AGENDA ITEM 1.22: to examine the effect of emissions from short-range devices on radiocommunication services, in accordance with Resolution 953 (WRC-07)

ISSUE: Resolution 953 (WRC-07) invites the ITU-R to study the emissions from short-range devices (SRDs), and in particular radio-frequency identification devices (RFIDs), inside and outside the ISM bands. It further emphasizes the need to ensure adequate protection of radiocommunication services from SRD emissions.

BACKGROUND: Short-range devices have been studied in the past in both Working Parties 1A and 1B. ITU-R Question 213/1, “Technical and operating parameters and spectrum requirements for short-range devices” was adopted in 1997, resulting in Recommendation ITU-R SM.1538, “Technical and operating parameters and spectrum requirements for short range radiocommunication devices” in 2001. The ITU-R revised this recommendation in 2003 and in 2006, and work on further revisions continues in Working Party 1B.

Resolution 953 (WRC-07) mentions ultra-wideband systems in Considerings (b) and (d). Such devices have been studied extensively in Task Group 1/8, resulting in the production of four Recommendations: ITU-R SM.1754 (Measurement techniques of ultra-wideband transmissions), SM.1755 (Characteristics of ultra-wideband technology), SM.1756 (Framework for the introduction of devices using ultra-wideband technology) and SM.1757 (Impact of devices using ultra-wideband technology on systems operating within radiocommunication services).

Resolution 953 (WRC-07) notes all of these recommendations in Recognizing (a).

The primary change in direction between the current Resolution and past work seems to be the focus on the effect of emissions from short-range devices in general on radiocommunications, rather than technical characteristics of such devices and regulatory regimes or the emissions from a specific type of device.

U.S. VIEW: The United States views the regulation of short-range devices as primarily a national matter. The United States supports studies into the characteristics of short-range devices, including emissions and the effects of those emissions on radiocommunication services. (August 7, 2008)