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| ITU logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION**TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR**STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 | TSAG-TD1259 |
| **TSAG** |
| **Original: English** |
| **Question(s):** | N/A | E-Meeting, 10-17 January 2022 |
| **TD(Ref.:** [SG5-LS229](http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/ls/sp16-sg5-oLS-00229.docx)) |
| **Source:** | ITU-T Study Group 5 |
| **Title:** | LS on Information regarding the development of Draft Recommendation ITU-T L.VirtualMeetings on Methodology for estimating GHG emissions in the frame of virtual meetings and events [from ITU-T SG5] |
| **Purpose:** | Information |
| **LIAISON STATEMENT** |
| **For action to:** | - |
| **For comment to:** | - |
| **For information to:** | TSAG |
| **Approval:** | ITU-T Study Group 5 meeting (Virtual, 10 December 2021) |
| **Deadline:** | N/A |
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A new liaison statement has been received from SG5.

This liaison statement follows and the original file can be downloaded from the ITU ftp server at <http://handle.itu.int/11.1002/ls/sp16-sg5-oLS-00229.docx>.

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| **STUDY GROUP 5** |
| **Original: English** |
| **Question(s):** | 9/5 | Virtual, 30 November – 10 December 2021 |
| **Ref.: SG5-TD2117** |
| **Source:** | ITU-T Study Group 5 |
| **Title:** | LS on Information regarding the development of Draft Recommendation ITU-T L.VirtualMeetings on Methodology for estimating GHG emissions in the frame of virtual meetings and events  |
| **LIAISON STATEMENT** |
| **For action to:** | - |
| **For comment to:** |  |
| **For information to:** | TSAG |
| **Approval:** | ITU-T Study Group 5 meeting (Virtual, 10 December 2021) |
| **Deadline:** | N/A |
| **Contact:** | Pernilla BergmarkTelefon AB L M EricssonSweden | Tel: +46 70 267 01 88E-mail: pernilla.bergmark@ericsson.com  |
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| **Keywords:** | Greenhouse gas emissions; Virtual Meetings; carbon footprint; enabling effects; first order effects; second order effects; |
| **Abstract:** | This liaison aims to inform TSAG regarding the work of SG5 to establish a methodology for assessing the first order effects (the carbon footprint) and the second order effects (the emissions avoidable) due to Virtual Meetings. |

ITU-T Study Group 5 wishes to inform TSAG about the current work on a methodology for assessing the first order effects (the carbon footprint) and the second order effects (the emissions avoidable) due to Virtual Meetings.

The draft Recommendation [ITU-T L.VirtualMeetings](https://www.itu.int/itu-t/workprog/wp_item.aspx?isn=17132) is aimed for consent in the first semester of 2022 and is designed to support organizers of events in understanding the impacts associated with their virtual meetings.

More precisely, this Recommendation provides:

* A methodology for estimating the GHG emissions related to virtual meetings and events, considering their footprint and the emissions avoided in comparison with a physical event.
* Specific guidance on how to quantify and report the GHG emissions of a given digital meeting or event.
* Guidance to event organizers in determining the best approach to reduce the GHG emissions of the meetings.

The Recommendation will also serve as input to develop a fast and easy-to-use emission calculator for estimating the carbon footprint of any given virtual event, including meetings and forums. However, this Recommendation will not provide any guidance on the assessment of individual e-meetings occurring as an integrated part of an organization´s daily work, which would demand a different methodology. Moreover, physical, and virtual meetings may be recorded and shared on demand. Such on-demand distribution is regarded as being separate from physical and virtual meetings and is considered to lie outside the scope of this Recommendation.

This Recommendation considers the GHG emissions reduction potential from the perspective of the meeting as such – not from the perspective of an individual organization´s contribution to the meeting. Moreover, it is intended to give guidance for the assessment of specific meetings – not for the aggregated potential of Virtual Meetings of, for example, a country or globally during a specific time interval.

Finally, this Recommendation will consider both immediate avoidance of carbon emissions (such as a car journey not happening) and potential avoidance of carbon emissions (such as less demand for aircraft journeys leading, potentially, to fewer flights), while making a distinction between the two. From the perspective of the virtual meeting, both are relevant to consideration as the meeting, when going virtual, will decouple from both.

ITU-T SG5 will keep TSAG informed on the development of draft Recommendation ITU-T L.VirtualMeetings on Methodology for estimating GHG emissions in the frame of virtual meetings and events.

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