INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

Radiocommunication Bureau
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Administrative Circular
    CA/154

17 January 2006

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

Subject: Summary of Conclusions of the thirteenth Radiocommunication Advisory Group Meeting

Reference: Administrative Circular CA/149 of 2 June 2005

1   The Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) met for the thirteenth time from 30 October to 4 November 2005 in Geneva and considered the agenda as outlined in Annex 1 of the enclosed Summary of Conclusions.

2   At the closure of the Advisory Group meeting, participants received Document RAG05-1/24, containing draft summary of conclusions, which were reviewed at the end of the meeting. The revised version of the draft summary was subsequently posted on the ITU website and participants were invited to communicate to the Chairman of the Advisory Group any suggested changes by 15 November 2005. The Chairman has considered the comments he received, and the resulting changes have been incorporated into the document, the final version of which is reproduced in the attachment to this Administrative Circular.

Valery Timofeev
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

Attachment: Summary of Conclusions of the thirtheenth RAG meeting

<u>Distribution:</u>
– 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

Attachment

THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE
RADIOCOMMUNICATION ADVISORY GROUP

Geneva, 31 October-4 November 2005

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

1   Introduction

The Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) held its thirteenth meeting in Geneva, from 31 October-4 November 2005, under the chairmanship of Mr B. Gracie (Canada), and assisted by Vice-Chairmen Mr N. Kisrawi (Syrian Arab Republic), Mr W. Luther (USA) and Mr A. Pavliouk (Russian Federation). The meeting was attended by 73 delegates representing 34 Member States, 10 Sector Members and 1 international organization[1].

2   Opening remarks and approval of the agenda

Following the opening remarks of the Deputy Secretary-General, the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Chairman of RAG, the agenda was approved and is shown in **Annex 1**. A list of documents issued during the meeting can be consulted at the following URL: http://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=e&type=sfolders&parent=R05-RAG-C. It was agreed that it would be useful to consider any necessary actions arising from the consideration of the summary of conclusions of the previous meeting, as appropriate.[2] The conclusions reached with respect to the considered agenda items are summarized as follows.

3   Decisions of Council 2005

3.1   Budget for 2006-2007

RAG noted the information on the estimated expenditure for ITU-R reproduced in §2.1 of Document RAG05-1/1. The Chairman summarized the main Council decisions indicating that the adoption of the budget 2006-2007 was subject, inter alia, to the implementation by the ITU secretariat of efficiency measures for cost saving purposes. Concern was expressed that such measures should have only a minimum impact in the BR activities, particularly those relative to Conference preparation.

3.2   Satellite network filing cost recovery

RAG was informed that Council-05 had endorsed a modification to Decision **482** and had decided on corrective measures for invoices issued in 2004-2005, as summarized in §2.2 of Document RAG05-1/1. RAG noted in particular that the modified Decision **482**, which will enter into force on 1 January 2006, was based on a new cost recovery methodology, contained new cost recovery fees and was extended in scope to cover notification of assignments in non-planned and planned services, as well as Sections IA and III of Article 6 of Appendix **30B**. While corrective measures for invoices issued in 2004-2005 could be implemented in the current biennium, those issued in 2002-2003 would be referred to PP-06 as the accounts for this period were closed. RAG

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[1]   The list of participants is contained in Document RAG05-1/23(Rev.1).

[2]   Administrative Circular CA/145 of 21 December 2004.

was also informed of Circular Letter CR/245 "Administrative arrangements for the implementation of cost recovery for satellite network filings in accordance with Decision 482 (modified, 2005)".

RAG expressed its profound appreciation to the work carried out by Messrs. D. Barrett (UK) and K. Arasteh (Iran) in relation to this matter.

3.3   Use of languages

RAG noted Resolution **1238** which established a Working Group of the Council to review various proposals and implementation of provisional measures including those already considered by the RAG regarding the use of languages (§2.3 of Document RAG05-1/1).

The United States proposed (Document RAG05-1/7) that ITU-R Study Group meetings be conducted in one language without the need for interpretation in order to save the ITU interpretation costs, making reference to the footnote of Resolution 115 (PP-02) ("However, some work in the ITU, for example working groups, study groups, regional conferences might not require the use of all six languages"). This proposal was supported by a number of Administrations. However, several administrations had difficulties in accepting this proposal. They based their argument on the fact that the provisional measures adopted by the 12th meeting of RAG to consider the approval process of draft Recommendations in one language was conditional on having full interpretation at the Study group meetings to facilitate the understanding by delegations of draft Recommendations prepared in a single language only.

France proposed that measures along the lines of those adopted in ITU-T (see TSB Circular no. 41 of 5.8.05) based on consultation on delegates' interpretation requirements at the moment of registration (when made no later than one month in advance) could be implemented for ITU-R Study Group meetings. It was pointed out that BR was already adopting a "selective" approach to the requirements for interpreters at Study Group meetings (in accordance with the advice of RAG-04) but this had to be done well in advance of the meeting because of the need to establish contracts for the interpreters.

Syria and Saudi Arabia highlighted (Document RAG05-1/16) the consideration made in Resolution 1238 to the inclusion of " particular incentives for each linguistic group" when making recommendations for the efficient and effective use of languages within the budgetary limits.

With a view to reducing translation costs, RAG considered a proposal by some countries to limit the total number of pages for any new ITU-R Report to a maximum of 50, responding to application of certain elements of Council Resolution 1238. Some other countries suggested that an arbitrary limit may not be appropriate, but that Study Groups should be encouraged to keep Reports as brief as possible. RAG invited the Study Groups to provide their views on this issue to the next RAG meeting.

Given that it would be premature to conclude on this sensitive issue of the use of languages, RAG agreed that proposals on the use of languages should be submitted directly to the Council WG on Resolution 1238.

3.3.1   Terminology database

The framework for the development of an ITU-R database on terminology was introduced (Document RAG05-1/1, §2.3.1). Information on the work being carried out by the secretariat was presented clarifying that the initial stage of development would include integration with the ITU-T database system (SANCHO). It was noted that it might be desirable to collaborate with ISO/IEC on

the development of their vocabulary databases. The Director was invited to report to RAG on the progress made in the development of the ITU-R terminology database.

Reports from the Chairman of Coordination Committee for Vocabulary (CCV) were presented (Docs. RAG-1/11 and 18). CCV emphasized the importance that the database should be equipped with an equivalence table in the six official languages. CCV recommends that the Editorial Group of a Study Group ensure the correctness of the technical vocabulary used and that the texts to be approved have the same meaning in the different working languages of the ITU (Resolution ITU-R 1-4, *resolves* 2.19). CCV also requested the Study Groups to appoint a Rapporteur on vocabulary and to list all terms and definitions included in Recommendations in force and falling within its competence before the end of June 2006, noting that Study Groups should adhere to this deadline to the extent possible.

RAG was informed that the BR secretariat has already initiated discussions with TSB for the integration of the ITU-R terms and definitions into an enhanced version of SANCHO and that the implementation work is planned to start by December 2005. In addition, RAG noted that the BR secretariat will also work in collaboration with the General Secretariat with regards to involving this secretariat in the unification of terminology and definitions in ITU. RAG requested that information on these developments be provided to the Council WG on Resolution 1238 which could further consider the consolidation with other ITU databases (e.g., Termite).

RAG advised the CCV to make use and collaborate to the maximum extent with ISO and IEC in this matter.

3.4   Calendar of events

RAG noted that Council 2005 decided on the following new dates for RA-07 and WRC-07, respectively: 8-12 October 2007 and 15 October-9 November 2007. Some delegations expressed their disappointment to the fact that these new dates, which represent a postponement of one week in relation to the dates previously adopted by Council 2004, would not satisfy their requirements. These delegations expressed their wishes that this request be made known by the Director to Council 2006, with a view to complying with the letter and spirit of Resolution 111 (Marrakesh, 2002), and requested a postponement of an additional two weeks.

3.5   Sector Member Observers to Council

RAG noted the successful nomination of the observers to Council 2005 representing Sector Members of the Radiocommunication Sector (Document RAG05-1/1, § 2.5), comprised of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), and the World Broadcasting Unions - Technical Committee (WBU-TC). The Chairman informed the meeting that he had received reports from IARU and IATA expressing their satisfaction on their participation as observers in Council 2005.

