



Radiocommunication Bureau

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Administrative Circular
CA/166

23 March 2007

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

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

Reference: Administrative Circular CA/162 of 17 July 2005

1 The Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) met for the fourteenth time from 24 to 26 January 2007 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 RAG07-1/24, 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 16 February 2007. 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 fourteenth RAG meeting

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

Attachment

FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE RADIOCOMMUNICATION ADVISORY GROUP

Geneva, 24 – 26 January 2007

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

1 Introduction

The Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) held its fourteenth meeting in Geneva, from 24-26 January 2007, under the chairmanship of Mr B. Gracie (Canada), and assisted by the Vice-Chairmen Mr N. Kisrawi (Syrian Arab Republic), Mr W. Luther (United States) and Mr I. Samake (Mali). The meeting was attended by 97 delegates representing 81 Member States, and 16 Sector Members, including seven international organizations¹.

2 Opening remarks and approval of the agenda

Following the opening remarks of the Secretary-General, the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau and the Chairman of RAG, in presence of the other ITU elected officials, the agenda was approved and is shown in **Annex 1**. A list of documents considered at the meeting can be consulted at: <http://www.itu.int/md/R07-RAG-C/en>. The conclusions reached with respect to the considered agenda items are summarized as follows.

3 Decisions of Council 2006

Document RAG07-1/6 (§ 2) was introduced highlighting the following subjects: satellite network filing cost recovery; use of languages; and the calendar of events.

3.1 Editing

Clarification was provided on the implementation of the measures to conduct the editing tasks in the BR, noting that the Bureau's plans were to undertake the tasks of technical proof-reading in the original language of the ITU-R text concerned, leaving the editing to be performed by the Conference and Publications Department of the ITU General Secretariat in the six languages on an equal footing.

¹ The list of participants is contained in Document RAG07-1/25.

3.2 Terminology database

Document RAG07-1/19 (Chairman, CCV) containing information about ITU-R terms and definitions was introduced. The document noted the online systems for access to the ITU-R/ITU-T Terms and Definitions database, which has been available since 1 May 2006 and provides terminology in the six ITU languages. It concludes that this database system is an essential tool for the experts of ITU-R Study Groups. RAG noted the proposed revisions by CCV to Resolutions ITU-R 33-1 and 34-1.

A presentation to the RAG participants of the six-language prototype of the ITU-R/ITU-T Terms and Definitions integrated database system (<http://www.itu.int/pub/R-TER-DB/en>) was given by BR on 25 January 2007. It was pointed out that the ITU-R element of the database contains terminology in the six languages, using ITU official terms, normally available from the study groups, noting that the Arabic/Russian/Chinese terms are provided by the ITU Translation Section. The attention of the meeting was drawn to the suggested replacement of the V-Series Recommendations, dealing with the official radiocommunication vocabulary in six languages, by the ITU-R database.

RAG thanked the BR for the interesting demonstration of the prototype systems and advised the Director to participate actively in the activities called upon by PP-06 Resolution **154** (Antalya, 2006) for the merging of all terminology databases, noting that the functionalities of the ITU-R database should not be lost in the final consolidated ITU new system.

Syria regretted that the CCV was not applying the decision of the Council-06 on Resolution 1238 and also regretted that the total number of those terms available in the six languages was only slightly above 4 000.

3.3 Documentation

RAG noted that the Guidelines for the working methods of the Radiocommunication Assembly, the Radiocommunication Study Groups and related groups (<http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/study-groups/docs/guidelines-155-2-en.doc>) contains instructions on the preparation of documents contributions and on document availability at meetings, which should be limited in length, with a maximum of ten pages, although a suggestion was made that there should be a five-page limitation in the future.

RAG advised the Director to reinforce the application of those guidelines and other practices similar to the measures used for RRC-06 (see Doc. [RRC06/INFO/1](#)) to the forthcoming ITU-R meetings and conferences.

4 Decisions of the Plenipotentiary Conference (Antalya, 2006)

Document RAG07-1/7 was introduced highlighting the following subjects: strategic, financial and operational planning; meeting scheduling; budgeting; cost recovery and satellite network filings; use of ITU official languages and terminology; emergency communications; WSIS implementation; observers; Radio Regulations Board; and ITU management. Delegates' attention was drawn to texts, which invite comments of the RAG, such as revised Resolutions **71**, **72**, and Resolution **156** (Antalya, 2006). The attention of the meeting was also drawn to Resolution **147** (Antalya, 2006), which resolves to instruct the Council to examine, i.a. the responsibility, accountability and transparency of the advisory groups.

4.1 Budgeting

RAG noted Decision 5 (Rev. Antalya, 2006), which indicates the need for preparing a balanced budget for the 2008-2009 biennium, and which overcomes the gap between estimated income and projected expenditure.

