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|  | ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY | **Document No:** |
| **The 5th Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory**  **Group for WRC-19 (APG19-5)** | **APG19-5/OUT-44** |
| 31 July – 6 August 2019, Tokyo, Japan | 6 August 2019 |

Working Party 6

**APT VIEWs AND RELIMINARY APT COMMON PROPOSALs**

**on WRC-19 agenda item 8**

**Agenda Item 8:**

*to consider and take appropriate action on requests from administrations to delete their country footnotes or to have their country name deleted from footnotes, if no longer required, taking into account Resolution* ***26 (Rev.WRC-07)****.*

**1. Background**

* This is a standing agenda item at each WRC in accordance with Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC‑07)**.
* Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)** urges administrations ‘to review footnotes periodically and to propose the deletion of their country footnotes or of their country names from footnotes, as appropriate.’
* There is widespread support for the need to review footnotes particularly in view of deletion of footnotes which are no longer required in accordance with the Resolution.

**2. Documents**

* Input Documents [APG19-5/INP-29](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2019/07/APG19-5-INP-29-IRN_WP6_AI_8-FF.docx) (IRN), [APG19-5/INP-47](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2019/07/APG19-5-INP-47-AUS_Contribution_to_APG19-5_Chapter_6.docx) (AUS), [APG19-5/INP-88 (Rev.1)](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2019/07/APG19-5-INP-88-R1-J-17_WP6_PACP_and_Views89.1.69.1.7.docx) (J).
* Information Documents [APG19-5/INF-02](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2019/07/APG19-5-INF-02-ICAO-Position.docx) (ICAO), [APG19-5/INF-18](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2019/07/APG19-5_INF-18-CEPT.docx) (CEPT), [APG19-5/INF-22 (RCC)](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2019/07/APG19-5-INF-22-RCC.docx).

**3. Summary of discussions**

**3.1 Summary of APT Members’ views**

**3.1.1 Islamic Republic of Iran** - **Document** [APG19-5/INP-29](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2019/07/APG19-5-INP-29-IRN_WP6_AI_8-FF.docx)

* + It is proposed that the Draft PACP contained in the embedded file be considered and adopted as PACP by APG2019-5 meeting. The proposed draft PACP is based on the output of APG2019-4 meeting.
  + The draft PACP can be found in the input contribution listed above.

**3.1.2 Australia – Document** [APG19-5/INP-47](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2019/07/APG19-5-INP-47-AUS_Contribution_to_APG19-5_Chapter_6.docx)

Australia supports the principles and intent of Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)** and the WRC standing agenda item for administrations to remove their country footnotes or their country names associated with specific footnotes of the Table of Frequency Allocations in Article **5** of the Radio Regulations when no longer required.

This agenda item is not intended for adding country names to existing footnotes. However, WRCs in the past have deliberated on proposals from administrations to add country names to the existing footnotes on a case by case basis, subject to no objections from affected countries. Australia is open to consideration of regulatory options that might better address this practice for the benefit of future conferences and administrations.

Recent conferences have considered the issues described above at short notice and often raised within the conference. This presents difficulties for administrations during the conference, as the addition or deletion of country names to existing footnotes can have considerable impact to existing allocations and the management of spectrum in other (often neighboring) countries. Australia is of the view that the proposals under this WRC standing agenda item, should be available in a timely and efficient manner before a conference for due consideration of administrations. To address the issue of timely consideration of administrations requests to vary footnotes in accordance with Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)**, one option might be to apply a final deadline of 21 calendar days before a conference, as applies to all WRC contributions (consistent with resolves 1 of Resolution **165 (Rev.Dubai, 2018)**) for matters to be accepted for consideration by a WRC under this agenda item.

Notwithstanding, Australia is of the view that this agenda item is not intended for the addition of new country footnotes. Australia is open to a revision of Resolution **26 (Rev. WRC-07)** to reflect this for clarity.

Given suggestions above it would be necessary to revise the agenda item description as shown in Resolution **809 (WRC-15)** as follows:

to consider and take appropriate action on requests proposals from administrations to delete their country footnotes or to have their country name deleted from footnotes, if no longer required, taking into account or to add their country name to footnotes in accordance with further resolves of Resolution 26 (Rev.WRC 07).