Consistent with the directives set forth by Administrative Circular CA/146 and in accordance to the provisions outlined in Annex A of Council Decision **519**, the ITU-R Sector Member Observers to Council 2006 would need to be selected. For this purpose, RAG agreed that the Chairman, in consultation with the Vice-Chairmen, apply the criteria of Decision **519**, taking into account the interest of the two organizations, which applied for Council 2005 but could not be selected, namely The Boeing Company and Satélites Mexicanos, S.A. de C.V. (SATMEX).

3.6   Free electronic access to ITU publications

On the basis of the background information provided in §2.6 of Document RAG5-1-1, RAG noted that a detailed study, which includes the free access to ITU-R publications as well, has already been

initiated by the ITU Publication Policy Committee (IPPC) for approval of the ITU Coordination Committee and submission to Council 2006, with emphasis on the financial impact to ITU.

4 Study group activities

4.1 Study group structure

RAG noted with thanks the report of the Correspondence Group (CG) in Document RAG05-1/13. In particular, RAG emphasized that Study Groups cooperating on specific topics of mutual interest should clearly indicate where studies of such topic areas will be undertaken, should guarantee that duplication is avoided, and should ensure that the meeting schedule for such topics is convenient for participants, and inform RAG as appropriate. In addition, consideration should be given to the establishment of an appropriate mechanism within RAG to deal with such issues. It was, therefore, concluded that for the time being, and pending receipt of contributions to subsequent meetings of the RAG, the activities related to the merger of Study Groups are suspended. However, taking into account the results of upcoming events as well as the relevant WRC-03 Resolutions and Recommendations, and the accelerating convergence of radio services, the issue of restructuring of the Study Groups may need to be re-examined. RAG expressed its appreciation for the efforts of Mr. L. Barclay (UK) as CG coordinator.

4.2 Working methods of the ITU-R Study Groups

4.2.1 Electronic Document Handling (EDH)

RAG noted the report of the Convenor of the Correspondence Group on Electronic Document Handling (EDH) (Document RAG5-1/5) indicating that things were progressing well in the use of electronic facilities with the ITU-R. The wish to consider future treatment of open source solutions, including the use of open format documents, was noted, at the same time recognising that an adequate level of maintenance and support would need to be assured, and that current software capabilities would need to be maintained.

The results of discussions on EDH matters that took place during the RAG, along with other issues discussed by the CG, were summarized by the Coordinator of the Group in Document RAG05-1/22, which was noted. It was decided to post these suggestions on the CG website as a working document for implementation of EDH.

RAG asked for comments with respect to the various suggestions contained in the working document and invited the Director to consider the timely implementation of those suggestions which could be easily implemented.

4.2.2 On-line registration of delegates

As regards on-line registration for meetings, RAG was informed that an Event Delegate Registration System (EDRS) has been developed by the ITU Information Service (IS) Department and is being used for registration for some ITU meetings. It has been decided to advise the Director to implement the system on a trial basis for Study Group meetings. RAG noted that the on-line registration system should be as flexible as the one used today; moreover, the current system should be maintained for RRC and WRC. Any difficulties encountered during the implementation phase should be reported through the EDH Correspondence Group to RAG. At the next RAG meeting, on the basis of the experiences obtained during the trial phase, instructions and guidelines will be provided on the use of EDRS for registration for Conferences.

4.2.3 Deadline for contributions

The issue of deadlines for contributions to meetings of the SGs was discussed at length, following presentations of proposals by the United States, Syria and Iran (Docs. RAG05-1/6, 15 and 17). It was noted that the application of the provision of §8.10 of Resolution ITU-R 1-4 needed clarification and that there was a contradiction between that provision and the Guidelines on the Working Methods. RAG concluded that contributions submitted from the membership for the work of all ITU-R groups (SGs, WPs, TGs, etc.) should be received by 1600 hours UTC, 7 calendar days prior to the start of the meeting. It was clarified that this deadline shall apply only to contributions from Member States, Sector Members and Associates. In addition, RAG noted that the deadline of three months referred to in §8.6 should continue to be applied. RAG advised the Director to update the Guidelines on the Working Methods to reflect these conclusions. There was no consensus on the proposal to accept exceptions to the 7-calendar day deadline to accommodate contributions from the membership to SG meetings on issues submitted by a WP/TG when the SG meets immediately after WP/TG meetings.

