



Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)

Circular letter
5/LCCE/115

23 October 2024

To Administrations of Member States of the ITU, Radiocommunication Sector Members, ITU-R Associates and ITU Academia participating in the work of Radiocommunication Study Group 5

Subject: Invitation for submission of proposals for candidate radio interface technologies for the terrestrial components of the radio interface(s) for IMT-2030 and invitation to participate in their subsequent evaluation

1 Introduction

ITU-R has commenced the process of developing ITU-R Recommendations for the terrestrial components of the IMT-2030 radio interface(s). This work is guided by Resolutions ITU-R 56 and ITU-R 65 (see Annex 1).

Resolution [ITU-R 56-3](#) on the “Naming for International Mobile Telecommunications” confirms the name for the next generation of IMT to be “IMT-2030”. Resolution [ITU-R 65-1](#) on the “Principles for the process of future development of IMT-2020 and IMT-2030” outlines the essential criteria and principles which are being used in the process of developing the Recommendations and Reports for IMT-2030, including Recommendation(s) for the radio interface specifications. Also, the Radiocommunication Assembly 2023 (RA-23) approved the new Recommendation [ITU-R M.2160](#) on the “Framework and overall objectives of the future development of IMT for 2030 and beyond”.

2 Purpose of this Circular Letter

The purpose of this Circular Letter is to invite the submission of proposals for candidate radio interface technologies (RITs) or a set of RITs (SRITs) for the terrestrial components of IMT-2030 radio interface(s). The Working Party 5D (WP 5D) [timeline](#) shows that the submission of proposals is scheduled to begin at meeting #54 (February 2027) and end at meeting #59 (February 2029)¹.

This Circular Letter also initiates a process to evaluate the candidate RITs or SRITs for IMT-2030 and invites the formation of independent evaluation groups and the subsequent submission of evaluation reports on these candidate RITs or SRITs.

¹ See the information on the IMT-2030 related web page of WP 5D (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/study-groups/rsg5/rwp5d/imt-2030/Pages/default.aspx>). This website indicates the most updated detailed timeline and process for IMT-2030 in ITU-R and the anticipated IMT-2030 related deliverables.

Further information announcing details of the invitation for submission of proposals (including technical performance requirements, evaluation guidelines and submission templates) will be provided by addenda to this Circular Letter.

Within the ITU-R, the work on IMT-2030 is being conducted in Working Party 5D (WP 5D) of Study Group 5. [ITU-R WP 5D](#) is the group responsible for this work.

3 Web page for IMT-2030

The Radiocommunication Bureau has established a "[Web page for the IMT-2030 submission and evaluation process](#)" to facilitate the development of proposals and the work of the evaluation groups. The IMT-2030 web page will provide details of the process for the submission of proposals, and will include the RIT and SRIT submissions, evaluation group registration and contact information, evaluation reports and other relevant information on the development of IMT-2030.

4 Procedure for submitting candidate RITs or SRITs

The submission of proposals should be made in accordance with the submission process delineated on the IMT-2030 web page: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/study-groups/rsg5/rwp5d/imt-2030/Pages/submission-eval.aspx>.

Document [IMT-2030/2](#) "Submission and Evaluation Process and Consensus Building" is now available. This document describes the process and activities identified for the development of the IMT-2030 terrestrial components radio interface(s). Proponents should ensure that all the necessary information for consideration of the submissions is made available according to the established schedule in the latest version of Document IMT-2030/2.

Proponents and IPR holders should indicate their compliance with the ITU policy on intellectual property rights (see Note 2 in Section A2.6 of Resolution [ITU-R 1](#)), as specified in the Common Patent Policy for ITU-T/ITU-R/ISO/IEC on intellectual property rights, available at <http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/dbase/patent/patent-policy.html>.

Submissions should be addressed to the Counsellor for ITU-R Study Group 5, Mr. Uwe LÖWENSTEIN (uwe.loewenstein@itu.int). These submissions will be prepared as inputs to WP 5D and made available on the IMT-2030 web page. Receipt of submissions will be acknowledged by the Radiocommunication Bureau.

5 Evaluation of candidate RITs or SRITs

Candidate RITs or SRITs will be evaluated by the ITU membership, standards organisations and other independent evaluation groups. Evaluation groups are encouraged to register with ITU-R², preferably between January 2027 and December 2027 at their earliest convenience. The evaluation groups are kindly requested to submit evaluation reports to the ITU-R in accordance with the evaluation process delineated on the IMT-2030 web page. The evaluation reports will be considered in the development of the ITU-R Recommendation(s) describing the radio interface specifications.

² The evaluation group registration form will become available at the "[Web page for the IMT-2030 submission and evaluation process](#)" in July 2026.

The evaluation guidelines, including the criteria and methodology, are to be finalized by WP 5D in 2026. The availability of these guidelines on the IMT-2030 web page will be announced in an Addendum to this Circular Letter.

