Working Party 5D previously informed the external organizations in a liaison dispatched from its 19th Meeting (18-25 June 2014) that it was studying the definition of a work plan, timeline, process and required deliverables for the future development of IMT, necessary to provide by 2020 timeframe the expected ITU-R outcome of evolved IMT in support of the next generation of mobile broadband communications systems beyond IMT-Advanced.

WP 5D is continuing to use “IMT-2020” as an interim terminology to refer to these systems and has under discussion the specific nomenclature to be adopted for the future development of IMT. The major points developed and communicated previously have not changed:

1.  ITU Radiocommunications Bureau Circular Letter(s) are expected to be issued at the appropriate time(s) to announce the invitation to submit formal proposals and other relevant information.

2.  Currently, WP 5D is working on various deliverables to be completed by 2015, that will provide guidance on what may be expected in the future development of IMT, including:
   a)  Draft new Recommendation ITU-R M.[IMT VISION]: “Framework and overall objectives of the future development of IMT for 2020 and beyond” which addresses the longer term IMT vision for 2020 and beyond to drive the future developments for the radio access network.

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1 The use of the term “IMT-2020” is a placeholder terminology and the specific nomenclature to be adopted for the future development of IMT is expected to be finalized at the Radiocommunication Assembly 2015.
b) Draft new Report ITU-R M.[IMT.ABOVE 6 GHz]: “The technical feasibility of IMT in the bands above 6 GHz”, which addresses information on the technical feasibility on how current IMT systems, their evolution, and/or potentially new IMT radio interface technologies and system approaches could be appropriate for operation above 6 GHz, taking into account the impact of the propagation characteristics related to the possible future operation of IMT in those bands.

Working Party 5D will essentially use the same process utilized in the development of IMT-Advanced.

a) In the next phase, in the 2016-2017 time-frame, WP 5D will define in detail the performance requirements, evaluation criteria and methodology for the assessment of new IMT radio interface.

b) It is anticipated that the timeframe for proposals will be focused in 2018 (late 2017 to mid-2019).

c) In 2018-2020 the evaluation by independent external evaluation groups and definition of the new radio interfaces to be included in “IMT-2020” will take place.

d) Working Party 5D also plans to hold a workshop in late 2017 that will allow for an explanation and discussion on performance requirements and evaluation criteria and methodology for candidate technologies for “IMT-2020” that has been developed by WP 5D, as well as to provide an opportunity for presentations by potential proponents for “IMT-2020” in an informal setting.

e) The whole process is planned to be completed in 2020 when a draft new ITU-R Recommendation with detailed specifications for the new radio interfaces will be submitted for approval within ITU-R.

In its Meeting #20 (15-22 October 2014) and Meeting #21 (27 January – 4 February 2015) Working Party 5D has further refined the details of the time plan and deliverables and wishes the external organizations to be aware of the latest view.

The most significant update is the provision of a pictorial timeline and a refinement of some of the dates as shown in Figure 1 below. Further details of the anticipated “IMT-2020” related deliverables described in Figure 1 can be found in an associated table on the "IMT-2020" related website.
WP 5D is also pleased to announce that Report ITU-R M.2320: “Future Technology Trends of Terrestrial IMT systems” was completed and approved in 2014.

WP 5D would also like to inform the external organizations that because of World Radiocommunications Conference (WRC-15) occurring at the end of 2015, that WP 5D is only holding two meetings in 2015 instead of the usual three meetings and that the 23rd Meeting of Working Party will not occur until around February 2016 where work on deliverables such as the detailed technical requirements of IMT-2020 will begin in earnest.

Working Party 5D would like to invite external organizations to consider this liaison and provide comments as appropriate. The next meeting (#22) of WP 5D is scheduled for 10-18 June 2015 and the deadline for contributions is 16:00 hours UTC on Wednesday, 3 June 2015.

**Status:** For Action

**Contact:** Mr Sergio Buonomo  
E-mail: sergio.buonomo@itu.int  
SG5 Counselor