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| PLENARY MEETING | Addendum 19 toDocument 42-E |
|  | 10 October 2016 |
|  | Original: English |
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| African Telecommunication Union Administrations |
| Proposal to not change RECOMMENDATIONS ITU-T A.1, ITU-T A.12 AND ITU-T A.13 |
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| **Abstract:** | African Member States are proposing to the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-16) not to change the following three ITU‑T A-series Recommendations: A.1, A.12 and A.13, considering that some contributions by other regions or Member States to this Assembly proposing change to these Recommendations would not support the work of the ITU-T from the point of view of the African Member States. |

African Member States are proposing to the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-16) not to change the following three ITU-T A-series Recommendations for the given reasons.

NOC AFCP/42A19/1

Recommendation ITU-T A.1

Working methods for study groups of the ITU Telecommunication
Standardization Sector

(1996; 2000; 2004; 2006; 2008; 2012)

**Reasons**:

African Member States are of the view that Recommendation ITU-T A.1 has reached a very stable state during previous Assemblies, and hence should not be prone to revisions. The suggestions to add in clause 1.4.7 of A.1 a mandatory requirement of support for initiating a new work item by “at least four entities (Member States, Sector Members, Associates, Academia) from four different countries, would discourage members, especially from developing countries, to participate and/or to propose work items and have the chance to be approved.

African Member States have also noticed Document 44 Addendum 1 from APT that opposes such revision and provides reasoning that African Member States find to be very justified; and accordingly support the proposal in the APT proposal, that there be no change to clause 1.4.7.

Proposal:

African Member States propose NOC to clause 1.4.7 as well as to other clauses of Recommendation ITU-T A.1

NOC AFCP/42A19/2

Recommendation ITU-T A.12

Identification and layout of ITU-T Recommendations

(2000; 2004; 2008; 2015; 2016)[[1]](#footnote-1)1

**Reasons**:

African Member States propose no change to Recommendation ITU-T A.12, in particular tagging the ITU-T Recommendation with the approval process (TAP/AAP). Finally, any Recommendation will have the same legal status. The impact would be more confusion to the implementers. ITU should target to promote its Recommendations to the furthest extent to assure global spread and prevalence.

NOC AFCP/42A19/3

Recommendation ITU-T A.13

Supplements to ITU‑T Recommendations

(2000; 2007)[[2]](#footnote-2)1

**Reasons**:

African Member States noticed contribution Document 46 Addendum 20 to this Assembly from Member States of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) regarding Recommendation ITU-T A.13. It contains big changes to the existing clauses trying to specify working methods for non-normative documents with the aim to improve efficiency for the benefit of all members.

However, thorough examination of the proposed changes reveals that eventually they are not supportive to encouraging the implementation of these documents, either supplement, reports, etc. by always and bluntly reminding the reader that “THESE *do not contain any mandatory provisions, and do not form an integral part of any ITU-T Recommendations, etc*.”, which is providing a negative sign to any reader, whereas ITU-T is striving that its Recommendations be implemented. Already Recommendations are voluntary, and still are not fully adhered to, so such signs in other text will greatly demote the status of non-normative ITU-T publications. So this will not be helping the members.

Additionally, the proposals in Document 46 Addendum 20 add more restrictive conditions to start work items, including many interpretation ambiguities that can pass or stop any work item! This would also not be helpful to the members.

In conclusion, while it appears attractive to organize and/or streamline the working methods, the way that is being proposed in Document 46 Addendum 20 is not conductive at all to the work of the ITU-T.

Accordingly, African Member States common proposal is No Change to Recommendation ITU-T A.13.

1. 1 This publication includes Rec. ITU-T A.12 (2008) and incorporates its Cor. 1 (2015) and Cor. 2 (2016). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 1 This publication includes Recommendation ITU-T A.13 (2000) and incorporates its Amendment 1 (2007). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)