Mario Maniewicz
Director

Annex: 1

ANNEX

RESOLUTION ITU-R 65-1

Principles for the process of future development of IMT-2020 and IMT-2030

(2015-2023)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

- a) that Question ITU-R 229/5 addresses “Further development of the terrestrial component of IMT”;
- b) that the future development of IMT will continue in order to address more needs than those currently addressed by existing IMT;
- c) that Recommendation ITU-R M.1645 defines the framework and overall objectives of the future development of IMT-2000 and systems beyond IMT-2000;
- d) that Recommendation ITU-R M.2083 defines the framework and overall objectives of the future development of IMT for 2020 and beyond;
- e) that Recommendation ITU-R M.2160 defines the framework and overall objectives of the future development of IMT for 2030 and beyond;
- f) that the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) has initiated activities for the satellite component of IMT for 2020 and beyond;
- g) that this Resolution has been successfully applied in the development of IMT-2020, and the procedures and processes developed for IMT-2020 based on this Resolution are in place and continue to be utilized for the future development of the terrestrial component of IMT-2020 when revising Recommendation ITU-R M.2150;
- h) that this Resolution has been successfully applied in the development of Report ITU-R M.2514 for the satellite component of IMT-2020;
- i) that Resolution ITU-R 57 has been successfully applied to the ongoing development of IMT-Advanced and IMT-2000 and continues to be utilized for the future development of IMT-Advanced when revising Recommendation ITU-R M.2012 and IMT-2000 when revising Recommendation ITU-R M.1457;
- j) that Resolution ITU-R 56 addresses naming for IMT;
- k) that it is desirable to have consistent principles for the future development of IMT, which are not addressed in *considering i)* above, regardless of the specific naming that may be further determined;
- l) that the existing regulatory environment should be taken into account, while developing the evaluation criteria for candidate radio interface technologies for IMT,

resolves

in the future development of IMT which is addressed in *considering k)* above:

1 to develop the ITU-R Recommendations and Reports for the future development of IMT, including Recommendation(s) for radio interface specifications;

2 that the development of ITU-R Recommendations and Reports, in accordance with Resolution ITU-R 1, shall be an ongoing and timely process with defined ITU-R outputs, taking into account developments external to ITU-R;

3 that ITU-R shall develop radio interface technologies based on candidate proposals submitted by Member States, Sector Members and Associates of relevant ITU-R study groups, as well as by external organizations, invited in accordance with the principles set out in Resolution ITU-R 9;

4 that the process for developing Recommendations and Reports for the future development of IMT shall give equal opportunity to all submitted proposals for candidate radio interface technologies to be evaluated against the requirements for the future development of IMT;

5 that proposals for new radio interfaces and modifications to existing radio interfaces should be considered for inclusion in the future development of IMT in a timely fashion, and, if appropriate, that the relevant ITU-R Recommendations be developed or revised in accordance with *resolves 6*;

6 that, in light of the above *resolves*, this process shall include:

a) the definition of minimum technical requirements and evaluation criteria (see also *considering l)* above), based on the framework and overall objectives of the future development of IMT, that support the new capabilities expressed in relevant ITU-R Recommendation(s), taking into account end-user requirements and without unnecessary legacy technical requirements;

b) an invitation for Members of ITU-R, through a circular letter, to propose candidate radio interface technologies for the future development of IMT;

c) additionally, an invitation to other relevant organizations to propose candidate radio interface technologies for the future development of IMT, under the scope of liaison and collaboration with such organizations through Resolution ITU-R 9; in such invitations, the attention of these organizations shall be drawn to the current ITU-R Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) policies;

d) an evaluation by ITU-R of the candidate radio interface technologies proposed for the future development of IMT to ensure that they meet the minimum technical requirements and evaluation criteria defined in 6 a) above; such an evaluation may utilize the principles for interaction of ITU-R with other relevant organizations as detailed in Resolution ITU-R 9;

e) consensus-building with the objective of achieving harmonization in response to *considering* of this ITU-R Resolution and which would have the potential for wide industry support of the radio interfaces that are developed for the future development of IMT;

f) a standardization phase in the future development of IMT, in which ITU-R develops the IMT radio interface specification Recommendation(s) based on the results of:

i) assessments contained in the evaluation defined in *resolves 6 d)*,

ii) consensus-building defined in *resolves 6 e)*

published in an ITU-R Report, documenting that the specifications meet the minimum technical requirements and evaluation criteria as defined in *resolves 6 a)* or *6 g)* and with the conclusion that work may proceed in a standardization phase for the candidate radio interface technology in cooperation with relevant organizations external to ITU in order to complement the work within ITU-R, using the principles set out in Resolution ITU-R 9;

g) reviews of the minimum technical requirements and evaluation criteria defined in *resolves 6 a)*, taking into account technology advances and end-user requirements changing with time; as the minimum technical requirements and evaluation criteria are changed, these will be designated as separately identifiable versions for the corresponding names, as defined in Resolution ITU-R 56, for the further development of IMT; the process will include review of existing versions to determine whether they should remain in force;

h) an ongoing and timely process where new radio interface technology proposals and related newly developed radio interface specifications may be submitted and existing radio interface specifications can be revised or updated; the process should have flexibility to allow proponents to seek evaluation against any relevant version of the approved criteria currently in force,

instructs the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau

1 to ensure that proponents of radio interface technologies and standards for the future development of IMT are aware of ITU-R IPR policy pursuant to Resolution ITU-R 1 and that submissions for the future development of IMT are compliant with this policy;

2 to provide the necessary support and to implement suitable procedures to meet the requirements of the *resolves* above, including the sending of a circular letter calling for radio interface technology proposals.
