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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 4 toDocument WTDC-17/42-E** |
|  | **22 September 2017** |
|  | **Original: English** |
| United States of America |
| PROPOSED SUPPRESSION OF ITU-D STUDY QUESTION 9/2 – IDENTIFICATION OF STUDY TOPICS IN THE ITU-T AND ITU-R STUDY GROUPS WHICH ARE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES |
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| **Priority area:** - Study Group Questions**Summary:**The United States recognizes that it is important for ITU-D members, particularly developing countries, to be aware of studies taking place in ITU-T and ITU-R. Nevertheless, the United States does not believe this information exchange should be maintained as a distinct ITU-D study question. There are more efficient existingmechanisms for sharing information between Sectors regardingongoing studies relevant to ITU-D Study Questions. Therefore the United States proposes to suppress (SUP) Question 9/2.**Expected results:**ITU-D Study Question 9/2 will be suppressed. ITU-D will utilize existing mechanisms to ensure developing countries are aware of studies taking place in ITU-T and ITU-R and can benefit from the output of these studies.**References:**-- |

Introduction

The United States recognizes the importance of sharing information with ITU-D participants about studies taking place in ITU-T and ITU-R study groups. This information exchange is particularly important for developing countries, many of which are unable to participate regularly in the multiple meetings taking place within the ITU-T and ITU-R study groups. We appreciate that WTDC-14 adopted Question 9/2 which was admirably executed by the Rapporteur Group in Study Group 2. Nevertheless, the United States does not believe this information exchange continues to require a distinct ITU-D study question, such as Question 9/2 with the attendant expense and logistical requirements for separate meetings, meeting space, and interpretation.

During the 2014-2017 study period, Question 9/2 received two contributions from Member States and fewer than 30 in total. Nearly all of the remaining contributions were submitted as liaison statements or reports from the other sectors. In practice liaison statements also are directly and regularly exchanged between ITU-T and ITU-R expert groups and related ITU-D study questions. Additionally, BDT focal points are expected to provide updates on activiites associated to topics under discussion in the ITU-D study questions, and ITU-T and ITU-R experts are frequently invited to ITU-D study group meetings to provide presentations on technical studies being understaken in the other Sectors. ITU-D Membership would continue to receive this information from these sources.

Given the general lack of Member State input and the existence of alternative information exchange mechanisms – the United States proposes to suppress Question 9/2.

The United States does not intend for the suppression of Question 9/2 to reduce intersectoral information exchange about activities occurring within the three sectors. Rather, the United States believes ITU-D should continue to take advantage of existing resources and processes to share information with its members about studies taking place in ITU-T and ITU-R, including those noted above.

Proposal

The United States proposes to suppress ITU-D Question 9/2.

STUDY GROUP 2

**SUP** USA/42A4/1

QUESTION 9/2

Identification of study topics in the ITU‑T and ITU‑R study groups which are
of particular interest to developing countries

**Reasons:** The United States does not believe a distinct ITU-D study question is necessary to facilitate information sharing about studies taking place in ITU-T and ITU-R. Existing mechanisms – e.g. liaison statements – can facilitate this information exchange more efficiently than an ITU-D study question.

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