

QUESTION ITU-R 46-1/6*

User requirements for metadata related to digital production, post-production, recording and archiving of sound and television programmes in broadcasting

(2003-2006)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

- a) that digital broadcasting is bringing fundamental changes to the infrastructure and methods of production, post-production, recording and archiving of audio, video and other electronic media;
- b) that the need to provide essential information on recorded and archived sound and television programmes has been recognized since the introduction of sound and television recording and it has become particularly acute with the introduction of digital technology that allows to produce, post-produce, record and archive all sorts of intellectual products on computer-type supports, which are indifferent to the type of information stored on them;
- c) that such need is particularly felt in the case of digital programme archives, which are one of the main assets of broadcasters and often also represent the permanent memory of a nation, its culture and its lifestyle;
- d) that the use of metadata is clearly the key to providing adequate information on the content of programme recordings, and would be most useful for this purpose, and notably for the purpose of the international exchange of recorded sound and television programmes, if it were universally used and harmonized, e.g. through appropriate ITU Recommendations based on carefully researched user requirements;
- e) that a common terminology, set of formats and usage for metadata may improve the usefulness of metadata and reduce the opportunity for its misinterpretation, misuse, loss or corruption;
- f) that considerable work has been done in this area by many standards development organizations and this work should be considered;
- g) that metadata is fundamental to Media Asset Management systems which are becoming increasingly important in the effective and timely operation of broadcast and other electronic media services,

* This Question should be brought to the attention of Telecommunication Standardization Study Group 9.

decides that the following Question should be studied

- 1 What are the functions required of metadata, both now and in the foreseeable future?
- 2 What information should be provided in the form of metadata accompanying digital sound and television programmes from production to post-production, recording and archiving?
- 3 Should such information be supplemented with further information in the form of metadata when those programmes are digitally archived?
- 4 How can metadata best be formatted, stored and transferred in production, post-production, recording and archiving environments?
- 5 Is there an optimal data model or set of data models which can be used to uniformly describe and define metadata structure, its components and their properties?
- 6 Is it possible to recommend a subset of information that should always be delivered in the form of metadata when digital sound and television programmes are exchanged internationally?
- 7 What procedures should be adopted in order to ensure that metadata appropriate to digital programme production, post-production, recording and archiving is created and maintained?

further decides

- 1 that cooperation with other ITU and non-ITU bodies would allow the selection of metadata format/s, method/s of metadata storage, method/s of metadata transfer and data model/s which are compatible with the requirements of the various stages in the broadcast chain;
- 2 that Study Group 6 studies on metadata should focus if possible on existing data models, formats, storage and transfer methods;
- 3 that studies should include carriage of the metadata in programme and emission;
- 4 that the results of the studies should be reflected in one or more ITU-R Recommendations;
and
- 5 that the studies should be completed by 2008.

Category: S1/AP