4.2 Sector Member Observers to Council

RAG noted the modifications adopted by PP-06 to CV60B and the clarifications provided in Resolution 145 (Antalya, 2006) on the participation of observers in conferences and meetings of ITU. As Council Decision 519 remains valid and the modifications to the Convention will not enter into force before 1 January 2008, ITU-R Sector Member Observers to Council 2007 would need to be selected consistent with the directives set forth by Administrative Circular [CA/146](#). For that purpose, the Chairman of the RAG invited Sector Members to indicate to him their interest in participating in the forthcoming meeting of the Council to be held from 4 to 14 September 2007.

5 Study group activities

5.1 Working methods of the ITU-R Study Groups

Documents RAG07-1/6 (§ 3.1) + Add.2 (Section 1) were introduced covering several issues relating to the working methods.

5.1.1 Resolution ITU-R 1-4

In the light of the issues raised in the submissions by the Director and Document RAG07-1/12 (Japan), RAG decided to establish a Correspondence Group on the review of Resolution ITU-R 1, appointing Mr W. Luther (United States) as convenor with the announced participation of Canada, France, the United States, Japan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Russian Federation and Sweden (see Annex 5). The results of the CG work are expected to be available before 8 June 2007. The CG will report its conclusions to RA-07 through the Director.

With reference to footnote 1 to Resolution ITU-R 1-4, a suggestion was made to consider establishing working procedures for the RAG.

5.1.2 Electronic Document Handling (EDH)

RAG noted the report of the Convenor of the Correspondence Group on Electronic Document Handling (EDH) (Document RAG07-1/2) covering mainly issues relating to online registration of delegates and the ITU-R website. RAG concluded that the EDH Correspondence Group should be maintained and that it should establish a closer liaison with the working party of TSAG dealing with electronic working methods.

5.1.2.1 Online registration of delegates

This RAG meeting was the first ITU-R event to use the online registration based on the Event Delegate Registration System (EDRS) developed by the ITU Information Service (IS) Department. Despite a few inconveniences communicated by some delegates, regarding which the secretariat will take the necessary measures to eliminate problems in the future, the online system was found as proving a substantial improvement toward automation and simplification of the procedures.

RAG advised the Director that the use of focal points for the online registration system should not apply to Study Group meetings and those of their subordinate groups (e.g. WPs, TGs.), as well as to the appointed Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of SGs, CPM and RAG for the relevant meetings. Some delegations suggested that provisions should be added to flag visa requirements such that the

ITU could expedite the preparation of the necessary documents since reception of the online submission of the registration form.

5.1.3 Resolution ITU-R 44

RAG noted the report of the Convenor of the Correspondence Group on Resolution ITU-R 44 (Document RAG07-1/11), Dr A. Hashimoto (Japan), which contains options for the treatment of that Resolution. RAG concluded that the most favourable option consisted in the suppression of Resolution ITU-R 44 and the inclusion of the text developed by the CG in Attachment 1 to Document RAG07-1/11 directly into the text of Resolution ITU-R 1-4 and/or in the Guidelines for the working methods (the final decision should be taken in connection with the activities of the CG on Resolution ITU-R 1).

RAG thanked Dr A. Hashimoto for his efforts and decided to disband the CG.

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

RAG noted the Director's Report (§ 3.2 of Document RAG07-1/6) and the updated patent forms published in Administrative Circular CA/164.

Document RAG07-1/5 was introduced which contains the Common Patent Policy developed in collaboration among the international standardization organizations, i.e. ITU, ISO/ IEC. Considering that the common policy had already been favourably considered by TSAG and the ITU-R Rapporteur on IPR issues, RAG noted that it would be appropriate to harmonize the patent policies and advised the Director to apply the Common Patent Policy of the Annex to Document RAG07-1/5.

Given that the Patent Policy is currently contained in Annex 1 to Resolution ITU-R 1, RAG invited the CG on the review of Resolution ITU-R 1 to consider the most appropriate manner to provide flexibility to future revisions of the Patent Policy in the period between RAs (e.g. addition of provisions in that sense in Resolution ITU-R 52; addition of a footnote in Annex 1 to Resolution ITU-R 1 authorizing RAG to revise the policy; moving the policy to a non-normative attachment).

5.3 Liaison and collaboration with the ITU-T and ITU-D Sectors and with other Organizations

5.3.1 Liaison and collaboration with ITU-T

Document RAG07-1/6, § 3.3.1 indicated areas of liaison between ITU-R and ITU-T. Shortcomings in the mutual awareness of the respective responsibilities of the two Sectors were noted, as was a certain lack of coordination in the organization of workshops and seminars having elements of mutual interest. For its next meeting, RAG requested a report on the various aspects of liaison and coordination between the two Sectors with a view to advising on a mechanism to improve future cooperation and reduce duplication. The Chairman of TSAG made reference to the ITU-T Seminar Coordination Committee (SCC) (<http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/scc/index.phtml>) suggesting that RAG identify contact points with the SCC to facilitate coordination actions. With reference to the continuity of the ICG-SAT (<http://web/ITU-T/othergroups/icg-sat/index.asp>), the opinion of the RAG was that this group may no longer be required.

