

EARN EXECUTIVE

Management of change

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1 OBJECTIVE: the purpose of this proposal is to define a procedure to be adopted by EARN for the management of changes which effect the services to users of the international infrastructure.

2 PREAMBLE: It is assumed:

(1) that the management of the hardware and software installed at international nodes is the responsibility of the management of the site housing the node;

(2) that management at the site of an international node will operate and manage their system to ensure delivery of the most effective service possible to the users of the EARN international infrastructure, within the performance ability of the installed hardware and software;

(3) that it is the intention of any managed changes in hardware or software, to further improve the delivered quality of service and cost effectiveness of the EARN international infrastructure.

3 PROCEDURE: given the above assumptions, it is agreed that proposed changes, significant to the network, in the hardware or software used at an international node will be notified in good time to the Executive Committee by the Board Member of the Country concerned.

All aspects of such proposals will be reviewed by the Executive Committee at its next meeting, as a matter of urgency. If necessary, further technical evaluation will be requested by the Executive Committee to achieve consensus.

It is agreed that pending the agreement of the Executive Committee to the proposed changes:

(1) planning for the changes may proceed;

(2) all reasonable steps be taken by the management of the site to assist the Executive Committee in its evaluation of the implications of the planned changes on the international infrastructure;

(3) the results of the evaluation by the Executive Committee of the notified changes be completed in a period of not more than three months from the notification of the planned change to the Executive Committee, and will be communicated immediately to the relevant Country Director.

4 EXAMPLES: Examples of the changes which are covered by the Management of Change are:

(1) The introduction of a new protocol on an EARN line. e.g. the introduction of SNA, DECNET, or TCP/IP as a bearer of NJE traffic on a line which previously carried RSCS traffic.

(2) The introduction of new services on an EARN line. e.g. the introduction of SNA services other than NJE on an SNA link.

(3) A change of connection to EARN. e.g. the termination of a link and the replacement of that link by another link to a different EARN site or system.