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| **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  **DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE** |

**Agenda Item 1.9.1 :** *regulatory actions within the frequency band 156-162.05 MHz for autonomous maritime radio devices to protect the GMDSS and automatic identifications system (AIS), in accordance with Resolution* ***362 (WRC-15)***;

Background

The purpose of this agenda item is to consider recognition of autonomous maritime radio devices (AMRD) that can enhance safety of navigation while ensuring that these AMRDs do not harm the integrity of the global maritime distress and safety system (GMDSS) and the automatic identification system (AIS).

Studies on this WRC-19 agenda item are based on the following definition of AMRD:

An AMRD is a mobile station; operating at sea and transmitting independently of a ship station or a coast station. Two groups of AMRD are identified:

– Group A: AMRD that enhance the safety of navigation;

– Group B: AMRD that do not enhance the safety of navigation (AMRD which deliver signals or information which do not concern the vessel can distract or mislead the navigator and degrade the safety of navigation).

AMRD Group A are devices that enhance the safety of navigation may be subject to IMO SOLAS regulations for the presentation of information to the navigators on board vessels. Other AMRD may be considered as Group B AMRD depending on certain characteristics and parameters.

The technical characteristics of AMRD are provided in Recommendation ITU-R M.[AMRD] “[Technical characteristics of Autonomous Maritime Radio Devices in the frequency bands 156-162.05 MHz]”. This Recommendation describes AMRD as follows:

An AMRD is a *mobile station*; operating at sea and transmitting independently of a ship station or a *coast station*. Two groups of AMRD are identified:

Group A: AMRD that enhance the safety of navigation,

Group B: AMRD that do not enhance the safety of navigation (AMRD which deliver signals or information which do not concern the vessel can distract or mislead the navigator and degrade the safety of navigation).

Group A, AMRD that enhance the safety of navigation, should use the frequencies of the current RR Appendix **18** for digital selective calling (channel 70), the channel for distress, safety and calling (channel 16), the AIS channels (channels AIS 1 and AIS 2).

Group B, AMRD that do not enhance the safety of navigation, but also operating in the maritime environment should only use a channel 2006 of Appendix **18**.

Proposals

MOD USA/1.9.1/1

APPENDIX 18 (REV.WRC‑19)

Table of transmitting frequencies in the  
VHF maritime mobile band

*…*

*Specific notes*

*…*

*f)* The frequencies 156.300 MHz (channel 06), 156.525 MHz (channel 70), 156.800 MHz (channel 16), 161.975 MHz (AIS 1) and 162.025 MHz (AIS 2) may also be used by aircraft stations for the purpose of search and rescue operations and other safety-related communication. The frequencies 156.525 MHz (channel 70), 161.975 MHz (AIS 1) and 162.025 MHz (AIS 2) may also be used by autonomous maritime radio devices Group A for digital selective calling and/or AIS-technology as described in the most recent version of Recommendation ITU R M.[AMRD].  (WRC-19)

*…*

*r)* In the maritime mobile service, this frequency is reserved for usage of autonomous maritime radio revices Group B using AIS-technology as described in the most recent version of Recommendation ITU-R M.[AMRD]. This frequency may also be used for future AIS-technology based applications or systems on an experimental basis. If authorized by administrations for AIS-technology based autonomous maritime radio devices Group B or experimental AIS-technology applications, their operation shall not cause harmful interference to, or claim protection from, stations operating in the fixed and mobile services. (WRC-19)

**Reasons:** These modifications to Appendix 18 allow the operation of AMRD AIS-technology based Group A, devices which have been identified to enhance the maritime safety of navigation; and AMRD Group B device that do not enhance maritime safety of navigation but operate in the maritime environment.

SUP USA/1.9.1/2

RESOLUTION 362 (REV.WRC‑15)

**Autonomous maritime radio devices operating in   
the frequency band 156-162.05 MHz**

**Reasons:** It is proposed to suppress Resolution **362 (WRC-15)** since the studies have been completed and the identification of frequencies in Appendix 18 for AMRD has been made by WRC-19.

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