4.2.4 Resolution ITU-R 44

The 12th meeting of RAG had concluded that there was a need to establish guidelines on the implementation of Resolution ITU-R 44 and appointed Mr. N. Kisrawi as Coordinator of the Correspondence Group on Resolution ITU-R 44. To consider proposal contained in his report (Document RAG05-1/16) and in a contribution by Japan (Document RAG05-1/16), a drafting group was set up under the chairmanship of Dr. A. Hashimoto (Japan). The report of the drafting group (Document RAG05-1/21) was considered and RAG adopted the guidelines contained in **Annex 2**.

RAG decided to maintain the Correspondence Group on Resolution ITU-R 44, with Dr. A. Hashimoto as the convenor and with the view to proposing the revision, maintenance or suppression of that Resolution[3].

4.2.5 Unresolved issues in Study Group meetings

On the issue of contributions from the membership on draft new or revised Recommendations and the deadlock SGs may face, there were two views expressed.

One view was that the provisions of Resolution ITU-R 1-4 provide the necessary scope to deal with the matters raised in Documents RAG05-1/15 and 17. If there is an issue not specifically addressed in Resolution ITU-R 1-4, it could be sent to the RAG for further discussion and/or to the Radiocommunication Assembly for appropriate action.

The other view was as follows:

Contributions on the new or revised Recommendations submitted to the Study Group need to be sent to the relevant WPs, TGs, JTGs, for detailed examination. Once the document reaches the required level and is ready to be discussed at the Study Group level, it should be submitted to the Study Group.

Should Study Groups face a deadlock on the adoption process as a result of objection by one State Member attending the meeting or a State Member participating in the adoption process, the Chairman of Study Group may send the document (draft new or revised Recommendation) to the Radiocommunication Assembly if it falls under any sub-paragraphs a), b) and c) of § 10.2.1.2

Should the Study Group face a deadlock which does not fall under the above-mentioned sub-paragraphs of § 10.2.1.2, the Chairman may send the draft new or revised Recommendation in

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[3] Email reflector: rag-res44@itu.int.

question to the Radiocommunication Assembly for "appropriate action" if the Study Group participant so decided, otherwise the Member State of Sector Member proponent to the document (draft new or revised Recommendation) are to be invited to submit the case to the Radiocommunication Assembly. However, the Study Group Chairman needs to reflect the situation in his report to the Radiocommunication Assembly.

4.2.6   Quality of ITU-R Recommendations

Document RAG05-1/10 (Canada) proposes a draft new Resolution on the quality of ITU-R Recommendations. Shortcomings in existing Recommendations were identified, such as those where little or no information was actually being recommended and others where more than one standard was being recommended without providing sufficient guidance. An increase in the use of Reports was proposed by several delegates as a means to overcome the problem of Recommendations falling below an acceptable quality standard. Following many interventions, there was unanimous agreement on the need to maintain a high quality for ITU-R Recommendations and encouragement was expressed for a greater use of Reports. The Administration of Canada was invited to continue studying the issue with a view to a further contribution to the next meeting of RAG, and subsequently a proposal to RA-07.

4.3   ITU-R patent policy; other patent, copyright and trade-mark issues

RAG noted the Director's report (§3.3 of Document RAG05-1/1) and the updated patent forms published in Administrative Circular CA/148, which were aligned with those used in ITU-T.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Serge Raes (France Telecom) and the French Administration to have accepted his nomination as the ITU-R Rapporteur on IPR issues. Mr. Raes gave a detailed oral report on the results of the meeting of the TSB Director's ad hoc Group on Intellectual Property Rights (AHG/IPR) on 1 and 2 November 2005. RAG expressed its thanks and appreciation to Mr. Eric Schimmel (USA) who served as the previous ITU-R Rapporteur on IPR issues.