5.3.2 Liaison and collaboration with ITU-D

RAG noted § 3.3.2 of Document RAG07-1/6 that listed significant areas of liaison between the two Sectors. Emphasis was placed on the importance of continuing radiowave propagation studies in the region of the Gulf. The Chairman of TDAG looked forward to a further strengthening of cooperation between ITU-R and ITU-D, supported by advice offered by TDAG.

5.3.3 Liaison and collaboration with other organizations

Document RAG05-1/1, § 3.3.3 reported on the successful implementation of Resolution ITU-R 9-2 and its related Guidelines. The document also referred to several liaison activities including those with [SFCG](#) (Space Frequency Coordination Group), CISPR, and participation at the 11th meeting of the Global Standards Collaboration meeting (GSC-11) in May/June 2006. A report of the latter was presented in Document RAG07-1/4. The meeting acknowledged the misleading use of the term "ITU-R delegation" with respect to participation at GSC-11 but at the same time RAG strongly endorsed the future participation of the Director of BR, or his designated representative(s), and the Chairman of RAG in GSC activities and meetings. RAG also advised the Director of BR to consult with the Director of BDT in preparation for GSC meetings in order to take into account the interests of developing countries. In a similar vein, participation by BR in meetings of 3GPP and 3GPP2 was encouraged, given the importance and relevance of these groups to the work of ITU-R Study Group 8.

5.4 Emergency radiocommunications

Addenda 1 and 3 to Document RAG07-1/6 were presented containing updated information on internal ITU and ITU-R study group activities on emergency radiocommunications. Note was made of the creation of the ITU Intersectoral Emergency Communications Team (IECT), chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, as well as the recently established Recommendations ITU-R BT.1774 on the use of satellite and terrestrial broadcast infrastructures for public warning, disaster mitigation and relief and ITU-R F.1105-2 on fixed wireless systems for disaster mitigation and relief operations. RAG noted with satisfaction the greater level of coordination within ITU.

RAG noted the two PP-06 Resolutions on this topic: Resolution **36** (Rev. Antalya, 2006) on telecommunications/information and communication technologies in the service of humanitarian assistance, and Resolution **136** (Antalya, 2006) on the use of telecommunications/information and communication technologies for monitoring and management in emergency and disaster situations for early warning, prevention, mitigation and relief.

IARU reminded the meeting of its involvement in these activities and announced that the Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference ([GAREC-2007](#)) will take place on 16 and 17 August in Huntsville, Alabama, United States.

6 Preparation for RA-07

As regards RA-07, RAG was informed of the recent dispatch of Circular letter CACE/404 announcing the Assembly and containing a possible committee structure. Section II of Addendum 2 to Document RAG07-1/6 contains some thoughts relating to organizational aspects for RA-07, particularly in the light of its expected heavy workload to be undertaken within just five days. The possibility of combining Committee 4 (Structure and work programme) and Committee 5 (Working methods) was discussed, as was an alternative suggestion to treat the work programme in a separate group. RAG requested administrations to submit suggestions on such organizational aspects to BR as soon as possible. As concerns the production of summary records, it was suggested that a Rapporteur from the membership might be assigned for the task, assisted by the Secretariat. In any event, it was requested that any statements from administrations intended for summary records be made available to the secretariat as soon as possible after the plenary at which they were made. Section III of Addendum 2 contains a simple review of ITU-R Resolutions with indications as to their likely outcome at RA-07. Following remarks on several of them, RAG decided to establish a Correspondence Group appointing Mr Robin Haines, United States as convener, to review all ITU-R Resolutions, with the exception of Resolution ITU-R 1-4 and those Resolutions falling under the specific purview of the Study Groups (see Annex 6).

Document RAG07-1/8 (Italy) proposing to extend the term of office of Study Group Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen at RA-07 was not supported. The suggestion was made that, in future, consideration be given to the possibility of interleaving terms of office in order to limit the number retiring at any one time.

Document RAG07-1/18 (United States) proposed modifications to Resolution ITU-R 15-3. The proposed new *resolves* 6 (indicating that periods in office were independent of the Study Group concerned) was not supported. However, RAG recognized the existing conflict between the current text of the Resolution and that contained in CV244 with respect to the vacant positions in mid-term. Further consideration would be given to revising the Resolution through the Correspondence Group on Resolutions referred to above.

Document RAG07-1/20 (Canada) proposed that Study Groups be scheduled to meet in the same time period and conducted under a consolidated agenda. RAG proposed that the idea would be more appropriately discussed in a future meeting of the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen.

