

United States of America

DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

WRC-11 Agenda Item 7: *to consider possible changes in response to Resolution 86 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002) of the Plenipotentiary Conference: “Advance publication, coordination, notification and recording procedures for frequency assignments pertaining to satellite networks”, in accordance with Resolution 86 (Rev. WRC-07)*

Background information: Access to the geostationary orbit (GSO) in has become increasingly difficult over the years, in large part due to difficulties in fully coordinating new orbital positions and applying the relevant provisions of the Radio Regulations. As highlighted at the most recent ITU Radiocommunications Bureau (BR) workshop on efficient use of the spectrum/orbit resource and in ITU administrative circular CR/301, it has been noted that some unused frequency and GSO resources remain recorded in the Master International Frequency Register, which serves to worsen this problem. As such, improving transparency into actual usage of frequency and GSO resources could help to improve this situation.

For non-planned satellite bands, No. **11.44** of the Radio Regulations (RR) requires that the notified date of bringing into use of any assignment to a space station of a satellite network shall not be later than seven years following the date of receipt of the relevant complete information under RR No. **9.1** or **9.2**, as appropriate. Additionally, this provision states that any frequency assignment not brought into use within the required period shall be cancelled by the BR. When the notified date of bringing into use of frequency assignments is earlier than the date of submission of the Notification request, the Notification request itself is considered by the BR as confirmation that the frequency assignments have been brought into use. Furthermore, RR No. **11.47** clarifies the requirement for administrations to inform the BR of frequencies assignments brought into use for the case of assignments being Notified before being brought into use. Therefore, it can be considered that there are two separate requirements. Under the first, the BR must receive the Notification information for frequency assignments in a network by the end of the regulatory lifetime of the satellite network filing, whereas under the second the BR must have been informed that the frequency assignments have actually been brought into use by a date certain.

The potential difficulty with the current process is that it can result in uncertainty for administrations as to the status of frequency assignments provisionally entered into the MIFR. This is due to the fact that, while administrations can examine the SRS database for details pertaining to notified frequency assignments that have been submitted to the BR (Part I-S), or examined by the BR and found to be in conformity with the Radio Regulations (Part II-S), they cannot readily determine whether or not administrations have informed the BR that frequency

assignments have been brought into use, and if so the date on which they were brought into use. This can result in uncertainty for administrations as to the provisional or definitive status of frequency assignments in the MIFR, or whether an administration has missed the deadline under RR No. **11.44** entirely and it is simply a matter of time before the provisionally notified frequency assignments are suppressed.

The uncertainty associated with satellite networks actually brought into use can be addressed by having the BR make information received from administrations regarding the bringing into use of frequency assignments for specific satellite networks at a specific orbital location publicly available. The BR has established, on a trial basis, two web pages for providing such information: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/space/snl/listinuse/> for non-planned bands and http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/space/snl/listinuse_plan/ for planned bands. The BR should be instructed to continue to build the list of networks contained on these pages and to make these pages permanent. In addition, it may also be useful if, on this same web page, certain other Resolution 49 information associated with the satellite network were also posted, such as: identity of the satellite network, frequency band(s) brought into use, name of the satellite, name of the spacecraft manufacturer, launch vehicle provider, name of the launch vehicle. While it is true that this information is already required under Resolution 49 (Rev.WRC-07), it may be quite helpful to have it all assembled in one location on the aforementioned web pages.

In addition to the uncertainty associated with networks actually brought into use, there can also be uncertainty associated with the Annex 2 data of Resolution 49. This is due to the fact that Resolution 49 calls for data to be submitted as early as possible before the end of the regulatory lifetime of the filing, or as early as possible before satellite launch and, for a variety of reasons, it is possible for certain of these data elements to change after such initial submission of the data. Such changes can add to the uncertainty associated with the GSO resources actually being used by administrations.

Proposal:

USA/xx/1 MOD

The uncertainty associated with satellite networks actually brought into use could be addressed as follows:

11.43 In every case when a new assignment is recorded in the Master Register it shall, in accordance with the provisions of Article **8** of this Chapter, include an indication of the finding reflecting the status of the assignment^{19bis}. This information shall also be published in the BR IFIC.

19bis For the case of initial recording in the Master Register for frequency assignment(s) of a given network, the BR shall, on an appropriate web page, also include information pertaining to the date of bringing into use for the given network along with reference to the most current Resolution 49 data for the network.

Reasons:

To improve transparency into GSO resources actually being used by making bringing into use data for satellite networks readily available.

USA/xx/2

ADD

The uncertainty associated with changes to Resolution 49 Annex 2 data can be addressed as follows:

RESOLUTION 49 (Rev.WRC-07)

**Administrative due diligence applicable to some satellite
radiocommunication services**

ANNEX 1 TO RESOLUTION 49 (Rev.WRC-07)

12bis Should there be changes to any of the Resolution 49 data submitted under §12 above after initial submission of such data, but before and up to actual launch of the satellite network, administrations shall resubmit the data specified in Annex 2 to this Resolution.

Reasons:

To improve the accuracy of Resolution 49 data recorded by the ITU.