4.4   Liaison and collaboration with the ITU-T and ITU-D Sectors and with other Organisations

4.4.1   Liaison and collaboration with ITU-T

Document RAG05-1/1, §3.4.1, indicates areas of liaison between ITU-R and ITU-T. It was noted, however, that there is room for improved mutual awareness of the responsibilities and terms of reference of the two Sectors in order to limit overlap and duplication. Examples of potential overlap were seen to occur both within the current work of the Study Groups of the two Sectors, as well as in workshops, seminars and handbooks/manuals organized by ITU-T and other departments of ITU. RAG concluded that every effort should be made to limit duplication of studies within the two Sectors and that, where possible, an expert from ITU-R and/or BR should be involved in activities and be present in all events of the other Sectors containing a radiocommunication content.

4.4.2   Liaison and collaboration with ITU-D

RAG noted §3.4.2 of Document RAG05-1/1 that indicates continuing healthy liaison in many areas of mutual interest between the two Sectors. In particular, RAG acknowledged the support provided by ITU-R and BR in the development of the enhanced spectrum management system, SMS4DC, and also the coordination with Study Group 3 on special propagation studies being carried out for certain countries in defined areas. In response to Document RAG05-1/2, hopes were expressed that SMS4DC will respond to the needs of developing countries and that further language versions of the software will subsequently be produced. RAG concluded that the work being undertaken on the

development of SMS4DC represents an excellent example of collaboration between the two Sectors through the joint group of Resolution 9 (WTDC-02), as well as between BDT and BR.

4.4.3   Liaison and collaboration with other organizations

Document RAG05-1/1, §3.4.3 gives examples of liaison with other organizations, citing the directives contained in Resolution ITU-R 9-2. Reference was made to the usefulness of the Guidelines established at RAG-04 and, in this respect, RAG noted with pleasure the finalization of agreements between ITU and ISO, and ITU and IEC, which, *inter alia,* have facilitated the normative referencing of ISO and IEC Standards in ITU-R Recommendations.

RAG noted Document RAG05-1/3 and acknowledged the importance of the Global Standards Collaboration (GSC) as a forum to coordinate standards-related studies within both ITU-R and ITU-T, at the same time providing an opportunity to promote the particular needs of developing countries as regards standards development.

RAG noted the information provided by the Director on the collaboration with UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (OOSA) (Document RAG05-1/INFO/1) and encouraged the Director to participate in those activities.

5   Preparation for RA-07 and WRC-07 and other related issues

A summary of the preparatory activities was presented (Document RAG05-1/1, §4), including reference to regional information meetings to be organized by the BR in the 2006-2007 period regarding WRC preparations. Following suggestions from a number of delegations, RAG concluded that priority should be given for these meetings to be held in Africa, and if possible combining the meetings for French and English speaking countries in a single event, with simultaneous interpretation. A request was made to give special consideration to the scheduling of the meeting of the Special Committee at the end of 2006 (4-8 December) given the importance regarding the preparation for CPM-07.

On the topic of incorporation by reference of ITU-R Recommendations, France and Japan (Docs. RAG05-1/9 and 12) introduced issues relating to the indirect incorporation by reference of ITU-R Recommendations in the framework of Resolutions **27 (Rev. WRC-03)** and **28 (Rev. WRC-03)**. RAG invited both administrations to submit their contributions to the Special Committee and invited the Director, if needed, to raise these issues in his report to WRC-07.

6   Preparation for RRC-06 and other related issues

RAG noted Document RAG05-1/4 on the status of the preparations for RRC-06. The BR informed the meeting that, following the deadline of 31 October, the total number of requirements submitted by Administrations had increased by 10% in comparison with the requirements submitted for the first planning exercise, despite the fact that 10 Administrations failed to submit requirements.

The Chairman of the Intersessional Planning Group (IPG) expressed his concerns and disappointment that, in spite of specific request/invitation made to Administrations at the IPG-1 meeting on 4-8 July 2005 to reduce their requirements, there seems to be some 10-15% increase in the requirements. Such increase makes the tasks of RRC-06 very difficult, if not impossible.

7   ITU-R strategic, operational and financial planning

An Ad-hoc Group was set up under the chairmanship of Mr. W. Luther (USA) to address the issues related to the ITU-R part of the draft Strategic Plan for the 2008-2011 period, in accordance with the requests contained in Document RAG05-1/19. The report of the Ad-hoc Group, as modified and agreed by the RAG, is presented in **Annex 3**.