Discussions relating to the WRC/CPM process following introduction by France and Sweden of Document RAG07-1/21 resulted in the consideration of following options relating to the first sessions of the CPM:

- a) Part of the work associated with CPM-1 will be undertaken during the WRC in such a way that Committee 7 will, for example, towards the end of its activities, identify the SGs and/or WPs which should carry out the required studies for a future WRC. A one-day meeting will take place before the final days of the WRC, when the conference pauses for the preparation of the Final Acts.
- b) The consideration of the assignment of work to the SGs and/or WPs will take place during the period when the Final Acts are being prepared. The duration of WRC is reduced by one day and the remaining work of CPM-1 will take place immediately after the WRC.
- c) The consideration of the assignment of work to the SGs and/or WPs will take place during the period when the Final Acts are being prepared. The duration of the WRC will not be reduced and the CPM-1 meeting will take place the day immediately after the WRC (i.e. Saturday).

The apparent advantages of the above options are as follows:

- 1) In option a), the current two days foreseen for CPM-1 will no longer be required, as the activities associated with CPM-1 will be carried out during the WRC.
- 2) In option b) the current two days foreseen for CPM-1 will no longer be required, as the activities associated with CPM-1 will be carried out during the standard 20 working days currently assigned to WRC. The duration of WRC will be reduced by one day.
- 3) In option c) part of the activities of the CPM-1 will be carried out during the WRC, when the conference pauses for the preparation of the Final Acts. The duration of WRC will not be reduced and the remaining work of CPM-1 will be done in a one day meeting immediately after the end of WRC.
- 4) In options a), b) and c), a one or two day time saving will be achieved, depending on the option chosen. For options a) and b), it will not be necessary for delegates to remain in Geneva for four additional days (i.e. Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday); for option c), there will be a saving of three days (i.e. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday). A proportional decrease in expenditures, although not substantial, associated with a reduction in meeting days (two with options a) and b) and one with option c)), can be expected.

There was unanimity in keeping the current arrangements for the second session of the CPM (CPM-2) in 2007.

RAG concluded that discussion on WRC/CPM-1 process issues should be pursued at the next meetings of the WRC-07 Informal Group, bearing in mind nevertheless that any amendments to the current CPM process, as reflected in Resolution ITU-R 2-4, would need to be undertaken by the Radiocommunication Assembly.

6.1 Study Group structure

The following contributions were considered addressing issues relating to the Study Group structure:

Documents RAG07-1/9 (Chairman, SG 6), RAG07-1/13 (CBS), RAG07-1/14 (NABA) were presented, all referring to the current terms of reference of Study Group 6, and expressing support for the need to study the broadcasting service on an end-to-end basis in consideration of any future Study Group structure.

Document RAG07-1/10 (IARU) was supported by RAG, recommending the need to treat the amateur and the amateur-satellite services together in any future structure.

Document RAG07-1/15 (WMO) was supported by RAG, recommending that studies on meteorological radars be kept with those on other radar systems.

Document RAG07-1/16 (Chairman, WP 8F) was presented containing information and statistics on the work of Working Party 8F, drawing attention to the need to avoid significant changes to the structure and responsibilities of WP 8F.

Document RAG07-1/22 (Ericsson, Nokia and Siemens) was noted and kept for consideration in further studies.

Some of these documents had already been discussed during the RAG informal meeting on RA-07 preparations that took place on 23 January 2007, the notes and observations of which, as compiled by the Chairman, appear in Annex 2. Following lengthy discussions, RAG agreed on options for a study group structure based on the output of an ad hoc group, as described in Annex 3. It was decided to establish a correspondence group appointing Mr Bruce Gracie, Canada as the focal point, to pursue the discussions on the structure of study groups (see Annex 4). In addition, it also agreed that a RAG Informal Meeting to advance the debate should be convened during CPM-07² by the Chairman of the RAG who was authorized to provide the Director with the results and conclusions of the discussions.

It was understood that the Director must advise administrations in a timely manner if the Study Group structure is to be changed at RA-07, so that appropriate preparations and nominations for Study Group Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen may be determined.

7 Preparation for WRC-07 and other related issues

A summary of the preparatory activities was presented in Document RAG07-1/6, § 5. Additional information on the preparations for CPM-07 was given by the CPM Chairman.

RAG noted that BR was finalizing arrangements, in coordination with ATU, for an information meeting on WRC-07 for African countries. RAG advised the Director to consider the following objectives in preparing for this meeting: provide detailed explanations of the results of CPM-07 to assist participating countries in the formulation of their proposals, provide information on the views of other regional groups, coordinate the dates with the African preparatory process. The request was

² Note by the Secretariat: This [informal meeting on RA-07 preparations](#) was scheduled for 25 February 2007.

noted by the RAG to organize the BR information meeting back-to-back with the next ATU preparatory meeting.

