ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY

ITA Beijing Office

# NEWSLETTER

## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)
## 27 July – 2 August 2026

**China To Adjust Battery Tax in Phases, Exempts New-Tech Batteries Through 2028**
China will gradually adjust its battery consumption tax from September 2026, introducing 2% and later 4% tax rates for selected battery products. Meanwhile, sodium-ion, solid-state and fuel-cell batteries, along with advanced photovoltaic cells, will remain exempt from the tax through December 2028 to support technological innovation and industrial upgrading. **(Xinhua)**

**Moonshot's Kimi K3 Pushes Boundaries Of AI**
Moonshot AI launched Kimi K3, a large language model (LLM) with 2.8 trillion parameters and a 1 million-token context window. Artificial Analysis ranked it third globally. Its API is priced at 100 yuan (US$13.9) per million output tokens, significantly above most Chinese peers, highlighting a shift toward higher-value, more commercially sustainable AI models. **(China Daily)**

**Huawei Unveils Advanced Atlas 950 Superpod**
Huawei unveiled the Atlas 950 SuperPoD, an AI supernode equipped with 1,024 Ascend chips, at WAIC 2026 (17-20 July, Shanghai). The company said its previous generation Ascend 384 SuperPoD has been deployed in over 750 commercial projects, while Huawei has partnered with 3,000+ collaborators to develop 7,000+ AI solutions for 2,000+ enterprise and government clients. **(China Daily)**

**Tencent Tops China's Internet Sector in 2026 Fortune China 500**
The 2026 Fortune China 500 ranked Tencent as China's most profitable internet company, with net profit exceeding US$31.2 billion in 2025. JD.com remained the highest-ranked mainland private company at No. 9, while Alibaba, Tencent, PDD and Meituan all improved their rankings. The 500 listed companies generated combined revenue of US$14.26 trillion and net profit of US$794.9 billion in 2025. **(DSB)**

**Global Smartphone Shipments Decline in Q2**
Global smartphone shipments fell in Q2 2026 as memory shortages drove up component costs. Samsung and Apple increased market share despite the downturn, while Huawei's shipments rose 6%. Chinese brands Xiaomi, OPPO and Vivo recorded double-digit declines. Research firms expect supply constraints to persist, with market recovery likely delayed until the next replacement cycle. **(STCN)**