



Thailand

PRELIMINARY VIEW ON WRC-15 AGENDA ITEM 1.14

Agenda Item 1.14: “to consider the feasibility of achieving a continuous reference time-scale, whether by the modification of coordinated universal time (UTC) or some other method, and take appropriate action, in accordance with Resolution 653 (WRC-12)”;

Background

In its Resolution 653, WRC-12, considering the issue of UTC and continuous reference time scale, requested WRC-15 to take appropriate action on this issue based on studies conducted by Working Party 7A.

UTC is recognized as the legal basis for time-keeping for most countries in the world and *de facto* time –scale in most countries, including Thailand. ITU stated that all standard-frequency and time signal emissions should conform as closely as possible to UTC, and recommended that UTC should be used to designate the time in all international telecommunication activities.

However, the occasional insertion of leap seconds into UTC may create difficulties for system and applications that depend on accurate timing, and it is also noted that some organizations involved with space activities, global navigation satellite systems, metrology, telecommunications, network synchronization and electric power distribution have requested a continuous time-scale.

Working Party 7A is currently conducting studies in response to Resolution 653 (WRC-12), and while several alternatives including advantages and disadvantages have been discussed in recent meetings of Working Party 7A, no definitive conclusion has been identified as yet.

Preliminary View

Thailand supports studies currently undertaken by ITU-R providing three methods in Draft CPM report:

- Remove the leap second insertion or deletion from the definition of UTC in order to provide a -
 - Keep the current definition of UTC, disseminate UTC time-scale and also disseminate continuous time-scale on an equal basis.
 - Keep the current definition of UTC and enable the recovery of the International Atomic Time (TAI) from the current implementation of UTC or use a continuous system timescale.
- However, Thailand does not have a strong view to select any method at this moment.