

**IAU Division A Working Group on Time Metrology Standards
Annual Report 2022-2023**

MEMBERS

Brent Archinal
Felicitas Arias (chair)
Alecsander Brzeziński
Nicole Capitaine
Wolfgang Dick
Bess Fang-Sortais
Catherine Hohenkerk (1)
Steve Bell (2)
Mizuhiko Hosokawa
Yasuhiro Koyama
Brian Luzum
Zinovy Malkin
Richard Manchester
Demetrios Matsakis
Yolanta Nastula
Masatoshi Ohishi
Gérard Petit
Philip Tuckey
Shougang Zhang

(1) Left in April 2023

(2) Incorporated in April 2023

ASSOCIATES

Paul Koppang

Report

Administration

The WG TMS has 18 members and one associate. After her retirement from the HM Nautical Almanac Office, Catherine Hohenkerk informed on her willingness to cede her membership to Steven Bell, who is Head the HM Nautical Almanac Office. These changes have been formally introduced and they are visible at the IAU web site.

Communication within the WG has been by e-mail only. Two information letters were released to members.

The future of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)

Resolution 655 of the World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) invited the relevant international organizations and scientific associations to cooperate submitting results of studies on the possible implementation of a continuous time scale.

The Working Group on Time Metrology Standards contributed to ITU-R Working Party 7A

(WP7A) with texts providing information of the use of UTC in astronomy, its relation to UT1 and the impact of a possible change in the definition that would make UTC continuous, at least for a long period of time. This contribution has been included in the Report TF.251-0 (2022) “*Content and structure of time signals to be disseminated by radiocommunication systems and various aspects of current and potential future reference time scales, including their impacts and applications in radiocommunication*” consolidated by the WP7A at its session in October 2022 and subsequently approved by the ITU-R Study Group 7 (Science Services); it is available at <https://www.itu.int/pub/R-REP-TF.2511>. Based on this Report, a note has been addressed to the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau who will inform the next World Radiocommunication Conference in November 2023.