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|  | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY | Document No: |
| **The 6th Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory**  **Group for WRC-23 (APG23-6)** | **APG23-6/OUT-32** |
| 14 – 19 August 2023, Brisbane, Australia | 19 August 2023 |

Working Party 5

**APT VIEW and Preliminary APT Common Proposal on  
WRC-23 agenda item 2**

**Agenda Item 2:**

*to examine the revised ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio*

*Regulations communicated by the Radiocommunication Assembly, in accordance with the further resolves of Resolution* ***27 (Rev.WRC-19)****, and to decide whether or not to update the corresponding references in the Radio Regulations, in accordance with the principles contained in the resolves of that Resolution;*

Resolution 27 (Rev.WRC-19): Use of incorporation by reference in the Radio Regulations

**1. Background**

Agenda Item 2 is a WRCs standing agenda item to examine the revised ITU-R Recommendationsincorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations that are contained in Volume **4** of the Radio Regulations (RR).

During a study cycle between two WRCs, some of the ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the RR contained in Volume 4 of the RR may be revised by the relevant ITU-R Study Groups. Resolution 27 (Rev.WRC-19) resolves that WRC reviews such ITU-R Recommendations and determines, based on principles contained in Annex 1 of that Resolution, whether the corresponding reference to the Recommendation in the Radio Regulations should be updated to reflect the revised version of the ITU-R Recommendation, otherwise the earlier version of the Recommendation remains valid.

Any actions necessary to clarify the status of ambiguous references to ITU-R Recommendations in the RR, generally fall under Agenda item 2.

In response to Resolutions **27 (Rev.WRC-19)**, the CPM Report includes a list of those ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the RR which have been revised since WRC-19 (in Section 5/2/1), and a list of the RR provisions and footnotes containing references to ITU-R Recommendations or to WRC Resolutions that contain references to ITU-R Recommendations (in Section 5/2/2, Tables 5/2-1 and 5/2-2).

The following Table summarizes the status of IBR Recommendations that have been revised since WRC-19.

Table 1 IBR Recommendations revised since WRC-19

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Current version in the RR Volume 4 | The most recent version | Relevant RR provisions and footnotes |
| **M.585-8** | **M.585-9** | **Nos. 19.99, 19.102, 19.111** |
| **M.633-4\*** | **M.633-5** | **No.**34.1 |

(\*) Currently this is under the adoption/approval process.

**2. Documents**

Input Documents: APG23-5/OUT-34, APG23-6/INP-21(IND), 41(J), 62(THA), 69(IRN), 84(AUS), 107R1(CHN)

Information Documents: APG23-6/INF-03(DG Chair), 17(ITU), 45(RCC), 46(CEPT)

**3. Summary of discussions**

**3.1 Summary of APT Members’ views**

**3.1.1 India** - **Document APG23-6/INP-21**

India supports the examination and review of ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations and, where appropriate, updating of these references in accordance with Resolution **27 (Rev. WRC-19)**. India also supports the List of RR provisions and footnotes containing references to ITU-R Recommendations  of  CPM23-2 Report, table no.  5/2-1 and 5/2-2 for further discussion and consideration in WRC-2023.

**3.1.2 Japan** - **Document APG23-6/INP-41**

Japan identified three issues under this agenda item:

Issue 1: Consideration of the revised IBR Recommendations and consequential changes to the relevant references in the Radio Regulations;

Issue 2: Removal of reference to Resolution **27 (Rev.WRC-19)** in some provisions;

Issue 3: Standardizing how to reference ITU-R Recommendations in non-mandatory nature.

Draft preliminary APT common proposal for Agenda Item 2 is provided.

**3.1.3 Thailand** - **Document APG23-6/INP-62**

Thailand supports the examination and review of ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference (IBR) in the Radio Regulations and, where appropriate, the updating of these references in accordance with Resolution **27 (Rev.WRC-19)**.

Thailand is of the views that:

1. All references to Recommendation ITU-R M.585-8 should be updated to the most recent version (Recommendation ITU-R M.585-9).

2. Some referenced ITU-R Recommendations may be revised before WRC-23, therefore the relevant references in the RR should be updated accordingly.

3. Some referenced ITU-R Recommendations are being considered under WRC-23 agenda items or topics, therefore the relevant references in the RR should be updated based on the results of the Conference.

**3.1.4 Iran (Islamic Republic of)** - **Document APG23-6/INP-69**

The Administration of Iran (Islamic Republic of) identified three issues under this agenda item:

Issue 1: Consideration of the revised IBR Recommendations and consequential changes to the relevant references in the Radio Regulations;

Issue 2: Removal of reference to Resolution **27 (Rev.WRC-19)** in some provisions;

Issue 3: Standardizing how to reference ITU-R Recommendations in non-mandatory nature.

Draft preliminary APT common proposal for Agenda Item 2 is provided.

