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| **Radiocommunication Advisory GroupGeneva, 24-27 June 2014** |  |
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|  | **Document RAG14-1/TEMP/4-E** |
| **26 June 2014** |
| **English only** |
| Radiocommunication Advisory Group |
| Possible revision to Resolution ITU-R 1-6 |

During the 2014 session of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group, the issue of a possible revision of Resolution ITU R 1-6 was discussed on the basis of several contributions (see Documents RAG14-1/2, 4, 11, 21(Rev.1)).

**1 Consideration of the input documents**

Document [RAG14-1/2](http://www.itu.int/md/R14-RAG14-C-0002/en) proposed to add provisions to Resolution ITU-R 1 in order to in order to clarify the situation where the Radio Regulations contain previous versions of binding ITU‑R Recommendations. The proposed solution was to include information in administrative circulars and on the ITU website regarding the use of ITU‑R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations. Following discussions and general support for this idea, the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau informed the RAG that the webpage displaying ITU-R Recommendations will be modified accordingly (see Document RAG14-1/TEMP/2(Rev.1) for more detailed information).

 **Administrations are invited to consider whether this action by the BR is sufficient or whether a specific provision should be included in Resolution ITU-R 1 with regards to this proposal.**

On the basis of the 2013 discussions on a possible revision of Resolution ITU-R 1, Document [RAG14-1/4](http://www.itu.int/md/R14-RAG14-C-0004/en) proposed that there should be no merge of Resolutions ITU-R 2, 36, 38 in Resolution ITU-R 1, that no additional provisions about RAG be included in it, that the procedure for simultaneous adoption and approval (PSAA) be extended to ITU-R Questions and that provisions for revision or suppression of Handbooks, Reports, Decisions and Opinions be explicitly added in Resolution ITU-R 1. It was noted that these proposals are relevant to a possible new structure of Resolution ITU-R 1 and should be considered in conjunction with Document RAG14-1/21(Rev.1).

Document [RAG14-1/11](http://www.itu.int/md/R14-RAG14-C-0011/en) proposed to revise Resolution ITU-R 1‑6 in order to clarify the way to deal with "studies without Questions" within each Study Group. Two possible ways to make such a revision were suggested: including criteria of the distinction between "studies with Questions" and "studies without Questions" and inserting the way to notify on "studies without Questions" to the Member States.

 **Administrations are invited to further consider these proposals and submit specific revisions to Resolution ITU-R 1-6.**

Document [RAG14-1/21(Rev.1)](http://www.itu.int/md/R14-RAG14-C-0021/en) contains the proposals put together by the Rapporteur on Resolution ITU-R 1-6 about a possible new structure of Resolution ITU-R 1. In particular, it was mentioned that Annex 1 to this Resolution would then be divided into two main parts: the first about the ITU-R structure and groups, the second about ITU-R documentation. In line with the proposals contained in Document RAG14-1/4, no new provisions have been included concerning the Conference Preparatory Meeting, the Coordination Committee for Vocabulary and the Special Committee for regulatory and procedural matters. Only a brief sentence linking Resolutions ITU-R 2, 36 and 38 was added. No new, more detailed provisions concerning the Radiocommunication Advisory Group have been included either. Concerning the ITU-R documentation (i.e. ITU-R Resolutions, Decisions, Questions, Recommendations, Reports, Handbooks and Opinions), a specific sub-section for each type of document was created based on a similar structure for each of the sub-sections (definition, adoption and/or approval, suppression). As such, each sub-section would be self-sufficient in terms of procedures related to one type of document, even if it introduces repetitions in Resolution ITU-R 1.

**2 Summary of discussions on a possible revision of Resolution ITU-R 1**

Discussions took place during the RAG meeting following the introduction of the various proposals about a possible revision of Resolution ITU-R 1.

It was recognized that, Document RAG14-1/21(Rev.1) requires careful review by administrations due to the importance of Resolution ITU-R 1 for the ITU-R work, the number of proposed revisions and the overall length of the document. In particular, it was indicated that a more detailed consideration of the various mechanisms for adoption, approval, revision or suppression of ITU-R documentation was needed to ensure that they are commensurate with the relative importance of the various ITU-R documents. It was emphasized that, since Resolution ITU-R 1-6 does not contain explicit detailed provisions for the approval of Decisions, Reports, Handbooks and Opinions, the General Rules of Conferences, Assemblies and Meetings of the Union apply by default, which means that approval is obtained via a simple majority. Considering the current ITU-R practice, the Rapporteur drafted provisions proposing methods based on the absence of opposition for Reports and on consensus for other documents. This should however be further reviewed and discussed, noting that an alternative could be to explicitly mention in Resolution ITU-R 1 the use of simple majority as a method for approval of Decisions, Reports, Handbooks and Opinions.

