

ROHDE & SCHWARZ GmbH & Co. KG

RULES CONCERNING THE PREPARATION OF ITU-R HANDBOOKS

Background

In accordance with § 6.1.7 of Resolution ITU-R 1-5, an ITU-R Handbook is “a text which provides a statement of the current knowledge, the present position of studies, or of good operating or technical practice, in certain aspects of radiocommunications, which should be addressed to a radio engineer, system planner or operating official who plans, designs or uses radio services or systems, paying particular attention to the requirements of developing countries. It should be self-contained, require no familiarity with other ITU Radiocommunication texts or procedures, but should not duplicate the scope and content of publications readily available outside the ITU.”

There is a long list of ITU-R Handbooks (see <http://www.itu.int/publ/R-HDB/en>) covering important radiocommunication and broadcasting topics, including spectrum management, propagation, satellite and terrestrial applications, broadcasting and science services. These publications are usually very useful in addressing theoretical and practical requirements, mainly in administrations of developing countries and companies with less experience in the utilization of wireless systems and equipment.

Particular care is exercised in the preparation and approval of the ITU-R handbook texts to avoid biased opinions and to keep neutrality with respect to any commercial products or equipment from any particular manufacturer. At the same time, expertise may be mainly available from contributors who belong to ITU-R Sector Members and/or Associates.

Given the difficulties to strike the right balance in achieving neutrality and given recognition to the contributor's entities, it is essential that the rules concerning the rights to participate in the activities of the ITU-R Study Groups, which include the preparation of handbooks, be strictly observed. This would avoid cases when a company which is not Sector Member or Associate be given recognition as a contributor to the text of a given handbook, when their participation was in fact only covered by the corresponding Member State.

Proposal

It is proposed that the RAG advises the Director, BR to apply strictly the rules on the right to participate in ITU-R Study Group activities, including the preparation of ITU-R handbooks, which should be restricted to delegates and experts representing only ITU Member States, and companies and organizations, which are Sector Members of ITU-R or Associates.
