

IWG-3 COMMENTS ON THE RCS PROPOSAL ON AGENDA ITEM 4 (including Recommendation 722 (WRC-03))

Agenda Item 4: in accordance with Resolution 95 (Rev.WRC-03), to review the Resolutions and Recommendations of previous conferences with a view to their possible revision, replacement or abrogation;

ISSUE

Recommendation 722 (WRC-03) invited administrations to participate in ITU-R studies to review the technical, operational and frequency issues for terrestrial wireless interactive multimedia applications (TWIMs) on a global basis. The issue is whether or not to suppress this Recommendation.

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

This proposal is directly related to a previous proposal from the RCS on Agenda Item 7.2 (including Agenda Item 2.8 in Resolution 803 (WRC-03), Preliminary agenda for the 2010 World Radiocommunication Conference). Agenda Item 2.8 is “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.” At that time, IWG-3 submitted comments stating IWG-3’s view that suppression of the agenda item was premature and that the US should wait until the relevant studies have concluded before reaching a decision on the retention and final wording of agenda item 2.8 for the WRC-10 agenda to the WAC (WAC Document 069). This latest RCS proposal seems to be another attempt to address the same topic. IWG-3 therefore reiterates its previous comments.

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.” As no significant input was submitted to the ITU-R group, Joint Task Group (JTG) 1-6-8-9, formed to develop the text for this agenda item for the CPM Report to WRC-03, there were no substantial study results that could form a basis for proposals at WRC-03. Consequently, WRC-03 formed this agenda item 2.8 for WRC-10, which invited studies in accordance with Recommendation 722 (WRC-03).

While JTG 1-6-8-9 has held its final meeting, the legacy of WRC-03 Agenda Item 1.21 and now WRC-10 Agenda Item 2.8 are present in other ongoing ITU-R studies. 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. Since then several ITU-R groups have sent back liaison replies to this query. Doc. 1B/83, Annex 3 is the current Working Document Towards the Report to the BR Director in response to the Resolution 951 matter.

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, from the Report of the October 2004 meeting of WP 1B, indicated 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 these ITU-R studies 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 and suppression of Recommendation 722 (WRC-03) with which this agenda item is currently associated. Further, although it is noted that the work under Resolution 951 (WRC-03) is related to TWIMs, there is no time limit to the studies under Recommendation 722 (WRC-03), and they may continue in the time after WRC-07 and leading up to WRC-10.