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| ITU logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION**TELECOMMUNICATIONSTANDARDIZATION SECTOR**STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 | SCV-TD170 |
| **SCV** |
| **Original: English** |
| **Question(s):** | 8/5 | Virtual, 12 January 2022 |
| **TD****(Ref.: SG5-LS246)** |
| **Source:** | ITU-T Study Group 5 |
| **Title:** | LS/r on reply to SCV activity in SG2 (reply to SG2-LS197) |
| **Purpose:** |  |
| **LIAISON STATEMENT** |
| **For action to:** | - |
| **For comment to:** |  |
| **For information to:** | SCV, Study Group 2 |
| **Approval:** | ITU-T Study Group 5 meeting (Virtual, 10 December 2021) |
| **Deadline:** | N/A |
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| **Keywords:** | SCV; terms; definitions |
| **Abstract:** | This reply liaison thanks ITU-T Study Group 2 for reminding ITU Study Group 5 of definition requirements and including examples of the application of these requirements. |

This LS replies to: [SG2-LS197](http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/ls/sp16-sg2-oLS-00197.docx)

ITU-T Study Group 5 thanks ITU-T Study Group 2 for the reminder of what constitutes a good definition. Too often a definition evolves into a paragraph of text, rather than a terse statement of the essential elements of a term.

The ISO/IEC Directive 2 probably contains the most restrictive term definition requirement by requiring that the definition phase must be able to replace the term in a sentence. To adhere to this requirement is quite a challenge, but it does force people to think what the essential elements of the term are. It is also implied that the first word of the term does not appear in the definition, in order to avoid recursion.

The ITU-T Study Group 3 analysis of the ITU-T Study Group 9 and ITU-T Study Group 16 definitions was found to be most interesting.

ITU-T Study Group 5 looks forward to further collaboration with SCV and SG2.

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