**3.1.3 Japan – Document** [APG19-5/INP-88 (Rev.1)](https://www.apt.int/sites/default/files/2019/07/APG19-5-INP-88-R1-J-17_WP6_PACP_and_Views89.1.69.1.7.docx)

Japan supports the deletion of country footnotes or country names in footnotes in the Table of Frequency Allocations in RR in accordance with Resolution 26(Rev.WRC-07), since it believes that the deletion of country footnote or country names in footnotes in the Table Frequency Allocations in RR does not influence any existing systems or existing services in Japan.

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

* Most discussion was on possible revisions to Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)** and how it may best reflect common issues that are dealt with at WRC in Committee 6 with matters that are often not in scope of the standing agenda item.
* The purpose being to provide clear guidance to administrations and assist future conferences in their work with addressing changes to country footnotes of the Table of Frequency Allocations in Article **5** of the Radio Regulations.
* One clear difference was in the possible timing of administrations notifying their intensions of changes they may propose to a conference with country footnotes in accordance with Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)**.

**4. APT View(s)**

APT Members support the principles and intent of Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)** and the WRC standing agenda item for administrations to remove their country footnotes or their country names associated with specific footnotes of the Table of Frequency Allocations in Article **5** of the Radio Regulations when no longer required.

The following issues were identified:

**Issue A – Deletion of country footnotes or country names from footnotes**

Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)** *further resolves* 2 clearly states ‘that recommended agendas for future world radiocommunication conferences should include a standing agenda item which would allow for the consideration of proposals by administrations for deletion of country footnotes, or country names in footnotes, if no longer required.’

**Issue B – Addition of country names into existing footnotes**

The addition of country names to existing footnotes during the conference can carry with it considerable impact to existing allocations and the management of spectrum in other (often neighbouring) countries.

Adding a country name to an existing footnote is not within scope of the standing agenda item.

However, previous conferences have considered proposals for addition of country names to existing footnotes under this standing agenda item subject to the following principle:

“It is not the intention of WRC to encourage the addition of country names to existing footnotes. However, under certain circumstances on a purely exceptional basis and if justified, proposals for the addition of country names to existing footnotes can be considered but their acceptance is subject to the express condition that there are no objections from the affected countries.” (see [WRC-15 Document 142 (Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/dms_ties/itu-r/md/15/wrc15/c/R15-WRC15-C-0142!R1!MSW-E.docx)).

WRCs may continue to deal with requests to add country names to the existing footnotes on a case by case basis, subject to the principle that there are no objections from the affected countries.

It is proposed to modify Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)** to improve clarity and align with WRC current practice on the addition and deletion of country names to existing footnotes,

**Issue C – Addition of new country footnotes**

Previous conferences have considered proposals for addition of new country footnotes under this agenda item and determined the following principle:

“Proposals for the addition of new country footnotes which are not related to agenda items of the Conference should not be considered.” (see [WRC-15 Document 142 (Rev.1)](https://www.itu.int/dms_ties/itu-r/md/15/wrc15/c/R15-WRC15-C-0142!R1!MSW-E.docx)).

APT Members are of the view that the standing agenda item for deletion of country names from footnotes is not intended for the addition of new country footnotes.

APT Members propose to expressly include the current WRCs practice in Resolution **26 (Rev. WRC-07)**.

**Issue D – Availability of proposals under WRC standing Agenda Item 8**

APT Members are of the view that the proposals under this WRC standing agenda item, should be available in a timely and efficient manner before a conference for due consideration of administrations. To address the issue of timely consideration of administrations requests to vary footnotes in accordance with Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)**, it is proposed to modify Resolution **26 (Rev.WRC-07)** to encourage administrations to submit their proposals under this agenda item to the second session of the CPM and invites the CPM to include these proposals for information in its Report to the Conference and no later than 21 calendar days before a conference, as applies to all WRC contributions (consistent with resolves 1 of Resolution 165 (Rev.Dubai, 2018), for matters to be accepted for consideration by a conference under this standing agenda item.

**5. Preliminary APT Common Proposal(s)**

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