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| **40 MEETING OF PERMANENT**  **CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE II:**  **RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS**  **October 31 to November 04, 2022**  **Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago** | | **OEA/Ser.L/XVII.4.2.39**  **CCP.II-RADIO /doc. /22**  **6 October 2022**  **Original: English** |
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|  | **DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE**  **AGENDA ITEM 4** | |
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|  | **(Item on the Agenda: 3.1)**  **(Document submitted by the United States of America)** | |

**Impact on the sector:**

This document supports the CITEL PCCII WRC Working Group’s preparations for WRC-23.

**Executive Summary:**

This document contains a preliminary proposal from the United States for WRC-23 agenda item 4 to review the Resolutions and Recommendations of previous conferences with a view to their possible revision, replacement or abrogation.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE**

**Agenda Item 4:** *in accordance with Resolution****95 (Rev.WRC‑19)****, to review the Resolutions and Recommendations of previous conferences with a view to their possible revision, replacement or abrogation;*

**Background:** Resolution **655 (WRC-15)** tasked the ITU-R with studies and other work items related to the definition of time scale and dissemination of time scale via radiocommunication systems. This included strengthening the cooperation between ITU-R and BIPM, the International Committee for Weights and Measures (CIPM), CGPM, as well as other relevant organizations, and to carry out a dialogue concerning the expertise of each organization, to further and more widely study the various aspects of current and potential future reference time scales, including their impacts and applications, to provide advice on the content and structure of time signals to be disseminated by radiocommunication systems, using the combined expertise of the relevant organizations, and to prepare one or more reports containing the results of studies that should include one or more proposals to determine the reference time scale and address other issues mentioned previously.

This work, as originally proposed in Resolution **655 (WRC-15)**, is complete. The United States proposes changes to this Resolution to reflect the completion of the work items as well as to acknowledge the ongoing cooperation between the ITU and other relevant organizations in the various aspects of current and potential future reference time scales and the role of the ITU-R in the dissemination of the international reference time scale by radiocommunication.

**Proposals:**

MOD USA/4293A21/1

RESOLUTION 655 (Rev.WRC-23)

Definition of time scale and dissemination of time signals via radiocommunication systems

The World Radiocommunication Conference (Dubai, 2023),

considering

*a)* that the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU‑R) is responsible for providing advice on the content and structure of time signals to be disseminated via radiocommunication systems, including the standard frequency and time signal service and the standard frequency and time signal-satellite service;

*b)* that the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) is responsible for establishing and maintaining the second of the International System of Units (SI) and its dissemination through the reference time scale;

*c)* that the definition of reference time scale and dissemination of time signals via radiocommunication systems are important for applications and equipment that require a time traceable to the reference time,

considering further

*a)* that ITU‑R is an organization member of the Consultative Committee for Time and Frequency (CCTF) and participates in the General Conference on Weights and Measures (CGPM) as an observer;

*b)* that BIPM is a Sector Member of ITU‑R and participates in the relevant activities of ITU‑R,

noting

*a)* that the international reference time scale is the legal basis for time-keeping for many countries, and *de facto* is the time scale used in the majority of countries;

*b)* that disseminated time signals are used not only in telecommunications but also in many industries and practically all areas of human activities;

*c)* that time signals are disseminated by both wired communications covered by Recommendations of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and by systems of different radiocommunication services (space and terrestrial), including the standard frequency and time signal service for which ITU‑R is responsible,

recognizing

*a)* that No. **26.1** states that: “Attention should be given to the extension of this service to those areas of the world not adequately served”;

*b)* that No. **26.6** states that: “In selecting the technical characteristics of standard frequency and time signal transmissions, administrations shall be guided by the relevant ITU‑R Recommendations”;

*c)* that the original definition of the international reference time scale UTC resulted from work completed in 1970 by the International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR) of the ITU, in full cooperation with the CGPM;

*d)* that the ITU World Administrative Radio Conference 1979 (WARC-79) included UTC in the Radio Regulations, and since then UTC, as “strongly endorsed” in Resolution 5 of CGPM (1975), has been used as the main time scale for telecommunication networks (wired and wireless) and for other time-related applications and equipment;

*e)* that the ITU and the BIPM entered into a memorandum of understanding[[1]](#footnote-2) recognizing the respective responsibilities of the relevant unions and organizations towards the dissemination of the international reference time scale via telecommunication;

*f)* that the definition of the international reference time scale is described in CGPM Resolution 2 (2018),

resolves

1 to continue the cooperation between the ITU and the BIPM, the International Committee for Weights and Measures (CIPM), CGPM, as well as other relevant organizations, and to carry out a dialogue concerning the various aspects of current and potential future reference time scales, including their impacts and applications, according to the expertise of each organization;

2 to provide advice on the content and structure of time signals to be disseminated by radiocommunication systems, using the combined expertise of the relevant organizations, as described in the relevant ITU‑R Recommendations,

instructs the Secretary-General

to bring this Resolution to the attention of IMO, ICAO, CGPM, CIPM, BIPM, IERS, IUGG, URSI, ISO, WMO and IAU.**Reasons:** The work originally proposed in Resolution **655 (WRC-15)** is complete. The resolves have been modified to emphasize the continuing cooperation between the ITU and other relevant organizations in the various aspects of current and potential future reference time scales and the role of the ITU-R in the dissemination of the international reference time scale by radiocommunication.

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1. The [Memorandum of Understanding](https://www.bipm.org/en/liaison-partners/itu?p_l_back_url=%2Fen%2Fsearch%3Fp_p_id%3Dsearch_portlet%26p_p_lifecycle%3D1%26p_p_state%3Dnormal%26p_p_mode%3Dview%26_search_portlet_javax.portlet.action%3Dsearch%26_search_portlet_source%3DBIPM) between the BIPM and ITU was signed by the President of the CIPM and the Director BR of the ITU in 2020 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)