



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

Europe, Middle East, Africa and Northern Asia

Founded 1950

Committee C4 (HF Matters) Interim Meeting 16-17 April 2016 InterCity Hotel, Vienna

SUBJECT	Amateur Service Spectrum Requirements in ITU and R1 RTOs		
Society	IARU-R1 Executive Committee	Country:	
Committee:	C4, C5	Paper number:	VIE16_C4_11
Author:	Dave Court, EI3IO	e-mail:	EI3IO@connogue.com

1. Introduction

This document has been prepared in order to alert relevant committees and working groups to the International Telecommunication Union's (ITU) conference preparatory mechanism concerning any required longer term changes to the Radio Regulations for the amateur service and amateur-satellite service. In addition it would be useful to know of any other spectrum requirements which might best be handled in the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications administrations (CEPT) and/or other IARU-R1 Regional Telecommunications Organisations (RTOs e.g. ATU, LAS-ASMG and RCC), or sub-regional Inter Governmental bodies (e.g. GCC and the EU Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG).

2. ITU

WRC-15 concluded in November 2015, IARU is now starting to plan for the next World Radiocommunication Conference which will be held in 2019. As for all ITU administrative conferences since 1985 in Europe and the 1990s elsewhere, a considerable amount of preparatory work will be undertaken in conference preparatory groups of the RTOs with the goal of producing regional proposals and briefing for WRC-19.

The agenda for WRC-19 was established at WRC-15 by means of a Resolution (COM 6/16), which appears in the Final Acts of the Conference and will be included in the next published version of the Radio Regulations. In addition a preliminary agenda for the WRC to be held in 2023 appears in the Final Acts of WRC-15 (Resolution COM 6/2). There are currently no items directly impacting the amateur or amateur-satellite service in the preliminary WRC-23 agenda.

In a similar manner to WRC-15, agenda item 10 of WRC-19 is to recommend to the ITU Council, items for inclusion in the agenda for WRC-23, and is to give its views on the preliminary agenda for the subsequent conference (WRC-27) and on possible agenda items for future conferences.

IARU therefore needs to determine during preparations for WRC-19 whether it intends to seek agenda items addressing spectrum or other issues concerning the amateur service or amateur-satellite service at WRC-23, WRC-27 or a later WRC. IARU-R1 Committees 4 and 5 and Member Societies are therefore invited to consider this matter during their future deliberations.

3. RTOs and Spectrum Acquisition

Given IARU-R1's experience at ITU conferences dating back to 1979 it is sometimes preferable to seek spectrum by alternative means, nationally or regionally. In recent times an allocation at 50 MHz was raised unsuccessfully in the ITU at the 1979 World Administrative Radiocommunication Conference. This was the time when administrations were addressing whether VHF television should feature in their future plans. CEPT studies addressing sharing between land mobile and VHF (Bands 1 and 3) television as well as optimum land mobile channel arrangements in Bands 1 and 3 permitted some administrations to introduce a 50 MHz amateur allocation into CEPT texts. As a result a considerable number of European 6m DXers have now worked over 200 countries on 50 MHz, when there is no table allocation to the amateur service in the ITU Radio Regulations in ITU Region 1, with the exception of a number of African countries. It must be mentioned that this may change in 2019, as agenda item 1.1 of WRC-19 permits the consideration of an allocation of the frequency band 50-54 MHz to the amateur service in Region 1.

Other success stories in CEPT include a secondary allocation in the European Common Allocation table in the band 69.9 – 70.5 MHz and footnotes addressing 3 400 – 3 410 MHz. Recent national successes include the UK's NRA providing temporary amateur access to bands at 70.5 – 71.5 MHz and 146 – 147 MHz as well as a significant number of countries (including some non European countries in R1) providing access to spectrum in the vicinity of 5 300 kHz prior to WRC-15 deliberations on 5 250 – 5 450 kHz, which resulted in a 15 kHz secondary allocation to the amateur service.

In addition to considering issues for WRC-23, WRC-27 and beyond, Committee 4 and 5 as well as MS are also invited to consider whether any of the identified issues should be addressed in CEPT or other regional and sub-regional bodies, prior to raising the matter in an ITU forum. Furthermore, it might be determined that a regional body would provide a better chance of success than an ITU initiative as was the case with 70 MHz.

4. Summary

This document has been submitted by the Executive Committee of IARU-R1 to trigger a consideration by Committees 4, 5 and MS for possible agenda items for ITU WRCs post 2019. In some cases spectrum issues might be addressed in a regional organisation as an alternative, or to test whether the amateur service can successfully coexist with other radiocommunication services utilising the spectrum in question.