



Radiocommunication Bureau

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Circular Letter
5/LCCE/3

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Circular Letter to ITU Member States, ITU-R Sector Members and Associates of ITU-R Study Group 5 requesting contributions to the next meeting of Study Group 5 addressing the Study Group 5 Working Party structure

Subject: Request for contributions to the next meeting of Study Group 5 addressing the Study Group 5 Working Party structure

Purpose

The purpose of this letter is to request ITU Member States, ITU-R Sector Members and Associates of ITU-R Study Group 5 to provide input contributions to the next meeting of Study Group 5 addressing the Study Group 5 Working Party structure.

Background

Radiocommunication Study Group 5 “Terrestrial services” was established by the Radiocommunication Assembly 2007 (15-19 October 2007) in [Resolution ITU-R 4-5](#). Study Group 5 will undertake the terrestrial radiocommunication service studies associated with the work of the former Study Groups 8 and 9.

An interim structure for the Working Parties of Study Group 5 was established by the Chairman of Study Group 5, in consultation with the Study Group 5 Steering Group. This interim structure was used for the first meetings of the Working Parties, held immediately prior to the first meeting of Study Group 5.

The first meeting of Study Group 5 was held in Geneva on 18-19 February 2008. The invitation letter for the Study Group 5 meeting ([CACE/439](#)) contained details of the interim structure, and the topic of Working Party structure was included in the agenda for that meeting.

In accordance with § 2.2 of Resolution ITU-R 1-5, the Chairman of Study Group 5, following consultation with the Vice-Chairmen and other Steering Group members of Study Group 5, provided an input to the Study Group 5 meeting ([Document 5/5](#)) with a proposed Working Party structure based on four Working Parties. A number of Member States, Sector Members and Associates of Study Group 5 also provided inputs to the meeting (Documents [5/3](#), [6](#), [7](#), [8](#), [11](#), [13](#), [14](#), [17](#) and [21](#)), either supporting the structure proposed by the Chairman or proposing alternative arrangements.

During the meeting, Study Group 5 agreed to establish Working Party 5B “Maritime mobile service including Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS); aeronautical mobile service and radiodetermination service”, with Mr. John Mettrop appointed as its’ chairman.

There was no consensus on which structure would be most appropriate to address the other studies currently being addressed by the interim Working Parties 5A, 5C and 5D. The discussion mainly focussed on two options:

- 1) a four Working Party structure, as proposed in the Chairman’s input to the meeting (Document 5/5), with fixed wireless access elements from Working Party 5C included in the work of Working Party 5A; and
- 2) a three Working Party structure which would integrate all aspects of land mobile studies and terrestrial wireless access into a single new Working Party 5X (effectively combining the proposed Working Parties 5A, 5D and the fixed wireless access elements of Working Party 5C).

Some administrations also expressed the view that, if there were to be only three Working Parties, it may be preferable to combine Working Parties 5A and 5C. Therefore, the status of Working Party 5C is still “interim”.

It was noted that many members’ views may not have been represented at this meeting of Study Group 5, and that there had been little time and data available to assess the comparative advantages of these proposals. Consequently, Study Group 5 decided to defer the final decision on the overall Working Party structure to the next meeting of Study Group 5, except for the agreed establishment of Working Party 5B, and to solicit inputs on this topic from all members for consideration at that meeting.

Specifically, the meeting requested that a Circular Letter be sent out to all members asking them to provide input contributions to the next meeting on whether the proposed four, or alternatively a three, Working Party structure should be established. Such contributions should indicate a clear preference for either option (i.e. either item 1 or 2 above), and should be supported by the reasons for this preference. This does not preclude members’ rights to provide other solutions on the structure. It was also noted that such contributions would be taken into account at the next meeting, whether or not the member submitting the contribution was actually present at the meeting. Accordingly ITU Member States, ITU-R Sector Members and Associates of Study Group 5 are invited to provide such contributions to the next meeting of Study Group 5.

Study Group 5 further agreed that for the Working Party meetings being held prior to the next Study Group 5 meeting, the interim structure would continue (i.e. the planned meetings of Working Party 5B and of the interim Working Parties 5A, 5C and 5D will be held as previously planned), with studies on fixed wireless access transferred from Working Party 5C to Working Party 5A. The invitations to participate in these meetings will be sent out in separate circular letters.

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Distribution:

- Administrations of Members of the ITU and other members of the Radiocommunication Sector participating in the work of Working Parties 5A, 5B, 5C and 5D of Radiocommunication Study Group 5
- ITU-R Associates participating in the work of Radiocommunication Study Group 5
- Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of Radiocommunication Study Group 5
- Secretary General of the ITU, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau