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| ITU logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION**TELECOMMUNICATIONSTANDARDIZATION SECTOR**STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 | SCV-TD89 |
| **SCV** |
| **Original: English** |
|  | 8, All/5 | Virtual meeting, 22 November 2018 |
| **TD****(Ref.: SG5-LS62)** |
| **Source:** | ITU-T Study Group 5 |
| **Title:** | LS/r on Definition of broadband access (reply to SCV - LS 15 -E) |
| **Purpose:** |  |
| **LIAISON STATEMENT** |
| **For action to:** | Standardization Committee for Vocabulary (SCV) |
| **For comment to:** | - |
| **For information to:** | All ITU-T Study Groups, TSAG |
| **Approval:** | ITU-T Study Group 5 meeting (Geneva, 21 September 2018) |
| **Deadline:** | N/A |
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| **Keywords:** | Definitions, Broadband, Access, Narrowband. |
| **Abstract:** | ITU-T Study Group 5 reviewed the liaison statement (Ref: SCV - LS 15 -E) on definition of broadband access, and commented on the two provided definitions. It is suggested that the criteria for definition assessment should be flexible, independent, readable and succinct. |

This LS answers [SCV - LS 15 -E](http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/ls/sp16-scv-oLS-00015.docx)

ITU-T Study Group 5 would like to thank the Standardization Committee for Vocabulary (SCV) for sending the liaison statement **(Ref:** [SCV - LS 15 -E](http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/ls/sp16-scv-oLS-00015.docx)) on Definition of broadband access. ITU-T Study Group 5 would like to inform SCV that the definition choice for the term will depend on the context of how the term is being used and the time it is used.

ITU-T Study Group 5 would like to provide the following comments:

**[1] broadband access**: *Access in which the connection(s) capabilities support data rates greater than* *2 Mbit/s.*

Comment:

As communication technology evolves the division between “fast” and “slow” changes. In engineering, having a time invariant value could be problematic. But this could be avoided by replacing it with phrase like “a specified value” in the definition. A note can then be added stating that ‘unless otherwise stated, the default specified value is 2 Mbit/s’. On top of that, the definition also lacks clarification as to whether the data rate is received (download) or transmitted (upload). Data rates are often not symmetrical. People who work with web servers are more interested in upload rates while people who watch films over on the internet are more likely to be interested in download rates.

This is the preferred option.

**[2] broadband access:** *Access in which the connection(s) capabilities support data rates significantly greater than the narrowband rate access.*

Comment:

This definition does not specify what narrowband rate is. Narrowband for some means the item bandwidth that is able to accept and process only a portion of the spectral components of a particular service.

This is the less preferred option.

ITU-T Study Group 5 looks forward to continuing to collaborate with the Standardization Committee for Vocabulary (SCV).

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