Given that time constraints did not allow a full consideration of the relevant material to the draft Strategic Plan, contributions are invited on the ITU-R portion of the draft Strategic Plan for consideration of the Council WG.

It was agreed that a review of the current Strategic Plan (2004-2007) should be undertaken as part of the agenda of future RAG meetings in conformity with the *instructs the Secretary-General 1* of Resolution 71 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002).

RAG reviewed the draft Operational Plan for the 2006-2009 timeframe (Document RAG05-1/14). It was noted that, as provided in Administrative Circular CA/153 of 23 October 2005, comments relating to the draft Operational Plan could be sent to the BR until the finalization of the draft Plan for submission to the 2006 session of Council. RAG noted with appreciation the new structure and format and the Director was encouraged to proceed in the direction of a better linking among the financial, strategic and operational planning processes.

8   Date of next meeting

The next RAG meeting was scheduled for 24-26 January 2007 in Geneva, including a meeting of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen (CVC) during that period.

9   Any other business

The Director presented statistics on ITU-R Sector Members and Associates for the 2001-2005 period (Document RAG05-1/20).

A request was made that, when holding parallel meetings of Working Parties of a Study Group, the schedule should avoid overlap of plenary meetings of the Working Parties.

Annexes: 3

ANNEX 1

Agenda

THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE
RADIOCOMMUNICATION ADVISORY GROUP

Geneva, 31 October – 4 November 2005

		Documents RAG05-1/
1	**Opening remarks**	
2	**Approval of the agenda**	
3	**Decisions of Council-05 relevant to RAG**	
3.1	Budget for 2006-2007	1(§2.1)
3.2	Satellite network filing cost recovery (SNF)	1(§2.2)
3.3	Use of languages	1(§2.3), 7, 16
	3.3.1 Terminology database	1(§2.3.1), 11
3.4	Calendar of events	1(§2.4)
3.5	Sector Member Observers to Council	1(§2.5)
3.6	Free electronic access to ITU publications	1(§2.6)
4	**Study Group activities**	
4.1	**Study Group structure**	1(§3.1), 13
4.2	**Working methods of the ITU-R Study Groups**	1(§3.2), 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22
4.3	**ITU-R patent policy; other patent, copyright and trade-mark issues**	1(§3.3)
4.4	**Liaison and collaboration with the ITU-T and ITU-D Sectors and with other Organisations**	1(§3.4), 2, 3
5	**Preparation for RA-07 and WRC-07 and other related issues**	1(§4), 9, 12
6	**Preparation for RRC-06 and other related issues**	1(§5), 4
7	**ITU-R strategic, operational and financial planning**	1(§6)
7.1	Draft Strategic Plan for 2008-2011	1(§6.1), 19
7.2	Draft Financial Plan for 2008-2011	1(§6.2)
7.3	Draft Operational Plan for 2006-2009	1(§6.3), 14
8	**Date of next meeting**	
9	**Any other business**	20

ANNEX 2

Guidelines for the implementation of Resolution ITU-R 44

1   Review of the maintained Recommendations as stated in *resolves* 1

1.1   Updating of the substance (revision) of maintained Recommendations.

In view of reduction of the translation cost, any updating of the substance in ITU-R Recommendations for which any substantial revision was not made within 10-15 years should, as far as appropriate, be avoided.

1.2   Review of the maintained Recommendations toward deletion

Deletion of obsolete Recommendations is encouraged in the work of Study Groups, Working Parties and Task Groups. In this process the following factors should be taken into account:

-        if the content of the Recommendations still have certain validity, are they really so useful as to be continuously recommended by ITU-R?

-        is there another Recommendation developed later which handles the same (or quite similar) topics and could cover the points recommended in the old Recommendation?

-        in case that only a part of the Recommendation is regarded as still useful, possibility to transfer the relevant part to another Recommendation developed later.

It should be further taken into account:

-        that the status of telecommunication technology may differ from country to country and between Regions. Therefore, even if some administrations are in favour of suppressing an old Recommendation, technical /operational requirements addressed in that Recommendation may still be important for some other administrations.

