



Radiocommunication Bureau
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Revision 1 to
Administrative Circular
CA/131*

8 December 2004

**To Member States of the ITU and
Radiocommunication Sector Members**

**Subject: Data required for the Evaluation of User Requirements and Spectrum Usage
for Terrestrial Electronic News Gathering (ENG)**

Working Party 6P of Radiocommunication Study Group 6 is to develop an Electronic Databank of User Requirements and Spectrum Usage for Terrestrial Electronic News Gathering (ENG), to assist Working Party 6P undertake studies sought in Recommendation **723 (WRC-03)** Attachment C.

During its first meeting (23-29 September 2003, Geneva) Working Party 6P considered contributions in support of the studies called for in Recommendation **723 (WRC-03)**. As a result of the discussions at this meeting, Working Party 6P established the format of the Databank which is included in the attached document (Attachment A) for the benefit of administrations to assist them with submission of input data. It should be noted this information should be checked for validity by each administration.

The attached document contains some of the necessary information Working Party 6P requires to meet the Terms of Reference of the initial phase of study being coordinated by the Rapporteur on User Requirements and Spectrum Usage for Terrestrial Electronic News Gathering. The Terms of Reference for the Rapporteur on User Requirements and Spectrum Usage for Terrestrial Electronic News Gathering are to be found in Attachment B. It is hoped the Rapporteur will present the initial findings of this study to its meeting in April 2004.

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Attachments:

- A Data required for the Evaluation of User Requirements and Spectrum Usage for Terrestrial Electronic News Gathering (ENG)
- B Establishment of a Rapporteur for Spectrum Usage and Operational Requirements of Terrestrial Electronic News Gathering
- C Recommendation **723 (WRC-03)**

Distribution:

- Administrations of Member States of the ITU
- Radiocommunication Sector Members
- Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Radiocommunication Study Groups and Special Committee on Regulatory/Procedural Matters
- Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group
- 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
- For information: Participants in ITU-R Working Parties 4B, 6E, 8A, 8D, 8F, 9B, 9D and JTG 6-8-9.

Attachment A

Data required for Evaluation of User Requirements and Spectrum Usage for Terrestrial Electronic News Gathering (ENG)

The objective of this questionnaire is to identify the use of the frequency spectrum for the temporary nomadic TV links for the Electronic News Gathering (ENG), News Outside Broadcast (NOB) and Television Outside Broadcast (TOB) broadcast auxiliary services. This information is to be used to estimate whether it is feasible to, and to what extent, worldwide harmonization may be achievable in terms of the frequency bands used for such services, including the identification of specific band(s).

Administrations are requested to provide the following information in advance of Working Party 6P's future meetings leading up to the completion of the CPM text for the Director's report.

A Rapporteur has been established within Working Party 6P to coordinate this work. Contact details for the Rapporteur are provided in the cover page of this Administrative Circular.

Item	Topic	Information Required
1	Frequency bands	
1.1	Identification of the national frequency allocations (including footnotes)/radio-frequency channel arrangements and channel assignments applying to such nomadic TV links.	
1.2	Identification of additional frequency bands that are utilized by administrations for nomadic TV links.	
1.3	Identification of any changes planned by administrations to the utilization of such bands. In such cases, to which frequency band(s) are administrations planning to relocate ENG, NOB or TOB services?	
2	Level of availability	
2.1	Identification of the required availability of nomadic TV links and the nature and extent of such availability and deployment for each of the identified bands.	
2.2	Identification of the technical and operational characteristics of nomadic TV links, apply for applications such as news coverage, sports program production, live program, including the level of availability.	

3	Interference	
3.1	Identification of the technical and operational characteristics of nomadic TV links, including statistical information such as how often they are deployed, hours of operation and duration (e.g. for satellite service sharing studies information on the azimuthal pointing direction of nomadic TV links is particularly relevant), and the percentage of usage that is live on-air.	
3.2	Identification of whether the current usage experiences noticeable interference while operating in the identified bands and channels.	
3.3	Indication of the magnitude of interference generally experienced. Specify if sporadic or constant.	
3.4	Identification of the major sources of interference.	
4	Potential for harmonization	
4.1	Band(s) where worldwide harmonization for the operation temporary nomadic TV links may be achieved.	
5	Coordination	
5.1	Identification of how nomadic TV links and their usage is coordinated for general operations.	
5.2	Are all aspects of the operations coordinated – or is coordination confined to high importance locations (e.g. hub collection sites)?	
5.3	Identification of whether such coordination process is achieved through national or regional coordination processes.	
6	Expected future spectrum demand	
6.1	Based on recent experience, estimation of the demand foreseen in five and ten years.	

