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| **Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)** |
| Administrative Circular**CACE/668** | 28 February 2014 |
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| **To Administrations of Member States of the ITU, Radiocommunication Sector Members and ITU‑R Associates participating in the work of Radiocommunication Study Group 5**  |
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| Subject: | **Radiocommunication Study Group 5 (Terrestrial services)** **– Proposed approval of 1 draft new ITU-R Question** |
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At the meeting of Radiocommunication Study Group 5 held from 2 to 3 December 2013, the Study Group decided to seek adoption of 1 draft new ITU-R Question by correspondence, in accordance with § 3.1.2 of Resolution ITU-R 1-6.

As stated in Administrative Circular CACE/653, dated 20 December 2013, the consultation period for the adoption of the Question ended on 20 February 2014.

The Question has now been adopted by Study Group 5 and the approval procedure of Resolution ITU-R 1-6 § 3.1.2 is to be applied. The text of the draft ITU-R Question is attached for your reference in the Annex to this letter.

Having regard to the provisions of § 3.1.2 of Resolution ITU-R 1-6, Member States are requested to inform the Secretariat (brsgd@itu.int) by 28 April 2014, whether they approve or do not approve the proposal above.

Any Member State who objects to the approval of a draft Question is requested to inform the Director and the Chairman of the Study Group of the reasons for the objection.

After the above-mentioned deadline, the results of this consultation will be announced in an Administrative Circular and the approved Question will be published as soon as practicable (see: <http://www.itu.int/pub/R-QUE-SG05/en>).

François Rancy

Director

**Annex**: 1

– 1 draft new ITU-R Question

**Distribution:**

– Administrations of Member States of the ITU and Radiocommunication Sector Members participating in the work of Radiocommunication Study Group 5

– ITU-R Associates participating in the work of Radiocommunication Study Group 5

– Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Radiocommunication Study Groups and the Special Committee on Regulatory/Procedural Matters

– Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Conference Preparatory Meeting

– Members of the Radio Regulations Board

– Secretary-General of the ITU, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau

Annex

DRAFT NEW QUESTION ITU-R [DOC. XXX]/5[[1]](#footnote-1)

Operation of short-range radiocommunication public access system
supporting hearing aid systems

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

*a)* that in certain conditions, e.g. in noisy environments or for persons with impaired hearing it is desirable to operate appropriate radiocommunication hearing aids;

*b)* that many persons have impaired hearing;

*c)* that in such conditions acoustically linked hearing aids do not allow speech to be presented at an optimum level and without environmental noise and distortion;

*d)* that radio emission is a practical means of transferring a signal with a favourable signal‑to-noise ratio from a transmission of a public system to a hearing aid;

*e)* that such a public access system could be designed to assist persons with a hearing loss to listen over distances as are encountered in ordinarily unaided speech;

*f)* that a range of transmission of about 20 metres for a public system would be adequate;

*g)* that certain countries are carrying out research and development into such systems;

*h)* that such a communication system may have wider application;

*i)* that persons with hearing impairments would benefit from using radiocommunication hearing aids when travelling;

*j)* that international harmonization of these devices is desirable,

decides that the following Questions should be studied

1 What are the suitable technical and operational characteristics of a short-range radiocommunication public access system supporting hearing aid systems?

2 What are the:

– frequency ranges in the land mobile service suitable for short-range radiocommunication public access system supporting hearing aid systems?

– conditions that might allow compatible operation of short-range radiocommunication public access systems, supporting hearing aid systems and systems of other radio services within the VHF or UHF band?

3 What are the spectrum sharing criteria for short-range radiocommunication public access system supporting hearing aid systems and systems supporting other radio services?

4 What are the technologies suitable to short-range radiocommunication public access system supporting hearing aid systems?

further decides

1 that the results of the above studies should be included in one or more Recommendations, Reports or Handbooks;

2 that the above studies should be completed by 2015.

Category: S2

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1. Bring to the attention of ITU-T (JCA) and ITU-D Study Groups. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)