An improvement was also proposed with regard to studies in response to ITU-R Resolutions: it was proposed to hold CVC meeting after Radiocommunication Assembly for organization of work and distribution of responsibility on studies in response to ITU-R Resolutions between Study groups.

More specific comments were also made on Document RAG14-1/21(Rev.1) and are listed below:

– Annex 1 could begin with a preamble giving a general explanation of the ITU-R and its work.

– A Table of Contents should be inserted at the beginning of Annex 1.

– Section 1 “General considerations” of Part 1 of Annex 1 should be moved at the end of this Part and retitled “Other considerations”.

– New provision 3.1.4 may be better placed in section 3.2.

– New provisions 3.1.5 and 3.1.8 mention certain sub-groups of Study Groups that are defined only later in section 3.2. These provisions should therefore be reworded.

– New provision 3.1.16 may be better placed in sections 12.2 or 12.3 related to the adoption and approval of ITU-R Questions.

– Concerning the title of New section 5, it was noted that CPM may not be relevant for Regional Radiocommunication Conferences (RRC) since RA-07 has deleted references to RRC from Resolution ITU-R 2.

– CCV should be included in § 9.3.1 (contributions and documentation) because this provision for Study Group is becoming relevant for the CCV also.

– Procedures for documents developed by joint groups like Joint Task Groups or Joint Rapporteur Groups should be considered and included in Resolution ITU-R 1.

– The current definition of ITU-R Decisions (see new provision 11.1) should be reviewed and clarified.

– As an alternative to the use of PSAA for ITU-R Questions, the possible adoption of Questions at any Study Group meeting for subsequent approval by correspondence should also be considered, noting that this was the normal practice before RA-12. It should be noted that RAG subsequently approved the interim application of PSAA to ITU-R Questions.

– Time periods mentioned in §§ 13.2.2.2.1 (two months to inform about planned adoption of a Recommendation) and 13.2.2.2.2 (four weeks to make the draft Recommendation available) could be aligned.

– The common format for ITU-R Recommendations developed by RAG should be mentioned in some way in Resolution ITU-R 1, while not including it in the Resolution itself in order for the RAG to keep flexibility about possible improvements of this common format in the future.

– It was suggested that the editorial revision of Questions and Recommendations aiming at removing of “S” from referenced RR provisions is not necessary to be explicitly mentioned any longer. The BR could be instructed by the RAG or the RA to perform once for all such editorial revision in all Recommendations. Other editorial revisions would continue to follow the procedures of Resolution ITU-R 1.

– Title of section 13.2.2.1 “Principles for the adoption of a new or revised Recommendation” could be reworded to “General considerations on the adoption of a new or revised Recommendation”.

**3 Next steps**

In order for administrations to continue the discussions and work on a possible revision of Resolution ITU-R 1, RAG may establish a Correspondence Group on this topic with similar Terms of Reference as those adopted by the 2012 session of the RAG (see Annex). It was also suggested that it may be needed to organize a meeting of the Correspondence Group in order to allow more progress on the revision of Resolution ITU-R 1.

**ANNEX**

Terms of Reference of the Correspondence Group on
the revision of Resolution ITU-R 1-6

The Terms of Reference of this Correspondence Group are:

* In accordance with § 1.7 of Resolution ITU-R 1-6 and Resolution ITU-R 52, prepare a draft revision of Resolution ITU‑R 1‑6 for consideration by the RAG and subsequent submission to the Radiocommunication Assembly 2015, taking into account the proposals contained in Documents RAG14-1/2, 4, 11, 21(Rev.1), items summarised in Document RAG14-1/TEMP/Res1 and any other additional proposals submitted to the Correspondence Group.

The Correspondence Group shall submit its final report to the 2015 meeting of the RAG at least two weeks before the beginning of the RAG meeting.

The Chairman of the Correspondence Group is [to be defined].

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