date(s) set forth below.

For the

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)

Dr. P.D. Vaghela

Chairman

Date: 4th December 2020

Place: New Delhi (India)

For the

The Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)

**Dan Sjoblom** 

Chairman

Date: 4th December 2020

Place:

For the

Agency for Support for the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC Office)

László Ignéczi

Director

Date: 4th December 2020

Place: 40

#### **ANNEX I**

Proposed Joint Working Groups and specific projects to be defined, including but not limited to:

- i. Working group on M2M / IoT
- ii. Working group on the Ecosystem of 5G Networks, including aspects related to the cybersecurity of 5G networks.



#### **ANNEX II**

#### Suggested topics of cooperative relationship

Cooperative relationship between TRAI and BEREC, including access to a contact list to disseminate and collect questionnaires, reports and any other valuable information to share regulatory best practices to address regulatory issues, which may include, but are not limited to, the following matters:

- 1. Promotion of competition in markets, services, infrastructures and end-users' interests;
- Consumer protection;
- Management of scarce resources;
- 4. Broadband development and promotion of NGA/VHCN roll-out;
- Open Internet / Network neutrality;
- Cybersecurity of 5G networks:
- 7. Costing and tariff methodologies;
- International roaming tariffs;
- Development of harmonised regulatory frameworks;
- 10. Administrative procedures and operational issues concerning NRAs' activity;
- 11. Promotion of investment by means of a pro-competitive regulation;
- 12. Statistics;
- 13. Video streaming over the Internet;
- 14. Retransmission of Linear Channels over the Internet;

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