



INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

B.11

MEANS OF EXPRESSION

LEGAL TIME; USE OF THE TERM UTC

ITU-T Recommendation B.11

(Extract from the *Blue Book*)

NOTES

1 ITU-T Recommendation B.11 was published in Fascicle I.3 of the *Blue Book*. This file is an extract from the *Blue Book*. While the presentation and layout of the text might be slightly different from the *Blue Book* version, the contents of the file are identical to the *Blue Book* version and copyright conditions remain unchanged (see below).

2 In this Recommendation, the expression “Administration” is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

Recommendation B.11

LEGAL TIME; USE OF THE TERM UTC

(Geneva, 1980)

The CCITT,

considering

(a) that according to CCIR Recommendation 460-3 all standard-frequency and time-signal emissions should conform to Coordinated Universal Time (UTC);

(b) that since 1972 UTC has been available as a worldwide time reference;

(c) that in 1975 the General Conference of Weights and Measures (CGPM) recommended the use of UTC as the basis of civil time;

(d) that other scientific organizations, particularly the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the International Union of Radio Science (URSI) have recommended the general use of UTC;

(e) that UTC enables the time of events to be determined with an uncertainty of 1 μ s;

(f) that according to CCIR Recommendation 536 and in accordance with the Recommendation of the General Conference of Weights and Measures the designation UTC is to be used in all languages;

(g) that the World Administrative Radio Conference (Geneva, 1979) has decided that UTC shall be used in international radiocommunication activities;

(h) that in accordance with Appendix 2 to the Telegraph and Telephone Regulations, Geneva, 1973 (relating to reciprocal exchange of information through the medium of the General Secretariat) Resolution No. 1 of these Regulations recommends Administrations *inter alia* to inform the Secretary-General of the legal time they apply.

unanimously recommends

that UTC should be used to designate the time in all other international telecommunication activities (including operational information) and in all service documents of the International Telecommunication Union.