Attachment B

Establishment of a Rapporteur for spectrum usage and operational requirements of terrestrial Electronic News Gathering

ITU-R Working Party 6P,

considering

- a) that ITU-R established Question ITU-R 89/6 “User requirements for Electronic News Gathering” which identified Electronic News Gathering requirements are often different from those that apply to normal television contribution transmission;
- b) that ITU-R established Question ITU-R 93/6 “Frequency Requirements for Electronic News Gathering” which decided frequency requirements for Electronic News Gathering should be studied;
- c) that WRC-03 established Recommendation **723 (WRC-03)** which determined ITU-R should continue the studies into spectrum usage and operational requirements for Electronic News Gathering as a matter of urgency;
- d) that Recommendation **723 (WRC-03)** further recommends these studies of the technical, operational and frequency issues of ENG be undertaken on a global basis;
- e) that many administrations have developed user requirements and made spectrum allocations for analogue Electronic News Gathering;
- f) that within some administrations the introduction of digital techniques and technology is being viewed as a development that may lead to more efficient use of spectrum for Electronic News Gathering,

decides

- 1** to establish a Rapporteur for spectrum usage and operational requirements of terrestrial Electronic News Gathering (ENG);
- 2** the Rapporteur should study:
 - the technical, operational and frequency issues of ENG on a global basis;
 - whether digitization may provide an opportunity for more efficient spectrum usage for ENG that could assist with meeting a growing demand for spectrum by these systems;
 - provision of adequate and appropriate spectrum to meet the needs of broadcasters including the temporary needs of visiting broadcasters of other administrations;
- 3** the Rapporteur should develop where appropriate ITU-R Reports and/or Recommendations addressing the different technical and operational characteristics of ENG applications;

- 4 the Rapporteur work as efficiently as possible including adoption of electronic working, establishment of an e-mail reflector through the ITU Secretariat and the scheduling of meetings where required, concurrent with those of Working Party 6P;
- 5 the study programme for Electronic News Gathering should be brought to the attention of relevant Working Parties within ITU-R, Working Parties 4B, 6E, 8A, 8D, 8F, 9B, 9D and JTG 6-8-9;
- 6 the work of the Rapporteur is to be completed for inclusion of a report in the documentation for CPM-06 through Working Party 6P;
- 7 the Rapporteur should send its final report to Working Party 6P which will send the Report to CPM-06.

Attachment C

RECOMMENDATION 723 (WRC-03)

Spectrum usage and operational characteristics of electronic news gathering systems

The World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2003),

considering

- a)* that the use of portable and nomadic microwave radio equipment operating in appropriate fixed and mobile service bands commonly described as electronic news gathering (ENG) is now an important element in comprehensive news coverage by broadcasters;
- b)* that the growth of the use of the frequency bands between 500 MHz and 10 GHz for mobile, satellite and other radiocommunication applications has significantly reduced the flexibility of some administrations in providing adequate and appropriate spectrum to meet the needs of broadcasters including the temporary needs of visiting broadcasters of other administrations;
- c)* that digitization may provide an opportunity for more efficient spectrum usage for ENG that could assist with meeting a growing demand for spectrum by these systems;
- d)* that availability of relevant ITU publications on ENG can assist administrations in addressing ENG operations in their spectrum planning;
- e)* that it is desirable that administrations have available appropriate ITU-R Reports and Recommendations addressing the different technical and operational characteristics of applications using the fixed and mobile bands when developing proposals to WRCs addressing those bands,

recommends that ITU-R

- 1 continue the study, as a matter of urgency, of the technical, operational and frequency issues of ENG on a global basis;
- 2 prepare Reports and/or Recommendations as appropriate,

invites the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

to include the status of this study in his Report to WRC-07 for information,

invites administrations

to participate in this study by submitting contributions.
