INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ITU-T   M.721

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

MAINTENANCE:

INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE CIRCUITS

SYSTEM AVAILABILITY INFORMATION POINT

ITU-T Recommendation M.721

(Extract from the *Blue Book*)

NOTES

1   ITU-T Recommendation M.721 was published in Fascicle IV.1 of the *Blue Book*. This file is an extract from the *Blue Book*. While the presentation and layout of the text might be slightly different from the *Blue Book* version, the contents of the file are identical to the *Blue Book* version and copyright conditions remain unchanged (see below).

2   In this Recommendation, the expression "Administration" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

Recommendation M.721

SYSTEM AVAILABILITY INFORMATION POINT

1 Definition of system availability information point

The system availability information point is an element within the general maintenance organization for the international automatic and semi-automatic telephone service associated with one or more international centres. It collects and disseminates information concerning the non-availability of telecommunications systems which affects the international service. The term availability is used here in the broadest sense of the word.

2 Responsibilities and functions

The system availability information point is responsible for the following set of functions:

2.1 Collecting information concerning major breakdowns, planned outages, or other special circumstances in the *national* and *international* networks which would materially affect international traffic whether incoming, outgoing or transit.

2.2 Keeping aware of the probable duration of major breakdowns and noting whether the relevant traffic load is such that service is likely to be affected.

2.3 Keeping close contact with the restoration control point(s) and assisting in restoration matters.

2.4 Collecting information concerning the status of restoration activities related to major failures, and the return to normal conditions.

2.5 Making available information concerning failures and restoration progress to interested parties and other centres not directly involved in the activities, as appropriate.

2.6 Furnishing reports to the operating authorities of abnormal conditions, as required, including progress reports in connection with prolonged disruptions.

2.7 Furnishing major breakdown information to network management or traffic operating personnel when a major breakdown occurs, so that suitable changes may be made in operating procedures.

2.8 Notifying other international centres as required, through the approriate authorities, of actions taken in connection with major breakdowns.

2.9 Continuously observing system conditions and if a situation arises where service disturbances can be minimized with a change in normal procedures, advising the appropriate maintenance unit (e.g. concerning postponement of a planned outage).

3 Facilities

The system availability information point should be provided with the following facilities:

3.1 Appropriate communication facilities in order to assume its responsibilities.

3.2 Means to receive, store, have access to, and up-date system availability information.

3.3 Access to information concerning the availability of equipment and routes in SPC exchanges, for instance, by means of data terminals.