

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### DRAFT PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON WRC-11

**AGENDA ITEM 1.2:** Taking into account the results of studies carried out in accordance with Resolution 951 (Rev. WRC-07), to take appropriate action with a view to enhancing the international regulatory framework.

**ISSUE:** Modification of the Radio Regulations to accommodate Integrated Systems.<sup>1</sup>

**BACKGROUND:** Integrated Systems employ technology that integrates mobile-satellite and terrestrial components into a single system using common frequencies. Currently, there are provisions in the Radio Regulations to accommodate satellite systems and terrestrial networks separately, but none that accommodate the unique aspects of Integrated Systems.

Recommendation 206 (WRC-07)<sup>2</sup> recognizes that some administrations are implementing Integrated Systems. This is, or will be, occurring on both a regional and global basis. Recommendation 206 (WRC-07) invites ITU-R participants to perform studies on sharing, technical and regulatory issues regarding these Integrated Systems. Currently, with respect to Recommendation 206 (WRC-07), the ITU-R is progressing work on defining Integrated Systems,<sup>3</sup> their architectures, applications and performance objectives.

Resolution 951 (Rev. WRC-07) resolves “to develop concepts and procedures for enhancing the Radio Regulations to meet the demands of current, emerging and future radio applications, while taking into account existing service and usage.”<sup>4</sup> Additionally, Resolution 951 (Rev. WRC-07) considers that “regulatory procedures should be continually assessed in order to meet the demands of administrations,”<sup>5</sup> and recognizes

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<sup>1</sup> Integrated Systems refer to systems employing MSS and terrestrial components where the ground component is complementary to and operates as a part of the MSS system and, together with the satellite component, provides an integrated service offering. In such systems the ground component is controlled by the satellite resource and network management system. Further, the ground component uses the same designated portions of the frequency band as the associated operational MSS system. These systems are referred to as MSS-ATC (MSS-Ancillary Terrestrial Component) in the United States and Canada, and MSS-CGC (MSS-Complementary Ground Component) in Europe.

<sup>2</sup> Int’l Telecomm. Union [ITU], *Consideration on the Possible Use of Integrated Mobile-Satellite Service and Ground Component Systems in Some Frequency Bands Identified for the Satellite Component of International Mobile Telecommunications*, at noting ¶ b, Recommendation 206 (WRC-07) (2007).

<sup>3</sup> ITU, *Terminology Used for Networks Using Both Satellite and Terrestrial Links*, Working Party 4B, Annex 14 to Document 4B/51-E (2008).

<sup>4</sup> ITU, *Enhancing the International Spectrum Regulatory Framework*, at resolves ¶ 1, Resolution 951 (Rev. WRC-07) (2007) (“Res. 951”).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at considering, ¶ 1.

that “any change intended to improve the flexibility of administrations in accommodating converging services has to rely on a combination of service definitions, allocations and procedures.”<sup>6</sup>

**DISCUSSION:** Integrated Systems have not been contemplated previously in the Radio Regulations. Therefore, provisions in the Radio Regulations to address unique regulatory and operational aspects of these systems do not exist. Following the launch of next generation satellites, Integrated Systems will begin to deploy as early as 2010.<sup>7</sup> WRC-2011 presents an opportunity to ensure that the next edition of the Radio Regulations include provisions that permit the necessary flexibility, recognition and protection to deploy Integrated Systems in the same fashion as stand-alone MSS systems.

Among other provisions needed to accommodate Integrated Systems in the Radio Regulations is a suitable definition for Integrated Systems. This deficiency needs to be addressed and can be in accordance with Annex 1 to Resolution 951 (Rev. WRC-07), Option 2,<sup>8</sup> or, alternatively, Option 4.<sup>9</sup> Option 2 provides for revision of current service definitions or the addition of new service definitions. Option 4 provides for the introduction of composite services into the Table of Frequency Allocations. Addressing Integrated Systems, the eventual modification to the Radio Regulation could take the form of a revision of the current Mobile-Satellite Service definition, or the addition of a new Integrated Services definition that could stand-alone or be a subset of the Mobile-Satellite Service definitions.

**U.S. VIEW:** The United States is of the view that in accordance with Resolution 951 (Rev. WRC-07), a new service definition for Integrated Systems should be proposed to WRC-2011, in order to address soon to be deployed Integrated System networks.

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<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at recognizing, ¶ b.

<sup>7</sup> One MSS/CGC system is currently performing service trials in the USA.

<sup>8</sup> Res. 951 at Annex 1 Option 2.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.* at Annex 1 Option 4.