

IWG-3 COMMENTS ON THE RCS PROPOSAL ON AGENDA ITEM 7.2 (including Agenda Item 2.8 in Resolution 803(WRC-2003), Preliminary agenda for the 2010 World Radiocommunication Conference)

2.8 to consider the progress of the ITU-R studies concerning the development and regulatory requirements of terrestrial wireless interactive multimedia applications, in accordance with Recommendation 722 (WRC-03) and to take any appropriate action on this subject;

ISSUE

WRC-07 will set the agenda for the subsequent WRC, WRC-10. The preliminary, or tentative, WRC-10 agenda resides in Resolution 803(WRC-03). The issue is whether or not the regulatory developments in terrestrial wireless interactive multimedia applications (TWIMs) require review by WRC-10 for action to be taken.

BACKGROUND

WRC-10 provisional agenda item 2.8 derives from the WRC-03 agenda item 1.21, “to consider progress of the ITU-R studies concerning the technical and regulatory requirements of terrestrial wireless interactive multimedia applications, in accordance with Resolution 737 (WRC-2000), with a view to facilitating global harmonization.” At WRC-2000, some European administrations insisted that the TWIMs matter be on the WRC-03 agenda, but no significant input was submitted to the ITU-R group formed to develop the text for this agenda item for the CPM Report to WRC-03, the Joint Task Group (JTG) 1-6-8-9. Therefore, there were no substantial study results that could form a basis for proposals to accordingly modify/amend the Radio Regulations (RRs) at WRC-03. WRC-03 consequently formed this tentative agenda item 2.8 for WRC-10.

Since WRC-2003, Working Party (WP) 1B of ITU-R SG 1 has been developing a Working Document Towards a Preliminary Draft New Report on Technical Convergence with Respect to Terrestrial Fixed, Mobile, and Broadcasting Interactive Multimedia Applications per Question ITU-R 224/1, “Technical Convergence with respect to Terrestrial Fixed, Mobile, and Broadcasting Interactive Multimedia Applications and the Associated Regulatory Environment.” This item currently under study in WP 1B can be considered a follow on to the original WRC-03 TWIMs agenda item.

CPM06-01 gave WPs 1B and 4A (of ITU-R SG 4) the lead for responding to Resolution 951 (WRC-03), “Options to Improve the International Spectrum Regulatory Framework”. This Resolution instructs the Director of the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau to include the results of these studies in his report to WRC-07, with the purpose of consideration of the suitability of this subject on a future WRC agenda. After WRC-03, Study Group (SG) 1 developed a new Study Question, 229/1, pursuant to the matter of Res. 951(WRC-03). Likewise, SG 1 has sent a liaison statement (Doc. 4A/131, 8/53, 9B/84, etc.) to several WPs across various SGs, seeking their input from their radio service perspective on options to improve the international spectrum regulatory framework. WPs 8A and 8F of SG 8, and several WPs of SG 9 have already replied to this query from SG 1. Doc. 1B/50, Annex 5 is the current Working Document Towards the Report to the BR Director in response to the Resolution 951 matter.

Although no action was taken on WRC-03 agenda item 1.21 at WRC-03, its legacy is still present in ongoing ITU-R studies. The Resolution 951(WRC-03) study, the results of which will be reported to WRC-07, is similar to the TWIMs matter in that replies from ITU-R groups to the above-mentioned SG 1 liaison statement have focused on the issues of convergence of current and future wireless applications, and how they fit into the spectrum regulatory framework. Doc. 1B/50, Annex 4, indicates in its

introduction that the scope of these issues may be perceived to fall under the scope of Resolution 951(WRC-03).

IWG-3 RECOMMENDATION ON RCS VIEW

Given that the ITU-R studies pursuant to Rec. 722(WRC-03) and Res. 951(WRC-03) are still ongoing and have not yet presented results, IWG-3 is of the view that the US should wait until these studies have concluded before reaching a decision on the retention and final wording of agenda item 2.8 for the WRC-10 agenda.

If this agenda item is retained, it is likely more suitable to modify its language to relate it to the Res. 951(WRC-03) studies, since the results of these will be presented to WRC-07 by the Radiocommunication Bureau.

A possible outcome would be to replace the “terrestrial wireless interactive multimedia applications” reference with text such as “convergence of radio technologies and wireless applications,” and “flexible allocation framework”. Even if a modified WRC-10 agenda item remove the direct reference to TWIMs, Rec. 722(WRC-03) and the WP 1B studies on TWIMs should be noted in the companion resolution to the agenda item, as background information.