

## RIPE NCC Response to Liaison Statement TD 511 Rev.1 (GEN/20)

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**To:**

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Dear colleagues,

The RIPE NCC is pleased to respond to the liaison statement sent on behalf of ITU Study Group 20 relating to the Study Group's IPv6-related work items. We have participated in each of the Study Group 20 meetings, and have followed the proposals and discussions with interest.

As well as serving as the Regional Internet Registry for a service region covering Europe, the Middle East and parts of Central Asia, the RIPE NCC also serves as secretariat of the RIPE community, a forum open to all parties interested in IP-based networks, the objective of which is to ensure the administrative and technical coordination necessary to enable the operation of the Internet.

The fundamental premise of the RIPE community, and similar Network Operator Groups (NOGs) around the world, is the need for coordination of the bottom-up, community-driven development of policies and best practices. It is operators that build and develop Internet networks, and they shoulder the primary responsibility for developing and defining how interoperability will be ensured, via open discussions that allow for input from all stakeholders. RIPE and similar communities have driven this coordination since the early days of the Internet, and such arrangements have fostered the remarkable growth of the global Internet over recent decades.

As secretariat for the RIPE community, the RIPE NCC has concerns about the scope of the documents referenced in the liaison statement, specifically the draft Recommendation on a "Reference Model of IPv6 Subnet Addressing Plan for Internet of Things Deployment" and the draft Recommendation on a "Reference Model of Protocol Suite for IPv6 Interoperable Internet of Things Deployments". We believe that the widespread adoption of IPv6 is an important element in the continuing growth of the Internet, including the emergence of Internet of Things technologies, and appreciate the importance that the Study Group attaches to IPv6-related issues.

However, the proposed Recommendations refer to specific operational matters, and we do not believe that in this instance an ITU Study Group is the appropriate venue for development and adoption of such standards. With particular reference to the proposed Recommendation on IPv6 subnet addressing, we note that an IPv6 address plan must adhere to the policies set by the respective RIR communities, meaning that any normative specifications on IPv6 addressing should be developed through the open RIR community forums. At the same time, operators often have the need to tailor specific implementations to their operational needs, so a more effective approach to coordination at that level is the development and use of best practices or similar material through Network Operators Groups (such as the RIPE community).

While the liaison statement notes the Study Group's intention to cooperate closely with "the IETF, the IPv6 Forum, ISOC, ETSI and other relevant stakeholders and academic partners", we would suggest that such cooperation (in the context of IPv6 addressing) should be characterised by the Study Group's incorporation of policies or best practices developed in these other communities.

We look forward to contributing to the ongoing IoT discussions in Study Group 20. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this feedback, and we would welcome the participation of members of the Study Group at RIPE Meetings for RIPE community discussions relating to IoT.

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