RAG's attention was drawn to the following forthcoming preparatory meetings for WRC-07:

- [ATU African Information Meeting on the 2nd Conference Preparatory Meeting \(CPM07-2\) of the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference \(WRC-07\)](#), 29-31 January 2007, Yaoundé, Cameroon.
- The 5th APT Conference Preparatory Group Meeting for WRC-2007 ([APG2007-5](#)), 16-21 July 2007, Busan, Republic of Korea.
- [CAPTEF Seminar on WRC-07](#), 15-16 February 2007, Paris, France.
- RCC Commissions meeting, first week of April 2007, Bishkek, Kirghizstan.
- Arab States Spectrum Management Group ([ASMG](#)) meeting, 22-26 July 2007, Damascus, Syria (with the main task to prepare for WRC-07).

RAG noted Document RAG07-1/1 (Director, BR) presenting the results of the initial study on the general review of WRC Resolutions and Recommendations. The CPM Chairman informed the RAG that this document was also submitted to the CPM (Document CPM07-1/3) for review and inclusion in the CPM Report to WRC-07.

8 RRC-06 post-conference activities

RAG noted Document RAG05-1/3 on the status report on post-conference activities resulting from the decisions of RRC-06. It was noted that the RRB approved in December 2006 the Rules of Procedure relating to the revised ST61 Agreement, the revised GE89 Agreement and the GE06 Agreement; RAG also noted the cost implications of the RRC-06 decisions, which were expected to be considered in the preparation of the 2008-09 biennium budget.

An opinion was expressed that the submissions under the GE06 Agreement should be subjected to cost-recovery principles. However, strong concerns were expressed about the feasibility of implementing such approach with respect to submissions governed by regional agreements, as some issues, such as free entitlement and consequences due to non-payment, may require a revision of all regional agreements by competent conferences.

9 BR seminars

The Director informed that the United Arab Emirates had kindly offered to host in Abu Dhabi the BR Regional Seminar for the Arab Region planned for the 2nd quarter of 2007. Discussions about the agenda, exact venue, and dates were ongoing. Suggestions were made to include in the programme items on RRC-06 results and its implementation, as well as elements regarding the results of the CPM-07.

10 ITU-R strategic, operational and financial planning

RAG reviewed the draft [ITU-R operational plan](#) for the 2007-2010 time-frame and noted the new presentation in a more concise format. RAG advised the Director to collect comments that may be formulated by RAG members for a period of two months (approximately by 30 March 2007) before the final version is submitted for the 2007 session of the Council.

11 Preparation of the biennium draft budget 2008-2009

Document RAG07-1/6 (§ 7) was introduced emphasizing the efforts made to make all possible savings while noting that the Bureau was already operating at a minimum level of resources. RAG

encouraged the Director to continue to investigate areas where other possible savings could be found, particularly regarding §§ 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 11, 13 and 18 of PP-06 Annex 2 to Decision 5, noting that Annex 1 to Decision 5 already reflects some of the reductions associated with those options.

12 Date of the next meeting

The next RAG meeting was scheduled for 13-15 February 2008 in Geneva, possibly preceded by an information meeting of the RAG on 12 February 2008 with the purpose to review the ITU-R operational plan.

13 Any other business

Document RAG-07-1/17 (Netherlands, Finland) was introduced and RAG noted that it was the prerogative of the contributing administrations to pursue action on the matter of spectrum for short range devices at RA or WRC.

The Director presented statistics on ITU-R Sector Members and Associates for the 2001-2006 period (Document RAG07-1/23).

With respect to the organization of future seminars and workshops affecting the Radiocommunication Sector, which includes the sponsorship of such events outside of the normal processes pertaining to voluntary contributions, it was agreed that careful scrutiny needs to be exercised by the Coordination Committee to ensure the complete transparency of the organization of such events, as well as the full involvement of the Sector(s) concerned, as a leader for such events.

RAG participants observed a minute of silence in the memory of Professor I. Stojanovic who chaired WARC-ORB-85 and WARC-ORB-88 as well as the CCIR Assembly in Dubrovnik, 1986 and passed away on 23 January 2007. The Director, followed by the delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran, paid tribute to his eminent expertise and warm humanity and expressed his deepest grief for the loss of Prof. Stojanovic, which, in his words, was not only a loss for him but to the whole telecommunications community. The Director was invited to send condolences to his family and to his administration on behalf of RAG participants.

14 Closing remarks

It was noted that this was the last meeting of RAG over which Mr Bruce Gracie would preside as Chairman. His guidance, enthusiasm and expertise have been enormously appreciated over his period in office. The Chairman of the RAG expressed his appreciation and satisfaction in having had the opportunity to conduct the work of RAG during the period and thanked the Director, the Vice-Chairmen, all participants, the Bureau and support staff, and the interpreters.

