



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	The 5 MHz Agenda Item at WRC-15		
Society	Chairmen ERC, C4		
Committee:	C4	Paper number:	VIE16_C4_12
Contact:	Ulrich Mueller, DK4VW	e-mail:	dk4vw@darc.de

A World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) decides which proposals become agenda items of the following conference and during WRC-12 Cuba successfully made a proposal for a new 5 MHz allocation for the amateur service arguing the case the occasional lack of appropriate propagation condition for existing amateur bands, when amateurs are requested to assist communications during an emergency situation.

In the period before the next conference administrations and Regional Telecommunications Organizations develop all agenda items in order to establish their position to each one. In most countries administrations invite all stakeholders to participate at national WRC preparation meetings. This is a chance for radio amateurs to present their views in case their interest is affected and even to present study papers.

Regional Telecommunications Organisations, like CEPT, invite administrations to participate at meetings to develop a common position which usually has more influence at a WRC than positions voiced by a single administration.

So called Working Parties at ITU level develop compatibility study papers in order to assist administrations and delegates at WRC in finding their position.

Also on these levels radio amateurs can participate when a member of a national delegation. IARU is a Sector member of ITU and may send delegates to a WRC.

Regional Telecommunications Organisations - groups of administrations in Region 1

ITU Region 1 comprises not only Europe, but also Africa, parts of Middle East, Russia plus some ex Soviet Union countries and Mongolia.

CEPT

IARU Region 1 has lobbied intensively during the WRC-15 preparation process of CEPT administrations for an allocation of 100 kHz, which finally was successful: A European Common Proposal (ECP) by CEPT Member States was agreed for an allocation from 5350 kHz to 5450 kHz.

This is certainly grounded in the long-term good relations of representatives of IARU Region 1 and Member Societies to European administrations.

ASMG Arab Spectrum Management Group

Several presentations and contacts by IARU Region1 representatives to administrations in the Arabic speaking area resulted in a common proposal of the ASMG for WRC-15 to allocate a small segment of 15 kHz to the amateur service at 5 MHz. During conference the amount of spectrum proposed by the ASMG was even increased to 50 kHz.

IARU Region 1 has now an Observer status at ASMG meetings, which is promising for our interests at next WRCs.

African Groups

IARU Region 1 has organised training sessions and made presentations to African administrations to make them familiar with amateur radio. So the attitude of most African administrations towards amateur radio is positive which led to a support of an allocation.

Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC)

This is a group of Russia plus 10 ex Soviet Union countries. RCC is dominated by Russia and, like at WRC-12 for a MF band, strongly opposed a new 5 MHz allocation to the amateur service. At the end of 2015 IARU Region 1 was accepted as an Observer within the RCC and which is the only RTO that charges an annual fee to become an Observer.

List of position of groups and countries which were presented by papers at the beginning of WRC-15:

Regional groups and countries *supporting* a new 5 MHz allocation

CITEL (countries in the Americas):	175 kHz	
CEPT (European countries):	100 kHz	
AFCP (African countries):	xx kHz*	* not specified
ASMG (Arabic Group):	15 kHz	
Cuba:	27 kHz	
China:	15 kHz	

Regional groups and countries *against* a new 5 MHz allocation

From among CEPT countries:	Azerbaijan, Russia, France, Romania
From among ASMG group:	Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia
Others:	Iran, Thailand, Ivory Coast, USA
RCC group	Russia plus several ex USSR countries

IARU at WRC-15

IARU as sector Member of ITU sent their own delegates for WRC-15 and organised a team of radio amateurs who were participants on national delegations.

Conference outcome WRC-15 Agenda Item 1.4 (5 MHz)

After long and difficult discussions the team managed to get an allocation of 15 kHz, the first new HF allocation to the amateur service since WARC-79.

MOD

5 003-7 450 kHz

Allocation to services		
Region 1	Region 2	Region 3
5 275-5 351.5	FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile	
5 351.5-5 366.5	FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile Amateur ADD 5.A14	
5 366.5-5 450	FIXED MOBILE except aeronautical mobile	

Although several administrations proposed that a limitation of output power would be the most suitable method, RCC insisted in having a limitation of radiated power (15 watts eirp).

By footnote countries with more than 6000 km distance to borders of Russia were allowed to use slightly higher values (20 resp. 25 watts eirp):

ADD

5.A14 Stations in the amateur service using the frequency band 5 351.5-5 366.5 kHz shall not exceed a maximum radiated power of 15 W (e.i.r.p.). However, in Region 2 in Mexico, stations in the amateur service using the frequency band 5 351.5-5 366.5 kHz shall not exceed a maximum radiated power of 20 W (e.i.r.p.). In the following Region 2 countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Dominica, El Salvador, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela, as well as the overseas territories of the Netherlands in Region 2, stations in the amateur service using the frequency band 5 351.5-5 366.5 kHz shall not exceed a maximum radiated power of 25 W (e.i.r.p.). (WRC-15)

Allocation is based on ITU Radio Regulation Article 5

The conference modified the table of allocations based on Article 5 of ITU Radio Regulation by introducing a secondary allocation for the amateur service. In Article 5 the allocations to services are shown for frequency segments, which eventually differ in Regions. Exceptions, conditions or limitations from that are listed in footnotes.

The status of an allocation is showing by different type of print: all letters in uppercase means that service has a primary status, if with small letters then secondary status.

Begin of use of new 5 MHz allocation

The allocation becomes official on the 1st January 2017 however administrations may allocate this segment before this date and Spain has already done so. An amendment to national frequency table and change of licensing conditions has to be made before amateurs may really use that allocation.

Allocations based on Article 4.4 of ITU Radio Regulation

Even after having now a global Article 5 allocation for the amateur service in the 5 MHz band, administrations may continue to allocate additional spectrum to the amateur service based on Article 4.4.

ITU Radio Regulation Article 4

Assignment and use of frequencies

4.4 Administrations of the Member States shall not assign to a station any frequency in derogation of either the Table of Frequency Allocations in this Chapter or the other provisions of these Regulations, except on the express condition that such a station, when using such a frequency assignment, shall not cause harmful interference to, and shall not claim protection from harmful interference caused by, a station operating in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, the Convention and these Regulations.

Several countries have already made allocations with different amount of spectrum to the amateur service under Article 4.4. Some administrations have already indicated that existing RR 4.4 arrangements will continue.

Actions to be taken by Member Societies

Member Societies should keep the IARU Region 1 HF Manager (DK4VW) and ERC Chairman (G3PSM) updated on the thoughts of their administration on the 5 MHz issue (access to new global allocation and additional spectrum referring to Article 4.4).

18 January 2016
DK4VW, G3PSM