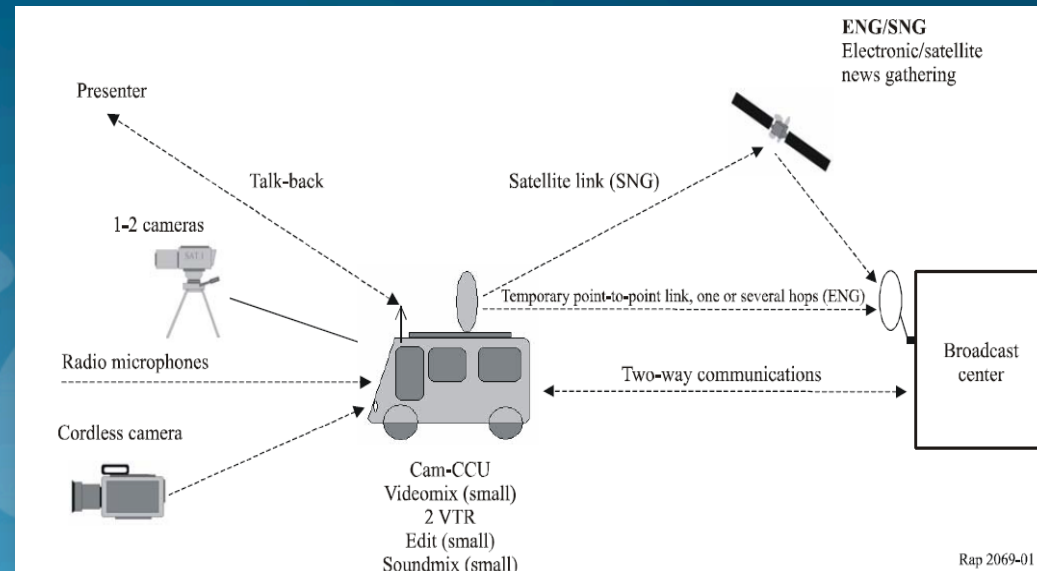# International harmonization of Electronic News Gathering (ENG)

Is there an opportunity for Associations to consolidate regional information databases and help disclosing local ENG usage information ?

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2012

What ENG stands for ?

Radiocommunication systems used in the coverage of major events (ie. Sporting, Concerts, Political events, Diplomatic conferences, Natural disaster coverage)

Technical definition : collection of video and/or sound material without the use of film or tape recorder, using small, often handheld, electronic cameras and/or microphones with radio links to the news room and/or to the portable tape or other recorders*.

Characteristic of ENG equipment => Temporary basis and high cross border itinerancy increasing with miniaturization and modular desing (portable by international Media Press/Broadcasting staffs)

Operations => Dynamic nature (i.e. unforeseen events such as disasters coverage), time constrains for installation (fast track is necessary)

*ITU-R Report BT.2069-5

Today => Wide diversity of ENG Link equipment leading to several possible frequency bands used worldwide.

ITU Radiocommunication Assembly 2012 (RA-12) decided on studies for worldwide harmonization of frequency bands and/or tunning ranges for ENG and/or regional harmonization and conditions for their use by terrestrial electronic news gathering systems **(Res ITU-R 59)**

RA 2012 resolved

* Administrations to develop relevant information about national ENG use for use by foreign entities during worldwide newsworthy events, such as:

- List of frequency bands in the country
- Spectrum management practices
- Technical and operational requirements
- Spectrum authorization points of contact

* ITU (BR) to develop webpage to consolidate links to administration lists of ENG information

Benefits from ENG global harmonization:
More scale
More spectrum efficiency
Less Interference /operational problems due to non conformity to local regulations

One important step to reach harmonization = reduce information asymmetry on licensing procedures and frequency bands available for ENG in each country

Possible ways to do it ?

Administrations individually implementing websites and local databases with information on ENG in a national basis

Regional Associations could support them to reach that end or deploying regional databases ?