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|  | **Document RAG14-1/17-E** |
| **16 June 2014** |
| **English only** |
| Chairman, Study Group 5 | |
| VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS DATABASE SEARCH FACILITY | |

# 1 Introduction

During the 20th Radiocommunication Advisory Group meeting (22to 24 May 2013), BR introduced a demonstration version of Recommendations database search facility, which is available at <https://extranet.itu.int/itu-r/rsg/docs/filter.aspx>. The discussion with the BR’s input on this topic (Document RAG13-1/16) resulted in the following RAG’s conclusion summarized in Administrative Circular CA/211.

“RAG invited the Director to continue development of the Recommendations database search facility and to include a field indicating which Recommendations are incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations, possibly indicating in which RR provisions they are referenced. RAG also invited the Study Groups to review which services and frequency bands are applicable to the Recommendations under their responsibility and to advise BR accordingly, and to consider developing lists of systems/applications or general topics that could be used to further classify the Recommendations.”

Based on the discussion within Study Group 5, this document considers possible improvements on the demonstration version of recommendations database search facility, and provides also views on the future development of the ITU-R documents database addressed in [Document RAG14-1/9 (BR)](http://www.itu.int/md/R14-RAG14-C-0009/en).

# 2 Views and comments on the demonstration version of Recommendations database

## 2.1 Identification of those Recommendations incorporated by reference in the RR

There are 10 M-series and one F-series IBR Recommendations within Study Group 5, which are already identified in the comment column of Document 5/2 (rev.2) for the Study Group 5 texts.

The remaining work for the data base, e.g. to indicate in which RR provisions they are referenced, could be referred to the work of the Secretariat.

## 2.2 Identification of the services and frequency bands which are applicable to the Recommendations

In the current demonstration version of the database, this work has already been done for the M‑series Recommendations. It is expected that the same functions would soon be implemented also for other series of Recommendations.

1. Services

For further refinement of the filtering function, it is suggested to limit the identified services only to those having direct concern with the substance of the Recommendation.

For those Recommendations dealing with sharing/compatibility issues between more than one service, all the concerned services need to be identified.

Furthermore, the identification should be limited to the lowest level classification of the services (not to use both the upper level, e.g. “mobile” and the lower level services, e.g. “land mobile”).

(2) Frequency bands

The following points are suggested for the development of the updated version:

* The current function (to search using a point frequency only) needs to be improved to enable “frequency range searching” by identifying the lowest and the highest frequencies (F*min* and F*max*) ;
* For some Recommendations which do not explicitly define the applicable frequency range but address general topics, it may be better to leave the information for the F*min* and F*max* blank rather than identifying the frequency range 0-3 000 GHz for those Recommendations, so as not to appear every time in any frequency range filtering;
* For those Recommendations which define their frequency range of either the lower limit or the upper limit only, a similar problem may occur (to appear quite many times responding to their applicable frequency range);
* In view of the above, it is desirable to identify, as far as possible, the frequency ranges that are actually discussed as frequency-related matters in each Recommendation.

## 2.3 Development of systems/applications or general topics that could be used to further classify the Recommendations

The current topic-based filter which searches only for the text in the title may have such problems as follows:

1) Filtering by the keyword "RLAN" only results in Rec. ITU-R M.1454, while there are many more Recommendations related to RLANs. The user of the data base may not realize this.

2) On the other hand, filtering by the keyword "radio local area network" results in many more Recommendations, but did not include M.1454 since its title does not include those words, but instead uses "RLAN".

3) A similar result could occur for the keywords “RF arrangements” and “RF channel arrangements”. Although the purpose of the filtering is almost same, the filtering result will be different.

The above example cases will be solved by providing additional guide for “keywords”, or, more simply, by extending the searching field to other parts of the text than the title, e.g. scope, *recommends* part, or the entire text of the Recommendation.

# 3 Views on the future development of the ITU-R documents database search facility addressed in Doc. RAG14-1/9

## 3.1 Additional search functions

The proposed direction is supported. The guidance to effectively use these functions may be needed.

## 3.2 Additional search criteria

(1) Text search and keywords

As suggested before, “full text search of Recommendations” will solve the problem mentioned in section 2.3 in this document.

1. Services

The proposed direction is supported.

1. Categories

The list of “general categories” seems appropriate, as far as the Recommendations within Study Group 5 are concerned.

1. Frequency

The suggested approach is in line with the comments in section 2.2 (2).

## 3.3 Additional suggestions for improvements

(1) It may also be useful if the results of the search (filtered Recommendations) would have a hyperlink to the publications so that they could be easily opened/downloaded.

(2) The search facility could be expanded to include ITU-R Reports, as they too are of great value to the work of the Study Groups. The expansion to other ITU-R documents is also supported provided that the work on “Reports” has priority.

(3) As mentioned in section 2.1 of this document, Document 5/2 (rev.2) “Assignment of the Study Group 5 texts to the Working Parties” would provide basic information for the development of the Recommendation database (or for other ITU-R Documents also).

Since this document is regularly revised after the Study Group meeting, the updated information may become a basis for the working procedures specifying roles & responsibilities of the ITU/BR and ITU-R SGs/WPs to maintain the database.

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