

DECLARATION CCTF 1(2006)

Re-organization of the CCTF Working Group on International Atomic Time (TAI)

The Consultative Committee for Time and Frequency (CCTF),

considering that

- in 1985 the Consultative Committee for the Definition of the Second (CCDS) formed a Working Group on TAI composed mostly of representatives of international organisations,
- the terms of reference and membership of this working group corresponded to the needs and expectations at that time,
- the practice for this working group has been to work in close collaboration with the laboratories contributing to TAI,
- this working group regularly organized meetings of the laboratories contributing to TAI, stimulating discussion and providing guidance for the improvement of TAI;

declares that the terms of reference for the Working Group on TAI be updated and the membership enlarged so that they become as follows:

The CCTF Working Group on TAI is composed of:

a) a representative of each of the following organizations:

- International Astronomical Union (IAU),
- International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG),
- International Union of Radio Science (URSI),
- International Telecommunication Union, Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R),
- Comité International des Poids et Mesures (CIPM),

b) the Director of the BIPM,

c) the individual responsible for TAI at the BIPM, and

d) representatives of the laboratories contributing to TAI.

An expert from an organization or a laboratory contributing to TAI is appointed by the CCTF President as Chair of the working group. The period of this Chairmanship covers two consecutive meetings of the CCTF and may be renewed.

The mandate of the working group is as follows:

- a) to examine the remarks and requirements expressed by the users of the service of TAI,
- b) to prepare guidelines for the improvement of the service of TAI and to report on these to the CCTF, and
- c) to establish temporary *ad hoc* study groups to analyse some specific problems, whenever necessary; these study groups should report to the working group.

The said mandate should extend equally to Coordinated Universal Time UTC, in respect of its metrological qualities but not in its definition nor in its astronomical content.

The working group should work routinely by correspondence addressed to its President, and it should meet, if possible annually, at the request of its President.

The Working Group on TAI should work closely with all the other CCTF working groups to harmonise the overall contributions to TAI.

The BIPM provides the permanent secretariat for the working group.