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|  | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY | **Document No:** |
| **The 4th Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory**  **Group for WRC-23 (APG23-4)** | **APG23-4/OUT-03** |
| 15 – 20 August 2022, Bangkok, Thailand | 20 August 2022 |

Vice-Chair, APG Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-23

**meeting Report on RA-23 preparation**

1. Introduction

A meeting on preparation for RA-23 was convened at 10:30 - 12:15 on 18 August 2022.

The meeting was chaired by Muneo Abe, a Vice-Chair of APG-23. The agenda of the meeting can be found in Document APG23-4/ADM-13.

The meeting reviewed the activities of the RAG meeting which was convened in April 2022 and views were exchanged on office term of WP Chairs based on Input document APG23-4/INP-88.

1. Review of RAG (Radiocommunication Advisory Group) activities

It was noted that two RAG sessions were convened as the 29th RAG meeting, one (24 February 2022) for reviewing draft ITU-R strategic and financial plans and the other (11-14 April 2022) on general matters. Discussions at the April RAG meeting were reviewed based on CA/260 “Summary of conclusions of the 29th RAG meeting”.

The review was focused on activities related to Corresponding Groups (CG) 1 and 2 which had been established to deal with specific matters instructed by RA-19 and WRC-19.

2.1 CG 1: Implementation of WRC-19 Gender Declaration

In addition to a report on NOW activities, CG 1 provided the RAG with a working document for a new Resolution for promoting gender equality, equity and parity in ITU-R. CG 1 was invited to continue development of the draft new Resolution.

2.2 CG 2: Possible Revision of Resolution ITU-R 1-8

It was noted that in addition to two issues (Issues 1 and 2) already tasked, a new issue (Issue 3) was additionally included in the ToR of CG2:

Issue 1: Possible revision with respect to Section A2.6.2.1.3 (Adoption and approval procedures when topics of the Recommendation are relevant to multiple SGs)

Although Report of CG2 Chair (Doc. RAG /40) included the view of the CG that the current text in Resolution 1-8 is sufficient and no revision of Section A2.6.2.1.3 is recommended, RAG invited the CG to continue review on this Section. The RA preparation group noted some points to be improved in the text of Section A2.6.2.1.3 for better clarity.

Issue 2: Term of office for ITU-R WP Chairs

The following discussions in the RAG were noted by the RA preparation group:

CG2 Chair reported that CG2 was still continuing consideration on this matter. Three contributions were submitted to the RAG-29 meeting: RAG/47 (SUI), 51(USA) and 54(CHN). Two of them proposed to define term limit and the other proposed to request SGs to review and appoint WP Chairs at its first meeting after the RA without defining term limit. The RA preparation group exchanged views on this matter based on APG23-4/88 (AUS). See Section 3.

Issue 3: Course of action to be taken by WPs for Draft New Report or Draft Revised Report before being submitted to the SGs

Based on French contribution RAG/45, the RAG invited the CG to provide possible revision for clarifying necessary course of action to be taken by WPs for the agreement of the draft new or revised Report before being submitted to SGs. Concerns were raised in the RA preparation meeting about increasing introduction of micro-managements in the working methods. Also, it was indicated that issues of the process of adoption of ITU-R Recommendation is an important subject which needs to be seriously discussed and agreed upon with a view to providing necessary elements for consideration at RA-23.

1. Discussion on the office term of WP Chairs

The RA preparation group considered Input document APG23-4/88 from Australia, which includes the following views:

Australia believes that term limits for WP Chair are (a) detrimental to the technical work required of the WPs, (b) insufficient to achieve the stated goals of broader representation and (c) unworkable in practice.

Australia continues to support, as at the 29th meeting of RAG in 2022, the US proposal in Document [RAG/51](https://www.itu.int/md/R20-RAG-C-0051/en) which calls for the SGs to periodically review the leadership in light of a balance between stability and inclusion. This leaves the matter in the hands of the Study Group where it belongs.

Views were exchanged among participants. Iran and Korea expressed their views to support Australia. China expressed their preference to defining term limit with allowing some exceptions, although they also place an importance on the balance between stability and introduction of new leadership. CEPT explained its views that the current practice of unlimited continuation of office term should be reviewed, taking into account the provisions of Resolution 208 of the Plenipotentiary conference.

After the discussions, the meeting concluded that APT members having views on this matter should be encouraged to participate in the discussions in CG2. APT members are also invited to provide contributions on this matter to APG23-5 meeting.

1. Future work of APG preparation for RA-23

APT members are encouraged to participate in Study Group meetings and follow their discussions which might lead to issues to be discussed at RA-23.

The Chair also invited early submission of contributions to APG meetings on RA matters so that other APT members would be ready for discussions on the subjects of these contributions.

1. Acknowledgement

The Chair thanks the participants of the meeting for their contribution and corporation in the meeting.

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