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|  | **Document RAG/42-E** |
| **31 March 2025** |
| **Original: English** |
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| Canada |
| Proposals relating to continuationof the RAG Correspondence Group on Improving the Conference Preparatory Meeting Process |

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# 1 Background and Discussion

At the 31st meeting of the RAG held in Geneva on 25-27 March 2024, RAG established a Correspondence Group on Improving the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) Process (RAG CG-CPM) with the terms of reference (ToR) in Annex 2 of Administrative Circular CA/273, as follows:

− Conduct a thorough review of the second session of the CPM, in order to identify areas for procedural improvements of preparing the CPM Report.

The various activities and results of the work of the RAG CG-CPM are summarized in Document RAG/36-E. It is worth noting that contributions have been submitted to the RAG CG-CPM identifying issues to be potentially addressed with a view to improving the 2nd session of the CPM as well as preparations for that meeting.

As rightly reported in Document RAG/36-E, the RAG CG-CPM did not receive any contribution with specific modifications to Resolution ITU-R 2-9. This situation could be explained by the nature of the ToR of the RAG CG-CPM in which there is no indication that the CG may also consider specific modifications to Resolution ITU-R 2-9. The ToR of the RAG CG-CPM as approved by the 31st meeting of RAG call for *an identification of areas for procedural improvements of preparing the CPM Report.* In fact, Canada had understood that the 31st meeting of RAG made the conscious decision to limit the scope of the work of the CG to no more than the identification of potential issues in Resolution ITU-R 2-9. In that context, it is understandable that no contributions with concrete proposals to amend Resolution ITU-R 2-9 were submitted to the RAG CG-CPM.

This situation should not be interpreted as a lack of interest from the RAG membership to further consider potential modifications to Resolution ITU-R 2-9, including but not limited to the preparation and organisation of the second session of CPM. To this effect, it is worth noting the CITEL contribution Document RAG/34-E submitted to the 32nd meeting of the RAG with specific proposals to amend Resolution ITU-R 2-9. This, alongside the contributions submitted to RAG CG-CPM, clearly indicate the interest of part of the RAG membership to continue the discussion and work on potential modification of Resolution ITU-R 2-9.

It is also worth noting that, while no contributions submitted to the RAG CG-CPM proposed specific modifications to Resolution ITU-R 2-9, several contributions described in general terms possible improvements to the CPM process. These are summarized in Document RAG/36-E.

In this context, the 32nd meeting of RAG may want to approve the continuation of the RAG CG-CPM on the basis of new ToR to allow the consideration of specific proposals to amend Resolution ITU-R 2-9. Section 2 provides draft text for a proposed new ToR, and suggests for consideration several changes to the 2nd session of CPM that Canada considers likely to improve the CPM process.

# 2 Proposed new ToR for the RAG CG-CPM

Canada proposes that the 32nd meeting of the RAG continue the activities of the RAG CG-CPM, with a revised ToR to invite specific proposals for modifications to Resolution ITU-R 2-9 addressing improvements to the 2nd session of CPM as shown below:

− Develop options for modifications to Resolution ITU-R 2-9 with a view to improving the process and objectives of the 2nd session of CPM, including the preparation of the CPM Report, such that they more effectively support preparations for World Radiocommunication Conferences; and,

− Consider any consequential changes to Resolution ITU-R 2-9 resulting from modifications introduced to the objectives of the second session.

Without precluding other proposals, RAG CG-CPM is invited to consider changes to the following aspects of the 2nd session of CPM:

1 Approaches to streamline the review and approval of the CPM Report at the 2nd session of CPM. For example:

● Develop a simple process for the incorporation of “views” on agenda items, as-received, into an Annex to the CPM Report to avoid lengthy discussion of views at CPM-2.

2 Additional objectives for the 2nd session of CPM, to make effective use of any additional time made available by streamlining review and approval of the CPM Report. For example:

● Hold sessions to provide detailed information and context on the nature of the issues and associated discussions within the ITU-R, to support administrations which have not been actively involved in the preparatory process;

● Focus on regional developments and positions, with a view to identify possibilities for convergence towards common positions; and,

● Allow for preparatory discussions on future agenda items, potentially limited to the preliminary agenda items intended for the subsequent WRC.

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