**3.1.5 Australia** - **Document APG23-6/INP-84**

Australia supports the examination and review of ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference into the Radio Regulations in accordance with **Resolution 27 (Rev. WRC-19),** and where appropriate, the updating of these references. Australia will support proposals which assist to update these references to maintain relevancy.

**3.1.6 China** - **Document APG23-6/INP-107**

This administration supports the examination and review of ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations and, where appropriate, the updating of these references in accordance with Resolution **27 (Rev.WRC-19).**

* According to the latest progress of the ITU-R studies in the relevant Working Parties as of June 2023, the list of IBR Recommendations is updated.
* The administration supports the preliminary regulatory text in Attachment 2 of APG23-5/OUT-34 after examining the related RR provisions and WRC Resolutions.

**3.2 Summary of issues raised during the meeting**

It was noted that the following two IBR Recommendations may be revised before WRC-23:

* Rec. ITU-R M.541-10
* Rec. ITU-R M.1171-0

Draft Revisions for these Recommendations were completed by WP5B and submitted to the SG5 meeting in September 2023 (SG5/156 and 157 respectively). APT Members are invited to monitor the results of the consideration by SG5 and the subsequent approval procedure that may include the decision made by RA-23.

**4. APT View(s)**

**Issue 1: Consideration of the revised IBR ITU-R Recommendations and consequential changes to the relevant references in the Radio Regulations**

APT members agreed to update the relevant references in the Radio Regulations for Recommendation ITU-R M.585. Furthermore, following the past practice, APT members also agreed to prepare the relevant regulatory text regarding Recommendation ITU-R M.633 in order to facilitate the consideration by WRC-23, in case the revision is indeed approved before WRC-23.

**Issue 2: Removal of reference to Resolution 27 (Rev.WRC-19) in some provisions**

APT Members agreed to remove the reference to Resolution **27 (Rev. WRC-03)** from RR Nos. **21.2.2** and **21.4.1.**

**Issue 3: Standardizing how to reference ITU-R Recommendations in non-mandatory nature**

APT Members agreed to use the phrase “most recent version of” for some non-mandatory Recommendations in the Radio Regulations, where appropriate.

Proposals related to these three issues are included in the Preliminary APT Common Proposal in Section 5.

**5. Preliminary APT Common Proposal**



**6. Issues for Consideration at APG Coordination Meeting at WRC-23 (if any)**

none

**7. Views from Other Organisations** (as provided in the information documents to

APG23-6)

**7.1 Regional Groups**

**7.1.1 ASMG**[[1]](#footnote-1)

* ASMG administrations support the principle of Resolution **27 (Rev.WRC**-**19)** to review and examine Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations with a view to update them as appropriate.
* Invite ASMG members to actively participate in ITU-R related working groups on the revision of these recommendations.

**7.1.2 ATU**[[2]](#footnote-2)

* ATU supports the revision of ITU-R Recommendations incorporated by reference in the Radio Regulations communicated by the Radiocommunication Assembly, in accordance with further resolves of Resolution **27 (Rev.WRC-19)**, with a view to updating the corresponding references in the Radio Regulations.

**7.1.3 CEPT** - **Document APG23-6/INF-46**

* CEPT supports updating the reference(s) in relevant RR provisions of the following ITU-R Recommendation(s):
  + from ITU-R M.585-8 to ITU-R M.585-9
* CEPT resumes examining the compliance with the principles of Annex 1 to Resolution **27 (Rev. WRC-19)** of the references to ITU-R Recommendations in the Radio Regulations.
* CEPT supports update of the RR Volume 4 cross-reference list.

**7.1.4 RCC** - **Document APG23-6/INF-45**

* + The RCC Administrations support the principles set out in Resolution **27(Rev.WRC-19)**.
  + The RCC Administrations have no objection to update reference to the Rec. M.585.

**7.2 International Organisations**

**7.2.1 IMO[[3]](#footnote-3)**

IMO has studied the Recommendations of relevance and commented on the following IBRs.

* Required/needed: M.476-5, M.489-2, M.492-6, M.541-10, M.585-9, M.625-4, M.690-3, M.1171-0, M.1172-0, M.1173-1, M.1174-4
* Used: M.1084-5, M.633-4,
* Not required by IMO but may be required by the maritime community: M.1638-1

2 Incorporation by reference is of importance to IMO because of the close relationship between many of the ITU-R Recommendations related to GMDSS equipment and its operation to IMO performance standards.

3 IMO requests the early indication of any changes proposed by ITU to the mechanism of incorporation by reference and to the list of incorporated Recommendations.

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1. Document [WRC-23-IRW-22/5](about:blank) (November 2022) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Document [WRC-23-IRW-22/2](about:blank) (November 2022) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Document [CPM23-2/2](about:blank) (December 2022) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)