Annexes: 6

ANNEX 1
AGENDA
OF THE
FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE
RADIOCOMMUNICATION ADVISORY GROUP

Geneva, 24-26 January 2007

**Documents
RAG07-1/**

1	Opening remarks	
2	Approval of the agenda	
3	Decisions of Council-06 and PP-06 relevant to RAG	6 (§ 2), 7
3.1	Financial Plan, Strategic Plan, Council and RAG schedules	
4	Study Group activities	
4.1	Working methods of the ITU-R Study Groups, including progress report from the convenor of the RAG Correspondence Group on the implementation of Resolution ITU-R 44 (updating of certain maintained CCIR/ITU-R Recommendations) and from the convenor of the RAG Correspondence Group on EDH)	2, 6 (§ 3.1+ Add.2), 11, 12, 19
4.2	ITU-R patent policy; other patent, copyright and trade-mark issues	5, 6 (§ 3.2)
4.3	Liaison and collaboration with the ITU-T and ITU-D Sectors and with other Organizations	6 (§ 3.3)
	4.3.1 Global Standards Collaboration (GSC)	4
	4.3.2 Emergency radiocommunications	6(Add.1)
5	RRC-06 post-conference activities	3
6	Preparation for WRC-07	1, 6 (§ 5)
6bis	RA-07 preparation	6 (§ 5 + Add.2), 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22
7	Draft operational plan for 2007-2010	6 (§ 6)
8	Preparation of the draft budget 2008-2009	6 (§ 7)
9	Date of next meeting	
10	Any other business	17, 23

ANNEX 2

Informal meeting on RA-07 preparations

Tuesday, 23 January 2007

MEETING NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

- Administrative Circular CA/161 was issued on 17 July 2006 inviting Member States and Sector Members to consider the optimum structure of the ITU-R Study Groups for review and decision by RA-07.
- Included among the principal factors underlying such a review are the following: 1) the need to optimize the efficiency of the Radiocommunication Sector, taking into consideration the continuing financial constraints in ITU and the need to reduce costs for both the membership and the secretariat; and 2) the need to ensure that the structure and terms of reference of the Study Groups are commensurate with radiocommunication technologies and associated spectrum issues, recognizing, in particular, aspects of convergence resulting from modern digital technologies.
- While the consideration of the optimal choice of Study Groups also involves a determination of an appropriate number of working parties, at this stage in the preparations for the RA, it is considered appropriate to focus on “topics”, while leaving the detailed consideration of the number of working parties to the Study Groups themselves.
- It was, however, suggested that the number of working parties per Study Group be limited to about three to the extent possible.
- With respect to Questions, it was noted that the management of Questions will be an important issue for the RA. In this regard, guidance from the Assembly on the determination of the need for a new Question, and the issue of merging Questions, etc. will be required. In this respect, it was noted that the Study Group Chairmen need to assume responsibility for the detailed review of Questions.
- The BR was requested to provide information if feasible to facilitate the consideration of various options for Study Group restructuring, including the financial aspects associated with the establishment of the biennial budget for 2008-2009, particularly the considerable gap between estimated income and projected expenditure for the period 2008-2011. It was noted that information pertaining to the cost of holding meetings, the number of meetings, etc. would be very useful.
- Having considered a number of possible options for Study Group restructuring, there were no major disagreements on the following points:
 - a) given the specialized nature of the work of Study Groups 1, 3 and 7, these three Study Groups should maintain their current scope and responsibilities, although there were suggestions to merge Study Groups 1 and 3; it was, however, noted that RAG had concluded at a previous meeting that there would be no discernable advantages associated with such a merger and this was confirmed at this meeting;

- b) realignment of the current Study Group arrangements in ITU-R should focus on the scope and responsibilities of Study Groups 4, 8 and 9;
 - c) the scope of Study Group 6 should largely remain intact to reflect the need to study the broadcasting service on an end-to-end basis; however, the activities of Working Party 6S should be aligned with other studies relating to satellite matters. In addition, a suggestion was made that SG 6 activities, which are associated with in-studio applications (production and recording, etc) should be contained in one working party to the extent practicable;
 - d) studies relating to the amateur and amateur-satellite services should not be separated;
 - e) meteorological radars should be retained in the same area of study responsible for other radar systems.
- In the opinion of the majority of the participants, an optimum number of Study Groups is 6, although there were suggestions that a fewer number of Study Groups would be feasible, or that the existing number (7) be maintained.
 - While in the opinion of some the transfer of certain activities from ITU-R to ITU-T appeared to be feasible, a general view was expressed that for any such transfer, careful and cautious consideration will need to be given to the provisions of PP Resolution 16 (Kyoto, 1994), Resolution ITU-R 6-1, and ITU-T Resolution 18.
 - It was suggested that a Correspondence Group be established for the purpose of providing a focal point for the further consideration and review of options to be considered by the RA. It was requested that as many concrete proposals as possible about restructure be made available by mid-June to facilitate consideration by various regional groups. It is recognized, however, that this does not preclude the continuation of the work if necessary to ensure that all possible aspects are considered to facilitate the work of the RA on this subject.

