



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria-Vlada-Government

MINISTRY FOR DIALOGUE

Prishtina, 10 January 2017
Ref.no. 003/2017

Mr. Houlin Zhao
Secretary General
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Place des Nations
1211 Geneva 20 Switzerland

Re: ITU assigned international codes to Kosovo - implementation process

Dear Secretary General Zhao,

First of all, I wish you and ITU a very successful new year that we just embarked in.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, I would like to express our high appreciation to the International Telecommunication Union for assigning international codes to Kosovo, on 15 December 2016, in accordance with the Brussels Agreement on Telecom of 8 September 2013.

As you are informed, the process of application for and granting the codes to Kosovo resulted from the European Union - facilitated dialogue between the Republic of Kosovo and the Republic of Serbia, after long negotiations resulting in the signed Agreement on Telecom in 2013, that calls for the ITU to assign the dialing code to Kosovo. In general, the EU facilitated dialogue in Brussels aims at normalizing neighborly relations between two countries while contributing to strengthening peace and stability in the region and, the progress has been remarkable.

As part of the Telecom agreement, the Action Plan signed by all parties on 25 August 2015, called for Austria to apply for the dialing code, which has been done in January 2016 and for which we are highly appreciative to the Austrian Government.

The Telecom Action Plan in the point 1.2 stipulates provides that Kosovo has the sole responsibility for its international codes and is the sole administrator of the codes, of course, based on the regulations and guidance deriving from ITU and the decision of ITU published in the Bulletin on 15 December 2016. The same point of that agreement defines that the Kosovo Regulatory Authority on Electronic and Postal Communications (RAEPC) is the competent

authority who will be in charge of implementation and administration of the Kosovo international codes, in direct communication with ITU.

Having in mind our joint work in the implementation process, in my capacity as the Kosovo Chief negotiator at the Brussels dialogue and of this agreement per se, I would like to initiate the meeting with you / ITU in order to proceed with implementation work as soon as possible.

For the purposes of implementation preparation, as you might recall, I have contacted and communicated with your office and you personally, respectively in September 2015 after the Action Plan was signed and, again in January 2016 after Austria submitted the application. At that time, you have suggested that the meeting should take place following the decision of ITU for granting the code to Kosovo.

I believe that time has come now to move forward with implementation, hence in this context, I would like to ask for a meeting with you and/or relevant officials in ITU at your earliest convenience in order to discuss about the implementation of the international dialing codes (E.164 Code: 383, E.212 Code: 221, Q.708 -SANC: 7-214) and, the process of their activation dates and transition from the currently used codes.

The Kosovo delegation will be composed of myself, Mr. Blerand Stavileci, Minister of Economic Development, Kreshnik Gashi, Head of Kosovo Regulatory Authority of Electronic and Postal Communications and expert's coordinator on the Telecom agreement, Gazmir Raci, Political coordinator on the Telecom agreement.

I am looking forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Edita Tahiri
Minister for Dialogue
Chief Negotiator at the Brussels Dialogue

CC:

Blerand Stavileci, Minister of Economic Development
Fitim Krasniqi, Secretary General, Office of Primeminister
Kreshnik Gashi, Head of Kosovo Regulatory Authority of Electronic and Postal Communications
Gazmir Raci, Political Coordinator on the Telecom agreement