When the consideration does not result in immediate deletion but a proposal for draft revision of the Recommendation, the guideline stated in §1.1 should apply.

The above work on the old Recommendations may be initiated also by a contribution from memberships.

To further facilitate the reviewing work, before the next Radiocommunication Assembly, the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau is invited, with the cooperation of the Chairmen of the Study Groups, to prepare lists of ITU-R Recommendations identified in §1.1 above. The relevant Study Groups are, therefore, requested to examine whether these Recommendations should be deleted, taking into account the factors stated before.

After the review by the relevant Study Groups, the results should be reported to the next Radiocommunication Assembly through the Chairmen of the Study Groups.

For Recommendations to be maintained, the reason could be identified as required.

2   Editorial updating of the maintained Recommendations as stated in *resolves* 2

Editorial updating stated in *resolves* 2 includes the following cases according to the main text in Resolution ITU-R 44;

–   ITU structural changes (CCIR to ITU-R, world administrative radio conference to world radiocommunication conference, IFRB to Radiocommunication Bureau, etc.);

–   the renumbering of Radio Regulations provisions* resulting from the simplification of the Radio Regulations, provided the Radio Regulation provision text is not changed;

-    updating of cross-references between ITU-R Recommendations;

-    need to delete references to Questions that are no longer in force.

Note: In addition to these, other cases, within the scope of editorial updating, may be added in the light of the main purpose of Resolution ITU-R 44 to keep ITU-R Recommendations up to date with minimal resources. This issue will be further studied through correspondence work as well as at future RAG meetings.

For these editorial amendments, the procedure stated in *resolves* 3 may apply. However, such editorial updating based on *resolves 2* should not be applied to Recommendations that have not been revised or newly developed during past 15 years.

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*   The Radiocommunication Bureau should be consulted in this respect.

ANNEX 3

Report of the RAG Ad-Hoc Group on
Strategic, Operational and Financial Planning

1. The RAG ad-hoc group on strategic, operational and financial planning met three times during the RAG meeting, on November 1, 2, and 3, with additional, extensive consultations on the margins, to develop the Radiocommunication Sector input and draft proposals to the ITU Council Working Group for the Elaboration of the Draft Strategic Plan 2008 – 2011. Input from the RAG is to be made available by 16 January 2006 in accordance with the request from the Council Working Group (Document RAG05-1/19), so that that input may be posted on the strategic plan website[4] and taken into account at the next meeting of the Working Group, which is scheduled for 30 – 31 January.

2. The ad-hoc group reviewed Council 2005 Decision **527** (Document C05/94) which established the Working Group for the Elaboration of the Draft Strategic Plan and the Draft Financial Plan, 2008 – 2011. Decision **527** provides the terms-of-reference for the Working Group and ultimately provides, through the conclusions of the Working Group, identification of the needed inputs based on the agreed ITU Results Based Budgeting (RBB) framework.

3. The Council Working Group for the Elaboration of the Draft Strategic Plan, in accordance with its objective of determining a methodology for the elaboration of the 2008 – 2011 strategic plan, prepared instructions for the Sector Advisory Groups (in this case, for the Radiocommunication Advisory Group) on contributions to the plan. The need for greater linkages between the strategic and financial plans was emphasized and it was agreed that the strategic plan should include a clear reference to the outputs as defined in the RBB framework.

4. The Council Working Group specifically requested in Document RAG05-1/19, that RAG:

   a. Review the sections in the 2004 – 2007 Strategic Plan pertinent to radiocommunication activities in order to determine their continued relevance;

   b. Following this review, propose a limited number of objectives (approximately 5);

   c. Provide a short mission statement for input to the 2008 – 2011 Strategic Plan;

   d. Illustrate the link between the objectives and the Union's outputs as defined in the RBB Framework (Annex A to Document RAG05-1/19);

   e. Identify 4 to 5 outputs that of are of particularly high priority (with the exception of intersectoral outputs); and

   f. Comment on the relevance of the strategic orientations and goals of the 2004 – 2007 Strategic Plan (Part I of the Annex to Resolution **71**).

