

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

Agenda Item 1.2: *taking into account the ITU-R studies carried out in accordance with Resolution 951 (Rev. WRC-07), to take appropriate action with a view to enhancing the international regulatory framework*

Background Information: The subject matter considered under Agenda item 1.2 was first addressed at WRC-07 as agenda item 7.1, at the request of WRC-03. The agenda item asked WRC-07 to review the international spectrum regulatory framework in accordance with Resolution 951 (WRC-03), "Options to improve the international spectrum regulatory framework." The Director's Report to WRC-07 included the results of the ITU-R studies in response to Resolution 951 (WRC-03). WRC-07 concluded that further study on this topic was necessary and Agenda Item 1.2 for WRC-12 was adopted.

Under this Agenda Item extensive studies were undertaken, however to date there has been no consensus regarding the regulatory options investigated. To a large extent the attempt to develop broad regulatory changes that would apply across a significant portion of the Radio Regulations has been difficult. The impact of the proposed broad changes can not readily be quantified and therefore impact on other radiocommunication services is difficult to determine. For example, changes to the basic definitions or type of parameters that can be notified for the fixed service could have serious ramifications for sharing with other co-frequency radiocommunication services. This is particularly true for the fixed-satellite service as a number of frequency bands are shared between the fixed and fixed-satellite services.

One of the Options studied is to keep the current practice, where the mechanism to enhance the Radio Regulations would be undertaken under specific agenda items adopted at the previous WRC based on proposals made by Administrations. This mechanism is well known, established and has generally resulted in satisfying requirements of Administrations. Another Option considered was to modify or propose new definitions in Article 1 of the Radio Regulations.

In order to take advantage of the results of the studies undertaken in the ITU-R under Agenda Item 1.2, the U.S. proposes a modification of Recommendation 34. The modifications to the Recommendation provide guidance to ITU-R participants when undertaking studies under WRC agenda items or under their on-going studies when developing ITU-R Recommendations or Reports. The modification to Recommendation 34 supports allocations with appropriate footnote and regulatory provisions in order to accommodate convergence in the services and applications that might be provided within an allocation to the extent practicable and provide Administrations flexibility in the types of radiocommunication services and applications deployed in their countries and globally through harmonizing spectrum to the extent practicable. The revision also recognizes that provisional and interim procedures have been adopted by previous WRCs in order to implement emerging technologies in a timely fashion. The Resolution also provides a long term framework for the establishment of future allocations with associated footnotes and regulatory provisions to address multiple radio services and applications that might be permitted with an allocation.

Proposal:

NOC USA/AI1.2/1

ARTICLE 1

Terms and definitions

Reasons: The United States supports NOC to the existing definitions in Article 1. Any changes to the existing definitions would have far-reaching impact, as they would immediately modify all of the related allocations in the Table of Frequency Allocations. The United States is open, however, to considering new definitions as might be required to address new applications.

MOD USA/AI1.2/2

RESOLUTION XX (WRC-12)

Principles for the management and use of frequency bands

The World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2012),

considering

a) that ITU should maintain an international Table of Frequency Allocations covering the usable radio-frequency spectrum;

b) that one of the primary objectives of the Radio Regulations is to provide for and, where necessary, regulate new applications of radiocommunication technology, (see No. 0.10);

c) that it may be desirable, in certain cases, to allocate frequency bands to multiple radio services and/or to adopt appropriate footnotes and regulatory provisions, in order to improve flexibility of use of frequencies to permit new radio applications within existing allocations but without detriment to other radio services;

d) that the development of common worldwide allocations is desirable in order to improve and harmonize utilization of the radio-frequency spectrum;

e) that adherence to these principles for the allocation and use of spectrum will allow the Table of Frequency Allocations to focus on matters of regulatory significance while enabling greater flexibility in national and international spectrum use;

f) that many radiocommunication stations and systems today are capable of and provide more than one radiocommunication service and that this convergence of radiocommunication services and applications operating from a single station on the same frequency or different frequencies is expected to grow;

g) that WRC-03 adopted footnotes and regulatory provisions to provide administrations with the flexibility to operate earth stations on board vessels (ESVs) with space stations in the existing fixed-satellite service allocations.

considering further

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a) that wireless applications often are the most cost-effective and practicable means of delivering advanced information and communication technologies (ICTs) in many countries;

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b) that bridging the digital divide and bringing the benefits of ICTs to all citizens is fundamental for providing opportunities, for example for education, business development and active participation in the information society;

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c) that deployment of wireless broadband applications can facilitate connectivity to schools, rural communities and healthcare facilities, that is vital to economic development and to making effective use of ICTs;

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d) that there is a need to continually take advantage of technological developments in order to increase the efficient use of spectrum and spectrum access;

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e) that satellite systems and networks can provide wireless broadband applications including meeting the particular needs of developing countries and rural areas;

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f) that satellite-based wireless broadband systems can provide service over a wide geographic area and are particularly suited for emergency and disaster recovery communications and rural communications;

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g) that the convergence of multiple radiocommunication services and applications operating from a single station may warrant the consideration of new service definitions if the existing service definitions do not adequately support this convergence.

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recognizing

that previous Conferences have adopted regulatory provisions, including on an interim or provisional basis, to allow implementation of emerging technologies in an expeditious manner taking into account existing users.

resolves

1 that allocation of frequency bands and associated footnotes and regulatory provisions should, wherever possible, provide the maximum flexibility to administrations in accommodating emerging radio applications including new technologies, taking into account safety, technical, operational, economic and other relevant factors;

2 that frequency bands should, wherever possible, be allocated on a worldwide basis (aligned radio services, categories of radio service and frequency band limits) taking into account safety, technical, operational, economic and other relevant factors and using appropriate footnotes and regulatory provisions as needed to clarify these factors and to provide for additional radio applications permitted within the context of a specific allocation.

invites administrations

to take account of resolves 1 and 2 and considering further a) to f), when making proposals to world radiocommunication conferences.

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requests the ITU-R study groups

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1 when carrying out technical studies relating to a frequency band pursuant to specific WRC agenda items, to examine the compatibility of new applications of radio services with the existing utilizations and the possibility of aligning allocations on a worldwide basis, having regard to considerings a) to f), considering further a) to g) and resolves 1, and 2 above;

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2 when carrying out the technical studies referred to in *request the ITU-R study groups 1*, to also examine the regulatory provisions in the Radio Regulations with respect to the appropriate coordination and notification procedures when multiple radiocommunication services and applications are being provided by one station in the same frequency band;

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3 to conduct these studies, where appropriate in cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO);

instructs the Secretary-General

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to communicate this Resolution to ICAO and IMO.

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¶ the relevant CPM and Radiocommunication Study Groups to identify areas for study and to¶ undertake the studies necessary to determine the impact on existing services of those agenda¶ items of future world radiocommunication conferences which involve broadening the scope of¶ existing service allocations,¶

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