ANNEX 3

Options for a Study Group structure for ITU-R

During the informal meeting on 23 January 2007, there was widespread support, although not unanimity, in the following as a basis for moving forward:

- 1) Given the specialized nature of the work of Study Groups 1, 3 and 7, it is proposed to maintain in substance their current scope and responsibilities.
- 2) Realignment of the current Study Group arrangements in ITU-R should focus on the scope and responsibilities of Study Groups 4, 8 and 9.
- 3) The scope of Study Group 6 to study broadcasting on an end-to-end basis should remain substantially intact; however, the activities of Working Party 6S should be aligned with other studies relating to satellite access (FSS). All work dealing with in-studio applications (production, recording etc) should be dealt with in a single working party, to the extent possible.
- 4) Studies relating to the amateur and amateur-satellite services should not be separated.
- 5) Meteorological radars should remain in the area of study dealing with other radar applications.

With regard to Study Groups 4, 8 and 9, two options may be considered for two study groups each of which combine the functions of the three existing study groups. In Option 1 there would be a study group C on access issues and a Study Group D on infrastructure network matters. In Option 2 there would be a Study Group C on terrestrial services and a Study Group D dealing with satellite services.

In the case of Option 1, the activities of Study Group 9 relating to infrastructure, as well as those of Working Parties 4A and 6S could be usefully combined in a single study group focused on infrastructure network issues, which would include, for the satellite aspects, both access and system components.

In the case of Option 2, most of the terrestrial work from Study Groups 8 and 9 would be considered under a single Study Group C, whereas the activities of Working Parties 4A, 4B, 6S and 8D could be usefully combined in another Study Group D focused on satellite services.

Finally, given the unique propagation and interference environment as well as service applications in the HF bands, consideration should be given to combine the HF work currently undertaken in Study Groups 8 and 9 under one working party.

Option 1 for a new ITU-R Study Group structure

Study Group C*	Study Group D*
Access	Infrastructure network
IMT (from 8F)	Fixed-satellite service (from 4A and 4B)
Mobile-satellite services and radiodetermination-satellite service (8D)	Broadcasting-satellite service (from 6S)
Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) systems: (from 9B and 9A)	Point-to-point systems (from 9A and 9B)
Land mobile service applications (from 8A)	Sharing with other services (from 4-9S and 9D)
Maritime, aeronautical, radiodetermination services; meteorological radar (from 8B)	Fixed service at HF (from 9C)
	Amateur services (from 8A)

* Nomenclature is provisional pending finalization of the structure of the two new study groups.

Option 2 for a new ITU-R Study Group structure

Study Group C*	Study Group D*
Terrestrial services	Satellite services
IMT (from 8F)	Fixed-satellite service (from 4A and 4B)
Point-to-point and Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) systems (from 9A and 9B)	Broadcasting-satellite service (from 6S)
Amateur services (from 8A)	Mobile-satellite services and radiodetermination-satellite service (8D)
Fixed service at HF (from 9C)	Sharing with other services
Land mobile service (from 8A)	
Maritime, aeronautical, radiodetermination services, meteorological radar (from 8B)	
Sharing with other services	

* Nomenclature is provisional pending finalization of the structure of the two new study groups.

Summary

The favoured approach was based on a structure of six study groups in which Study Groups 1, 3 and seven retain, in substance, their current scope and responsibilities. Study Group 6 remains unchanged, except for the transfer of the work of WP 6S to Study Group D of either Option 1 or Option 2.

With respect to Option 1 and Option 2, opinion was divided as to which option was most acceptable. Furthermore, the issues of sharing between services needs to be addressed, either through redistribution of topics, or through the creation of joint groups. Also, a concern was expressed about the volume of work that will be included in the new study groups, particularly from the point of view of the secretariat. These points will be discussed in the correspondence group and, hopefully, resolved during an informal meeting to be convened during the CPM³.

³ Note by the Secretariat: This [Informal Meeting on RA-07 Preparations](#) was scheduled for 25 February 2007.

ANNEX 4

Terms of reference for the Correspondence Group on the Structure of Study Groups

1 The scope of the Correspondence Group is to examine the two options for an ITU-R Study Group structure, attached to the Summary of Conclusions of the fourteenth meeting of the RAG as Annex 3, with a view towards advancing the discussions on the issues and possibly resolving any remaining divisions of opinion.

2 An exchange of views is to be undertaken using the *rag-structure@itu.int* reflector in preparation for a face-to-face meeting to be held during the CPM-07. The focal point for the discussions is the Chairman of the RAG, Bruce Gracie (Gracie.Bruce@ic.gc.ca) who should be copied on all correspondence on this subject.

3 Included among the issues to be addressed are the distribution of topics to be included in relation to Study Group C and Study Group D in each option, bearing in mind the volume of work associated with these options, as well as sharing between services, either through the redistribution of topics, or through the creation of a single joint group.

