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INTERNATIONAL BUREAU REORGANIZATION

Aligns spectrum rulemaking work; consolidates and elevates economic and statistical reporting

WASHINGTON, December 14, 2015 – Today the International Bureau begins operating under a new organizational and functional realignment. As part of the Commission’s process reform initiative, the Bureau conducted an in-depth analysis that indicated a realignment of certain functions and operations will provide greater efficiencies and enable new analyses of trends in international telecommunications. The new operations consolidate spectrum rulemakings in the Satellite Division and move all economic reporting and statistical analysis responsibilities previously distributed throughout the Bureau to the new Telecommunications and Analysis Division.

“The Bureau’s reorganization elevates and expands the role of economic analysis and improves our international coordination role,” said Mindel De La Torre, Chief of the International Bureau.

The specific outcomes from the realignment within the International Bureau are:

Global Strategy and Negotiation Division

- The Strategic Analysis and Negotiations Division is now named the Global Strategy and Negotiation Division (GSN) and continues its leadership role in multi-national organizations such as the ITU, CITEL, OECD and others, bilateral affairs, and cross-border negotiations.
- The new Global Strategy and Negotiation Division merges the Regional and Bilateral Affairs Branch and Multilateral Negotiations and Industry Analysis Branch into a combined branch called the Multilateral and Regional Affairs Branch. The Cross-Border Negotiations and Treaty Compliance Branch and the International Radiocommunication Branch remain the same.

Satellite Division

- International spectrum rulemaking functions are transferred from the Policy Division to the Satellite Division. As a result, spectrum rulemakings such as Earth Stations Aboard Aircraft will now be led by the Satellite Division.
- Notifications to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) will now be processed by the Satellite Division. The point of contact for ITU notifications is Kathryn Medley. Ms. Medley can be reached by email at Kathryn.Medley@fcc.gov, or by phone at (202) 418-1211.

Telecommunications and Analysis Division

- The Policy Division is renamed the Telecommunications and Analysis Division (TAD) as a result of consolidating the economic analysis and statistical reporting functions within the bureau.
- The Telecommunications and Analysis Division continues its important international communication policy portfolio, including foreign ownership review and licensing of international section 214 authorizations and submarine cables, and now gains responsibility for economic analysis and reports.

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).