5. Contributions are invited on §§ 4a to 4f above.

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4 See www.itu.int/strategicplan/

6. The ad-hoc group recognized that there were twelve outputs as defined within the RBB framework as budget elements, each of which is to be linked to the objectives that are developed. Further elaboration of linkages between outputs and objectives is still required.

7. List of Appendices:

- Appendix 1: draft ITU-R Mission Statement. Note should be taken of the comments found in Annex 5 relative to the mission statement.

- Appendix 2: draft ITU-R Objectives.

- Appendix 3: draft ITU-R outputs listed so as to be related to the draft objectives. Note should be taken of the comments found in Appendix 4 relative to the objectives.

- Appendix 4: comments of the ad-hoc group on the relevance of the strategic orientations and goals of the 2004 – 2007 strategic plan (Part 1 of the Annex to Resolution **71**).

Appendix 1

DRAFT MISSION STATEMENT[5]

- - to ensure, *inter alia*, consistent with application of Articles 1 and 12 of the ITU Constitution, the rational, equitable, efficient and economical use of the radio frequency spectrum by all radiocommunication services, including those using satellite orbits, and to carry out studies and approve Recommendations on radiocommunication matters - -

Appendix 2

DRAFT ITU-R OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: Promote, foster, and ensure coordination in maintaining and extending cooperation among all Member States, Sector Members, and Associates, in decision-making on radiocommunication issues, as appropriate, including particularly on radiocommunication services;

Objective 2: Meet the requirements of the membership for spectrum and orbit access in application of Article 44 of the ITU Constitution, in light, *inter alia*, of the accelerating convergence of radiocommunication services;

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[5] See §3 in Appendix 4.

Objective 3: Produce recommendations on radiocommunication services to achieve connectivity and interoperability, in applying modern information and communications technology;

Objective 4: Respond to needs of the membership by disseminating information and know-how on radiocommunication issues by publishing and distributing relevant materials, in coordination and collaboration, as appropriate, with the other Bureaus and the General Secretariat;

Objective 5: Provide support and assistance to the membership, mainly to developing countries, in relation to radiocommunication matters, information and communication network infrastructure and applications, and in particular with respect to (a) bridging the digital divide; (b) gaining equitable access to the radio-frequency spectrum and to satellite orbits; and (c) producing relevant training for capacity building.

Appendix 3

DRAFT ITU-R OUTPUTS RELATED TO OBJECTIVES OF APPENDIX 2

Under Objective 1:

- World Radiocommunication Conferences
- Regional Radiocommunication Conferences
- Radio Regulations Board
- Radiocommunication Assemblies
- Radiocommunication Advisory Group

Under Objective 2:

- Processing of space notices and other related activities*
- Processing of terrestrial notices and other related activities*

Under Objective 3:

- Study Groups, related Working Parties, Task Groups, and Joint Groups

Under Objective 4:

- ITU-R publications

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* Applying Plenipotentiary, World Radiocommunication Conference, and Council Decisions, and relevant ITU-R Recommendations

Under Objective 5:

- Assistance to, and cooperation with Member States, Sector Members, and Associates, in particular those of developing countries and LDCs

- Liaison with, and support for development activities

- Seminars

Appendix 4

ITU-R COMMENTS ON THE RELEVANCE OF THE STRATEGIC ORIENTATIONS AND GOALS OF THE 2004 – 2007 STRATEGIC PLAN
(Part 1 of the Annex to Resolution 71)

1. The ITU must focus on recruitment and development of human resources, incorporating gender and youth perspectives, so as to produce through training, incentives, and career ladders, a dedicated, highly motivated and top level cadre of staff and managers having high morale.

2. The ITU should examine on a regular basis its working methods and tools in striving for greater use of timely-developed, efficient, and user-friendly software and document exchange capabilities so as to take advantage of modern information technology.

3. In drafting the 2008 – 2011 Strategic Plan, and in consideration of the ITU-R mission, due account should be taken of the telecommunication environment and its implications for the Union, as expressed in the Annex to Resolution **71 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002)**, Part I, Section 2.

4. The outputs related to ITU-R draft Objective 3 should recognize the work and efforts in producing recommendations and reports by Study Groups and Radiocommunication Assemblies.

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