ANNEX 5

Terms of Reference for the Resolution ITU-R 1-4 Correspondence Group

At its 24-26 January 2007 meeting, the Radiocommunication Advisory Group established a Correspondence Group to consider required modifications to Resolution ITU-R 1-4, and to develop and propose to the Director, Radiocommunication Bureau (BR), modifications to the Resolution that may be considered at the Radiocommunication Assembly, 15-19 October 2007.

The Resolution ITU-R 1-4 Correspondence Group is established under the leadership of an appointed Chairman. The group will perform its work by electronic correspondence using the Internet or via facsimile. No face-to-face meetings are planned.

Participation in the work of this Correspondence Group is open to representatives of ITU Member States and Sector Members. Organizations comprised of the above, specifically regional groups, may also provide comments to the Correspondence Group. Any views expressed and documentation submitted should indicate the Member State, Sector Member, Associate or other eligible group making the submission.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 1 The scope of the ITU-R 1-4 Correspondence Group is limited to consideration of Resolution ITU-R 1-4, as well as relevant texts from other ITU-R Resolutions, or other provisions that might be appropriate for incorporation therein.
- 2 Based on contributions from its members, the ITU-R 1-4 Correspondence Group will give advice to the Director, BR, on specific modifications for improvement of Resolution ITU-R 1-4.
- 3 The Convener of the Correspondence Group is: Mr William LUTHER
<William.luther@asrcms.com>, Office of Spectrum Management, ASRC Management Services, 12021 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, Virginia 20190, United States.
Tel. +1-571-262-3144/Fax. +1-571-203-1346.
- 4 Using the Internet, the Correspondence Group will exchange e-mail using the ITU Radiocommunication Advisory Group reflector: rag-res1@itu.int. Each message should identify "Resolution ITU-R 1-4" in the subject line.

Milestones and deliverables

9 March 2007	Initial proposals and contributions for revision of Resolution ITU-R 1-4, due at the ITU-R reflector
16 March 2007	Based on initial proposals and contributions submitted by 9 March 2007, posting of the first Correspondence Group-coordinated iteration of a draft revision of Resolution ITU-R 1-4, along with initial proposals and comments by contributors, seeking a second round of proposals and comments
27 April 2007	Second round of proposals and contributions for revision of Resolution ITU-R 1-4, due at the ITU-R reflector
4 May 2007	Based on the second round of proposals and contributions submitted by 27 April 2007, posting of the second Correspondence Group-coordinated iteration of the draft revision of Resolution ITU-R 1-4, along with the second round of proposals and comments by contributors, seeking a final round of proposals and comments
8 June 2007	Based on all proposals and comments, posting of the Correspondence Group-coordinated draft revision of Resolution ITU-R 1-4 for consideration by administrations in preparation for the Radiocommunication Assembly

ANNEX 6

Terms of Reference for the ITU-R Resolutions Correspondence Group

At its 24-26 January 2007 meeting, The Radiocommunication Advisory Group established a Correspondence Group to consider all ITU-R Resolutions except:

- Resolution ITU-R 1
- ITU-R Resolutions that are designated for direct incorporation in Resolution ITU-R 1
- ITU-R Resolutions that have been identified as being the responsibility of a Study Group or the CCV.

The ITU-R Resolutions Correspondence Group is established under the leadership of an appointed Chairman. The group will perform its work only by electronic correspondence: specifically, it will hold no face-to-face meetings.

Participation in the work of this Correspondence Group is open to representatives of Member States and Sector Members. Organizations comprised of the above, specifically regional groups, may also provide comments to the Correspondence Group. Any views expressed and documentation submitted should indicate the Member State, Sector Member, Associate or other eligible group making the submission.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The scope of the ITU-R Resolutions Correspondence Group is limited to consideration of the ITU-R Resolutions described above.

The ITU-R Resolutions Correspondence Group will, for each Resolution within its scope:

- 1) Recommend to the Director, BR whether the Resolution should be modified, suppressed, or maintained without modification.
- 2) For those Resolutions for which it recommends modification, the Correspondence Group will propose specific modifications for improvement of the Resolution.

The Convener of the Correspondence Group is: Mr Robin H. HAINES (rhaines@ntia.doc.gov), NTIA, Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C., 20230, United States. Tel.: +1 202 482 4096/Fax: +1 202 501 8189.

The Correspondence Group will exchange e-mail using the Radiocommunication Advisory Group reflector: rag-res@itu.int. Each message should identify the pertinent ITU-R Resolution in the subject line.

Milestones and deliverables

16 February 2007	Identify ITU-R Resolutions requiring revision or suppression under the Terms of Reference of this Correspondence Group
2 March 2007	Identify authors to initial drafts of Resolutions requiring revisions
23 March 2007	Distribute all initial drafts to the Correspondence Group via the reflector
25 May 2007	Revise initial drafts based on Correspondence Group comments
6 July 2007	Provide final draft to Director, BR for consideration by administrations in preparation for the Radiocommunication Assembly