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| **World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) Geneva, 2–27 November 2015** |  |
| **INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION** |  |
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| PLENARY MEETING | **Addendum 14 to Document 32-E** |
|  | **29 September 2015** |
|  | **Original: English** |
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| Asia-Pacific Telecommunity Common Proposals | |
| Proposals for the work of the conference | |
|  | |
| Agenda item 1.14 | |

1.14to consider the feasibility of achieving a continuous reference time-scale, whether by the modification of coordinated universal time (UTC) or some other method, and take appropriate action, in accordance with Resolution **653 (WRC‑12)**;

Introduction

a) Position of APT on agenda item 1.14

– APT Members support Method A1 of the CPM Report to WRC-15.

– APT Members support the modifications to Radio Regulations in accordance with section 2/1.14/5.1.1 of the CPM Report corresponding to Method A1.

– To allow for an adequate period of time for legacy systems reliant on the use of leap seconds to adapt to the change in UTC, the application of the suppression of leap second adjustments to UTC will be effective no less than five years after the date of entry into force of the Final Acts of the WRC-15.

b) Reasons for taking the above position

APT Members are of views as follows:

– APT Members are supportive of the studies undertaken by ITU-R WP 7A on the feasibility of achieving a continuous reference time-scale.

– A continuous international reference time-scale proposed by Method A1/A2 of the CPM Report is beneficial for most users, and an appropriate implementation of continuous international time-scale should be developed and agreed by relevant international organizations.

– A continuous international reference time-scale can be achieved, proposed by Method A1/A2 of the CPM Report, by stopping the insertion of leap seconds in UTC.

– Suppression of leap seconds proposed by Method A1/A2 of the CPM Report reduces the risk of operator error and increases the reliability of systems that depend upon time.

– The dissemination of two “standard” time-scales proposed by Method B of the CPM Report might bring significant risks of confusion, and it would be critical for the two scales to be differentiated in a truly failsafe manner.

– Considering its wide applications, the change of the name of UTC proposed by Method A2 of the CPM Report must be treated with worldwide caution on both the international and national levels.

Proposals

ARTICLE 1

Terms and definitions

Section I – General terms

MOD ASP/32A14/1

1.14 *Coordinated Universal Time (UTC):*Time scale, based on the second (SI) and maintained by the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM), that forms the basis for the coordinated dissemination of standard frequencies and time signals.     (WRC-15)

**Reasons:** To remove the incorporation by reference of Recommendation ITU-R TF.460-6, which defines the use of leap seconds in UTC, add a reference to the international organization responsible for the maintenance of the UTC time-scale, and remove the equivalence between UTC and the mean solar time at the prime meridian.

ARTICLE 2

Nomenclature

Section II – Dates and times

MOD ASP/32A14/2

2.5 Whenever a date is used in connection with Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), this date is that at the prime meridian, the prime meridian corresponding to zero degrees geographical longitude.

MOD ASP/32A14/3

2.6 Whenever a specified time is used in international radiocommunication activities, UTC shall be applied, and it shall be presented as a four-digit group (0000-2359). The abbreviation UTC shall be used in all languages.

ARTICLE 59

Entry into force and provisional application  
of the Radio Regulations    (WRC‑12)

MOD ASP/32A14/4

59.1 These Regulations, which complement the provisions of the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union, and as revised and contained in the Final Acts of WRC‑95, WRC‑97, WRC‑2000, WRC‑03, WRC‑07, WRC‑12 and WRC-15, shall be applied, pursuant to Article 54 of the Constitution, on the following basis.    (WRC‑15)

ADD ASP/32A14/5

59.A114 The other provisions of these Regulations, as revised by WRC‑15, shall enter into force on 1 January 2017, with the following exceptions:     (WRC‑15)

ADD ASP/32A14/6

59.B114 – the revised provisions for which other effective dates of application are stipulated in Resolution:

**[ASP-A114-UTC] (WRC‑15)**     (WRC‑15)

ADD ASP/32A14/7

Draft New Resolution [ASP-A114-UTC] (wrc-15)

Provisional application of certain provisions of the Radio Regulations  
as revised by WRC‑15 and abrogation of certain  
Resolutions and Recommendations

The World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2015),

considering

*a)* that this Conference has, in accordance with its terms of reference, adopted a partial revision to the Radio Regulations, which will enter into force on 1 January 2017;

*b)* that some of the provisions, as amended by this Conference, need to apply provisionally before that date;

*c)* that some of the provisions, as amended by this Conference, need to apply after that date;

*d)* that, as a general rule, new and revised Resolutions and Recommendations enter into force at the time of the signing of the Final Acts of a Conference;

*e)* that, as a general rule, Resolutions and Recommendations which a WRC has decided to suppress are abrogated at the time of the signing of the Final Acts of a Conference,

resolves

that, as of 1 January [TBD by WRC‑15], Nos. **1.14**, **2.5** and **2.6**, as revised or established by WRC‑15, shall apply.

**Reasons:** To ensure sufficient time for legacy systems to update hardware and/or software to accommodate the elimination of leap seconds from UTC.

SUP ASP/32A14/8

RESOLUTION 653 (WRC‑12)

Future of the Coordinated Universal Time time-scale

**Reasons:** No need for Resolution 653 (WRC-12).

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