QUESTION ITU-R 254/5[[1]](#footnote-1), [[2]](#footnote-2)

Operation of short-range radiocommunication public access system   
supporting hearing aid systems

(2014)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

*a)* that in certain conditions, e.g. in noisy environments or for persons with impaired hearing it is desirable to operate appropriate radiocommunication hearing aids;

*b)* that many persons have impaired hearing;

*c)* that in such conditions acoustically linked hearing aids do not allow speech to be presented at an optimum level and without environmental noise and distortion;

*d)* that radio emission is a practical means of transferring a signal with a favourable signal‑to-noise ratio from a transmission of a public system to a hearing aid;

*e)* that such a public access system could be designed to assist persons with a hearing loss to listen over distances as are encountered in ordinarily unaided speech;

*f)* that a range of transmission of about 20 metres for a public system would be adequate;

*g)* that certain countries are carrying out research and development into such systems;

*h)* that such a communication system may have wider application;

*i)* that persons with hearing impairments would benefit from using radiocommunication hearing aids when travelling;

*j)* that international harmonization of these devices is desirable,

decides that the following Questions should be studied

1 What are the suitable technical and operational characteristics of a short-range radiocommunication public access system supporting hearing aid systems?

2 What are the:

– frequency ranges in the land mobile service suitable for short-range radiocommunication public access system supporting hearing aid systems?

– conditions that might allow compatible operation of short-range radiocommunication public access systems, supporting hearing aid systems and systems of other radio services within the VHF or UHF band?

3 What are the spectrum sharing criteria for short-range radiocommunication public access system supporting hearing aid systems and systems supporting other radio services?

4 What are the technologies suitable to short-range radiocommunication public access system supporting hearing aid systems?

further decides

1 that the results of the above studies should be included in one or more Recommendations, Reports or Handbooks;

2 that the above studies should be completed by 2027.

Category: S2

1. Bring to the attention of ITU-T (JCA) and ITU-D Study Groups. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. In the year 2019, Radiocommunication Study Group 5 extended the completion date of studies for this Question. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)