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| **Radiocommunication Advisory Group Geneva, 25-27 May 2020** | C:\Users\murphy\AppData\Local\Temp\Temp1_ITU logo Entire package.zip\jpg\ITU official logo_blue_RGB.jpg | |
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| A view on term of office for Chairman of Radiocommunication Working Parties | | |

# 1 Introduction

RA-19 instructs the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG), based on proposals from the membership and in consultation with the Study Group Chairmen, to review the maximum term of office for Chairmen of Radiocommunication Working Parties and report the results of this review back to RA-23.([RA19/PLEN/84](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=R19-RA19-C-0084))

This document addresses some aspects which RAG would need to consider.

# 2 Consideration

* Working Parties are core group to study within ITU-R

Working Parties are established by Study Group(s) to study topics within Study Group’s scope and topics based on the Questions, as well as topics relating to agenda items of WRC. It means Working Parties are core group to study those topics within Radiocommunication Sector.

* Number of WPs are limited

ITU-R Resolution 1 indicate that SG shall establish by consensus and maintain only the minimum number of WPs, which are currently 21 WPs and one TG.

*Quotation from Resolution ITU-R 1-8,*

*A1.3.2.2 The SGs will normally set up WPs to study topics within their scope, and topics based on the Questions assigned to them, as well as topics in accordance with § A1.3.1.2 above. WPs are understood to exist over an undefined period to answer Questions and study the topics put before the SG. Each WP will study Questions and these topics, and will prepare draft Recommendations and other texts for consideration by the SG. To limit the resource impact on the BR, Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia, an SG shall establish by consensus and maintain only the minimum number of WPs.*

* Role of WPs covers unlimited technical area

In addition to the statistics (section 4.2 of [BR Director’s Report](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=R19-RA19-C-0001) to RA-19), there are tremendous work done by limited numbers of Working Parties as in the table below.

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| **SG** | **Numbers of Assigned study Questions** | **Number of Working Party + TG** | **Others: Study topics without Questions and Preparation for WRC as responsible group or contributing group** |
| SG1 | 14 | 3 | Uncountable |
| SG3 | 24 | 4 | Uncountable |
| SG4 | 57 | 3 | Uncountable |
| SG5 | 33 | 4 | Uncountable |
| SG6 | 36 | 3+1 | Uncountable |
| SG7 | 34 | 4 | Uncountable |
| **Total** | **198** | **21+1** |  |

While ITU-R is the only International Agency to provide various technical solutions to manage the radio frequency spectrum for the Administrations and industries, technical coverage of WP is unlimitedly expanded due to the development of various technologies which use radio frequency spectrum.

* Success of WP is vital for the success of ITU-R

Within ITU-R, Working Party is a core group to develop valuable outputs for Questions, a draft CPM text for the preparation of WRC and study results for many other topics which would not only be based on Questions but also the demand of Members. Behind of such success, there have been capable and experienced WPs Chairmen.

* Many WP has structured with Vice-Chairmen to assist WP Chairman

In history, many WPs Chairmen had an experience of its Vice-Chairman role before he/she become the Chairman, which are the case of WPs 1A, 1B, 1C, 3L and 3M since those WPs appointed Vice-Chairman.

Normally those Vice-Chairmen also provide valuable aspects which assist the Chairman before and during the meeting so that Chairman would proceed his/her role successfully before he/she face delicate decision. In addition to Vice-Chairman, WPs normally set its sub-ordinated groups such as Working Groups, Sub-working groups and Drafting groups, if any. Such roles are also contributed the success of Working Parties greatly and those experts would be a pool of future WPs Chair candidates.

# 3 Views

Considering that Working Party is a core group of ITU-R which requires stable and continuity, the limit of term of office for WP Chairman should not impact to the success of Working Party.

It is also of the view that RAG should consider various ways including definite term, flexible term and recommending to appoint Vice-Chairman or Vice-Chairmen of WP. If RAG considers long term discussion on this matter, it might be useful to organize a Correspondence group of RAG.

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